



U.S. Department of Justice

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
Washington, D.C. 20535

October 27, 2021

JOHN R GREENEWALD  
SUITE 1203  
27305 WEST LIVE OAK ROAD  
CASTAIC, CA 91384

FOIPA Request No.: 1507213-000  
Subject: JOHNSON, MANNING RUDOLPH

Dear John Greenewald:

The enclosed 941 pages of records were determined to be responsive to your subject and were previously processed and released pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Please see the selected paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

- ☒ In an effort to provide you with responsive records as expeditiously as possible, we are releasing documents from previous requests regarding your subject. We consider your request fulfilled. Since we relied on previous results, additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail to **Initial Processing Operations Unit, 200 Constitution Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, or by fax to (540) 868-4997**. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.
- ☐ Please be advised that additional records responsive to your subject exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you must advise us that you want the additional records processed. Please submit your response within thirty (30) days by mail to **Initial Processing Operations Unit, 200 Constitution Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, or by fax to (540) 868-4997**. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence. **If we do not receive your decision within thirty (30) days of the date of this notification, your request will be closed.**
- ☐ One or more of the enclosed records were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession.

If this release of the previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may file a FOIPA request with NARA at the following address:

National Archives and Records Administration  
Special Access and FOIA  
8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500  
College Park, MD 20740-6001

- ☐ Records potentially responsive to your request were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and they were not previously processed pursuant to the FOIA. You may file a request with NARA using the address above. Please reference file number 100-HQ-55627 in your correspondence.



One or more of the enclosed records were destroyed. Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) , Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1228; Title 44, United States Code, Section 3310 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1229.10.



Records potentially responsive to your request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) according to Title 44 United States Code Section 3301, Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Chapter 12 Sub-chapter B Part 1228, and 36 CFR 1229.10.



Documents or information referred to other Government agencies were not included in this release.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. **"Part 1"** of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. **"Part 2"** includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. **"Part 3"** includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

Please be advised that if you are seeking a new search for records, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request based on material that you have already received, e.g., timeframe or locality. Additionally, be advised that "unusual circumstances" may apply. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B)(iii). These "unusual circumstances" will delay our ability to make a determination on your request within 20 days. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B). Additionally, the payment of pertinent fees may apply to your request. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(A)(viii). The application of "unusual circumstances" is not a determination of how the FBI will respond to your substantive request.

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)



## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. A standard search normally consists of a search for main files in the Central Records System (CRS), an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include references, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files. For additional information about our record searches, visit [www.fbi.gov/services/information-management/foipa/requesting-fbi-records](http://www.fbi.gov/services/information-management/foipa/requesting-fbi-records).
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.edo.cjis.gov](http://www.edo.cjis.gov). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.
- (iv) **National Name Check Program (NNCP).** The mission of NNCP is to analyze and report information in response to name check requests received from federal agencies, for the purpose of protecting the United States from foreign and domestic threats to national security. Please be advised that this is a service provided to other federal agencies. Private Citizens cannot request a name check.

## **EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS**

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault

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The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)  
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are  
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages  
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

**Discover the Truth** at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**

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FOI/PA  
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Total Deleted Page(s) = 1  
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JOHNSON, MANNING (Native born)  
with alias RUDOLPH JOHNSON

COMMUNIST.

Apartment 2F  
54 East 129th Street  
New York, New York 100-29 41

Born on December 18, 1908 at Washington, D. C.; President of the Bartenders' Union #386 A.F. of L; joined the Communist Party in Buffalo, N.Y., on 2/17/31, As a delegate and district organizer from District #4 of the C.P., Buffalo, attended the 8th Annual Convention of the Communist Party at Cleveland, Ohio, in April, 1934; attended the 9th Annual Convention of the C.P. in New York City in June, 1936; exhibited membership book #86380 in the C.P. for 1939; was expelled from the C.P. because of his failure to carry out orders. (Interview with subject by Special Agent J. W. Coulter, FBI, Dept of Justice, 7/2/41; 39-915-1352)

Became a member of the Communist Party on 2/17/31; in 1932 sent by the C.P. to a C.P. school in New York for three months; district organizer in Buffalo from 1933 to September, 1934 when he was transferred to the New York section of the C.P. as National Negro Organizer for the Trade Union Unity League; was business agent of the Cafeteria Workers Union Local #110 until July, 1935 when he transferred to the A. F. of L. Cafeteria



JOHNSON, MANNING

1a

Union, Local #110; elected to the Central Committee of the C.P. in April, 1934 at the 8th Annual Convention of the C.P.; present at the Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P. in New York City in June, 1937; removed from the Central Committee at the 10th Convention of the C.P. in 1938. (George Hurley, associate supervisor, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Dept of Justice, 6/2/41; 39-915-1352)

In 1932 became a member of the Communist Party in Buffalo, N.Y. and rose to position of District Organizer there in charge of the Negro work; directed the work of the Trade Union Unity League; in 1934 transferred his activities to the N.Y. section of the C.P., became a leader of the TUUL and specialized in Negro work in the C.P.; in 1936 elevated to a position on the Central Committee of the C.P. and had considerable responsibility in formulating of C.P. policy in the negro movement; second in command to James W. Ford, Negro Vice-Presidential Candidate of the C.P.; in 1938 was involved in dispute with one or two other leading members of the Party and was demoted from the Central Committee on the grounds of being an opportunist; but was not formally discharged from the C.P. until 1940. (Statement by Manning Johnson to George F. Hurley, Special Inspector, Immigration & Naturalization Service, 5/12/41; 39-915-1342)

A member and leader of the Young Communist League, Buffalo, N.Y. in 1934. A typical Communist Party functionary in that he worked in whatever groups the Party sent him.

Was a member of the National Negro Congress, an organization sponsored by the C.P. and a leader of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, another C.P. front organization. Close friend of James W. Ford, former vice presidential candidate of the C.P. Attended the C.P. conventions in 1930, 1932 and 1934 and 1935 when he was a delegate of the New York State C.P. Spoke at most of the conventions of the C.P. dealing with recruiting of Communists in various industries and about building up revolutionary unions.. From 1932 to 1934 a member of the National Executive Committee of the Trade Union Unity League being appointed to the post by the Central Committee of the C.P. (Nat Honig, Post Intelligencer, Seattle, Washington, 6/3/41; 39-915-1318)

Attended a sabotage school of the Communist Party held in New York City in 1929. (William C. McGuistion, Parish Prison, New Orleans, La. 9/24/40; 39-915-148 p 14)

One of the Communist functionaries charged with coordinating local Communist activities for the hunger march on Washington, D. C. scheduled for 12/4/32. This program was adopted by the National Committee of Unemployed Councils of the U.S.A., a branch of the Communist Party of the U.S.A. in the Enlarged Session held in Chicago, 10/11-12/32. (Captain Ira H. Marmon, Supt. of the Michigan State Identification Bureau, Detroit, Michigan, 11/17/32; 61-6699-138)

District organizer of the National Maritime Union, Buffalo, N.Y. Speaker for the Communist Party about 1932 or 1933. [REDACTED] c/o Buffalo Field Division, 4/16/41; 61-7550-1206 p 7) b7D

According to the Daily Worker in issue dated 10/7/33, was running for supervisor of the Fifth Ward on the Communist Party ticket; in issue dated 5/3/34, reported as a member of the National Council for Legal Struggle for Negro Rights, an organizer for the C.P. and as a speaker at a May Day demonstration in Buffalo, N.Y.; in issue dated 9/10/34, reported as an organizer for the Trade Union Unity League; in issue dated 2/20/36, reported as a member of a delegation which visited the Japanese Consulate during a demonstration; and in issue dated 8/16/40 reported as expelled from the C.P. for exhibiting opportunistic tendencies and more recently having shown himself to be politically degenerate and totally unreliable. (Furnished by Lt. Make Mills, Industrial Squad, Chicago, Ill., Police Dept. 6/4/41; 39-915-1296)

In 1934 was a member of the National Council of the National Negro Congress. (Evidence submitted by Walter S. Steele, National Republic, Chairman of the American Coalition Committee on National Security, before the Dies Committee on August 17, 1938. Vol 1, p 625 of the Committee's Reports, 61-7582)

JOHNSON, MANNING

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Listed as one of the endorsers of the National Negro Congress to be held in Chicago, Ill. on 2/14/36, according to a pamphlet entitled "Call for National Negro Congress." ( [REDACTED] Cincinnati Field Division, 1/31/41; 61-6728-55)

b7D

Member of the National Executive Council of the National Negro Congress (alleged Communist Front Organization) which held its meeting during October, 1937 at the Metropolitan Opera House, Philadelphia, Penn. ([REDACTED] c/o Pittsburgh Field Division, 10/21/37; 61-7563-67)

According to the Daily Worker in issue dated 6/22/37 was a Negro Central Committee member of the Communist Party and in issue dated 10/30/36 was a speaker at the C.P. election campaign meeting in 1936 held in New York City. (Special Agent George J. Starr, FBI, U.S. Dept of Justice, 5/29/41; 39-915-1257)

Listed as one of 16 leading Negro Communists who wrote a pamphlet entitled "The Road to Liberation for Negro People" which summarized from a Marxist point of view the Negroes position in the United States. (Daily Worker article of 10/25/37 by Richard Wright, 61-7563-67X3; copy in file 61-7563-2-14)

JOHNSON, MANNING

3a

Name appeared on a partial list of Delegates, alternates, officials, party leaders and observers who attended the Tenth National Convention of the Communist Party.

[REDACTED] c/o Pittsburgh Field Division, July, 1938, 61-7559-3063 p 5) b7D

To speak at a conference of the United May Day Provisional Committee which will formulate plans for a May Day demonstration and march. (Daily Worker, 4/9/38; 61-7559-2672X5)

Name appeared on a letterhead of the American League Against War and Fascism. Described as a Communist. (Joseph Zack, 392 Second Avenue, New York City, N.Y. 10/26/40; 39-915-437)

Former member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and now a business agent and organizer for the Cafeteria Employees Union, Local #302, A.F. of L. (Policewoman Kathryn Barry, #161, New York City, N.Y., Police Dept. 2/14/41; 100-390-5) ✓

JOHNSON, MANNING

NATIVE BORN

COMMUNIST

100-17063

alias:

Rudolph Johnson

Apartment 2-F

54 East 129th Street

New York, New York (Res.)

Bartenders & Restaurant Employees Union

Local #341

New York, New York (Bus.)

FBI #

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL



BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: NY Field Division  
6/2/58 Date

Title and Character of Case:  
MANNING JOHNSON  
SM - C

Date Property Acquired:  
SEE BELOW

Source From Which Property Acquired:  
SEE INDIVIDUAL LB'S

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit:  
VAULT

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same: EVIDENCE & INFORMATION  
PERMANENT

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same: SEE BELOW

- (1) 6/2/58. Tape recording of interview of Manning Johnson on 3/28/58 on WATV, Channel 13 on program: "Zero 1960". Rec'd 3/28/58 by SA JOSEPH V. WATERS. See ser 710.
- (2) " 1 reel of recording tape, #7056, of interview on TV of Manning Johnson and Bella Dodson 4/11/58. Rec'd 4/11/58 by SA JOSEPH V. WATERS. al

*Exhibits destroyed 6-6-58 - J. Waters*

F01 # 439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Field File #:

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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JUN 2 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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May 18, 1942

Fol 439740

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EAL  
ON 7/27/00

RE: MANNING JOHNSON

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that informant, who is presently head of the Bartenders and Restaurant Workers' Union, CIO, in Harlem, New York City, is going to attend the CIO Convention being held next week in Chicago, Illinois.

Informant advised Special Agent M. E. TORRENS that he intended to go to the convention and would not be able to do any work next week in New York City relative to furnishing information on Communist Party matters. He further advised, however, that inasmuch as he intended to furnish the New York Office a report on the Communist infiltration in CIO labor unions, he would obtain additional information relative to that phase of his work while at the convention and on his return would report on the Communist effort to place their members in CIO offices and any other Communist activities which he might observe in this connection.

Agent TORRENS advised the informant that the FBI would appreciate any information furnished by him concerning the CIO Convention in Chicago, which related to Communist infiltration in labor unions which might be represented at the convention.

Inasmuch as informant is going to attend this convention in connection with his own official business, the New York Office does not intend to make any change in his status as an informant for next week, and he will be requested to furnish to this office any information which he might obtain relative to Communist infiltration in the labor unions, which he may observe as a result of his presence at the convention.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director

Special Delivery

b3

Part on  
Washington Movement.

*national*  
The March On Washington Movement was founded and conceived by its  
A. Phillip Randolph. Yielding under pressure of powerful anti-  
Communist factions that split off from the National Negro Congress in  
April 1940 he suggested the formation of a pressure group that would be  
100% American and consequently anti-Communist. X(u)

During the latter part of 1940 this group met with Mr. Randolph and  
decided to plan and organize for a march to Washington. National headquarters  
were setup on 7th Avenue in New York City. Organizers were sent to the  
principal cities to prepare the march. The March on Washington was to be  
carried out during 1941. X(u)

The program around which the March On Washington Movement was being  
built may be stated very briefly:

- a. Presentation in the American way the grievances of the Negro  
people to the President of the United States, and Congress.
  - b. Inclusion of the Negro in the eight point Atlantic Charter.
  - c. Stop the exploitation of the grievances of the Negro by  
Communists and other subversive element.
- X(u)

The Communists were very critical of the March On Washington Movement.  
However they later changed their policy from negative criticism to one of  
boring from within, attempting control and direct policy through a party  
fraction. X(u)

The march to Washington was abandoned by Mr. Randolph immediately  
after receipt of a letter from President Roosevelt requesting delay such  
action until the matter could be studied and recommendations made. X(u)

The Communist who worked their way in were furious. They attempted  
to line up supporters oust Randolph and to proceed with the March in  
defiance of Mr. Randolph. The Communists were not successful. Thousands of  
Negroes agreed with Mr. Randolph and denounced the Communists branding  
them insincere. Mr. Randolph held very successful meetings in New York  
and Chicago. X(u)

Shortly after the acceptance of the Presidents request. President  
Roosevelt issued an Executive Order to end discrimination in employment  
in all defense industries. X(u)

During the interim between the Presidents request and the Executive  
Order the officers and executive members purged the movement of Communists  
and Communist sympathizers. X(u)

The National officers, National Executive Committee and all local  
officers and executives are either Democrats, Republicans or Socialists. X(u)  
They are as follows:

A. Phillip Randolph National Director  
Lawrence A. Irvin President  
Beaury J. Teardor Vice-President  
J. Victor Cooks Vice-President  
L.A. Williams Vice-President  
James C. Thomas Secretary  
Princess Nynder Corresponding Secretary  
Aldrich Turner Treasurer

(u) X

CLASSIFIED  
EXCLUDED  
SP-1 5/29/80  
2  
5/29/90  
b3

Report on March Washington Movement Continues.....

Perry Ferguson Secretary of Membership ] X(u)

Executive Committee:

George Cannon  
Rachel Corrothers  
Perry Ferguson  
Quentin D. Ford  
Thomas Paylock  
Anna Keith  
Layle Lane  
Blanche Lee  
Louisa McDonald  
J.B. McLaughlin  
Pearl Norton  
Channing Tobias  
Frances Townsend  
Princess Wynder

Legal Committee

Harlie John  
Cornelius McDonald, Jr.  
Sarah Pollman Speaks  
Harold Stevens  
James G. Thomas

Labor Committee New York Division.

D.B. McLaughlin Chairman  
Edith Hanson Secretary  
Alarion Turner Treasurer  
Koch C.A. Walters Co-chairman

Charlotte Abelman Laundry Workers Union C.I.O.  
Benjamin Benton Retail Grocery & Grocers Local 338 C.I.O.  
Theodore Barton Theatre & Amusement Service Local 54 A.F.L.  
Dick Campbell Negro Actors' Guild  
Sylvester L. Corrothers U.P.S.E.A.  
Frank R. Cross with Negro Labor Committee  
Winifred Gittort House & Waist Makers Local 25 I.L.G.W.U.  
Theodore Jackson Mining Car Employees Local 370 AFL  
Eunice Johnson Bar & Grill Employees Local 341 CIO  
Layle Lane American Federation of Teachers Local 2  
Claude Mason Mining Car Employees Local 370 AFL  
E. F. Nolan Union Transit Employees Committee  
Ezra L. Parrott Local 301 UMW  
Eldica Riley Dressmakers Local 23 ILGWU  
Ralph McDonald Musicians Local 303 AFL  
Ashley Totten Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters  
E.E. Williams Masters & Drill Turners Local 39 AFL  
Thomas Young Building Service Employee Local 33 B AFL

National Committee (Labor)

Walter White  
Lester B. Granger  
Rev. William Lloyd Ives  
Frank B. Crosswithe  
Layla Lane  
Richard Parrish  
Dr. Mayford Logan  
Henry F. Craft  
A. Phillip Randolph  
J. Winley Wilson  
A. Clayton Powell Jr.  
B.F. McLaughlin  
T. Jackson  
E.B. Williams

The headquarters of the March On Washington Movement are located at present in the Hotel Theresa Building 2384 2nd Avenue, New York City.

Meetings are held regularly each Wednesday night in the 135th Street branch of the Y.M.C.A. Approximately two hundred people attend these meetings.

A mass meeting is going to be held under the auspices of the March On Washington Movement at the Madison Square Garden on Tuesday June 16th. Thousands of circulars and hand bills are being distributed urging 50,000 Negroes to pack the Garden. Speakers are visiting churches fraternal, social and labor organizations urging support.

The New York Division has signed up 1200 members in the last few weeks pledged to secure an additional five members. The joining fee is 10 cents.

The following organizations are supporting the Movement:

Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters  
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People  
Manhattan Central Medical Association  
Negro Labor Committee  
Friends of Negro Labor  
Negro Welfare League of Jamaica, N.Y.  
National Urban League  
American Virgin Islands Civic Association  
Hotel Seimens Beneficial Association  
United Sons of George Inc..  
United Negro League of Queens  
St. Vincent Benevolent League  
Baptists Ministerial Council

None of the above listed organizations are in any way connected with the Communists.

The labor unions mentioned previously in the report are not in anyway connected with the Communists.

~~(CONFIDENTIAL)~~

~~Let of Washington Movement recently ad.....~~

The March On Washington Movement is limited strictly to Negroes. Membership is accepted from Negroes only. At a recent meeting in the U.S.A. a small group of white persons who came were politely told that they were not wanted. The usher escorted them out. They claimed that they represented the League for Better Race Relations. Dr. Irving explained that this is strictly a Negro effort and that in order to keep out Communist who try to enter by devious and subtle methods it is necessary to bar them no matter how well meaning or how good their intentions. X (u)

The only untoward incident reported was that of a letter that was sent to the President of the United States by someone on the stationery of the March On Washington Movement. This letter was of a derogatory and threatening nature. A representative from the Federal Bureau of Investigation by the name of Fleming took the matter up with the heads of the organization. The leaders of the organization are conducting a private investigation to find out who sent the letter. The consensus of opinion is that it is a deliberate attempt to sabotage the Movement, to embarrass and place it in the wrong light. Most of the persons I have talked to are suspicious of one person they have long suspected of Communist affiliation. X (u)

The Chicago Division of the March on Washington Movement is planning a big race meeting. Later on other meetings will be held in the large cities. X (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~(CONFIDENTIAL)~~



New York, New York

MET:RMJ  
100-19194

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 16, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of a report dated May 15, 1942 of [redacted] concerning the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, of which A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH is the National Director. ~~(u)~~

b7D

This informant is being requested to keep this office advised as to future activities and affiliations of this organization.

A copy of informant's report is being placed in the New York file of this case, and in informant's file.

Very truly yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/1/80 BY SP-1 CH 5/20/80

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

FOI # 439740

Encls. 2

cc. 65-10,619

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

SP-1 CH 5/20/80

2

5/29/90

b3

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:ASR  
[redacted]

June 13, 1942

b3  
b7D

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: MANNING JOHNSON;  
[redacted]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter to the New York Office dated November 28, 1941 relative to MANNING JOHNSON, with alias; INTERNAL SECURITY, New York File #100-17063, transmitting a photostatic copy of the custodial detention card relating to MANNING JOHNSON and which requested appropriate investigation of subject in accordance with existing Bureau instructions.

Please be advised that a closing report relative to subject is being submitted.

It is being suggested, however, that inasmuch as this subject [redacted] arrangements be made with the Department to have his custodial detention classification cancelled.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

DECLASSIFICATION AS OF 20/98

By 1259

K

[redacted] - 7  
b3

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:ETC  
[redacted]

May 30, 1942

439740

CLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
7/27/00

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith copies of reports furnished by [redacted] whose identity has previously been made known to the Bureau, relative to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

Informant is attempting to obtain additional information relative to the National Negro Congress, which will be furnished to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*

P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Encls. (3)

CC - NY 100-3633

*[Handwritten note: Enclosed for Mr. [unclear] 7/27/00]*

[redacted]

b3

b7D

b3

## Report on the Harlem Victory Council.

The Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Communist Party decided to get together a group of liberals that would work on a united front basis around the issue of national defense for the purpose of calling a conference in Harlem.

The objective to counter act the inroads made by the March On Washington Movement headed by A.P. Phillip Randolph President of the Brotherhood of sleeping Car Porters, and to rally the Negro people for national defense under the leadership of the Communist Party.

Dr. Max Yergan, Hope Stevens, A. W. Berry, Benjamin Davis, Charles Collins and Vito Marcantonio to be responsible for the success of the conference.

The first conference was held in April of this year in St. Martins Church with Vito Marcantonio presiding. St. Martins Church is located at 123rd Street and Lenox Avenue in New York City. Rev. John C. Johnson Pastor.

The meeting was well attended by Party members from numerous front organizations, fractions and units.

The two main speakers at the conference were Judges James Watson and Anna Cross both of whom are city magistrates in the City of New York.

The Name Harlem Victory Council was adopted at the conference.

The following is a partial list of the officers:

Chairman..... Henry W. Pope. Executive Vice Chairman M. Moran Weston  
Vice- Chairmen  
Hon. Hamlet O. Catenaccio Alice Citron/Fausta Mercado  
Isabel Otero Dr. Charles A. Petioni

Executive Secretary Stella Garvin Administrative Sec. Helen L. Simon  
Treasurer Alice Holdship Ware.

### Executive Committee

Hon. William F. Andrews. Lionel Rarrow Hon. Joseph A Boccia  
Dr. Lucien M Brown Anthony Di Rosa Archbishop William Earnest  
Mrs. J. C. Guggenheimer Rev Charles Frye Hon. Helen Jack  
Edna Kashin Wilford Lewin Samuel Mancuso Rev. O. Clayton Maxwell  
Emanuel Medina Emilio Nardone Samuel C. Patterson Elizabeth  
Roberts Dr. Julia Coleman Robinson Lucile Spence  
Hope R. Stevens Rger Straughn.

### Advisory Board

James M. Allen Hon. Vito Marcantonio Adam Clayton Powell Jr.  
Rev. Felipe Sabater Dr. Max Yergan.

The headquarters of the Harlem Victory Council is located at 217 West 125th Street, New York City. Telephone Monument 2-4230. Room 105.

The Harlem Victory Council is calling a community wide meeting on Saturday June 20th, 2 P.M. at the Mt. Moriah Church 2050 5th Ave N.Y.C.

F01 439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/IEHL

Rep on the Harlem Victory Council continued.....

The Harlem Victory Council is controlled through the Party fraction which consists of Party members delegated from various organizations led by the Party or influenced by it.

The fraction meets from time to time between Council meetings to discuss the work of the Council and how to improve it. Each Party member is told how he is to work on a united front basis with the non-Party persons that are in the Council. *Fraction meets at 1 W 125 St at 50 E 12 St*

They, that is the rank and file Communists, are to follow the leadership of A. W. Berry, Hope Stevens and Max Yergan at all meetings. All of these are leading Communists.

Special care has been taken to conceal the fact that the Council is led by the Communists. Only leading Party people not generally known as members of the Party and those only known to a few have been placed on leading committees. They have the responsibility of carrying out the line of the Party in the top committees and give the general direction to the Council. The rank and file Party delegates and fellow travellers follow their lead and direction.

However it can be noted that most of the people holding key positions have supported the Party policy on all issues. They have headed all or almost all united front groups sponsored by the Party.

Mrs. J. C. Guggenheimer not only supports various Party front organizations but also contributes financially to start them. She has given private parties and otherwise solicited funds from prominent people for the support of various Party campaigns.

The only Party members publicly mentioned by the Council are:

Dr. Max Yergan  
James E. Allen  
Samuel C. Patterson  
Hope R. Stevens  
Lucile Spence  
Helen L. Simon  
Isabel Otera

b7D

*Good  
ME*

New York, New York

MET:EMC

June 8, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

RE: HARLEM VICTORY COUNCIL  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] relative to the Harlem Victory Council, which Informant  
advises was supported by the Negro Commission of the National Committee  
of the Communist Party in order to rally the negro people for national  
defense under the leadership of the Party. He points out that the  
first conference by this organization was held in New York City in  
April 1942.

Informant has been requested to follow the activities of this  
organization and report any information he may obtain to this office.

Very truly yours,

F01 # 439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/80 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc.



# QUESTIONNAIRE

## On the Life and Activities of Leading Party Functionaries

The following questions must be answered in full detail, point by point, in order that a full and complete picture of your life and activities shall be given to the Party.

Every effort must be used to give correct and exact information. No vital points must be omitted.

Use separate letter size sheets, the first of which shall start out as follows:

(Date)

Party and Life History of.....  
(Real name in full)

(Main office or function in the Party at the present time)

### A. SOCIAL POSITION AND ORIGIN

State date and place of birth. Date and place of birth of parents. If not born in the U.S.A., state when they came to this country, and whether or not naturalized.

Is father living? If so, what is his age, occupation, now, and what was his occupation in the past? (Answer in detail.) If dead, how old at the time of death, and what was his occupation.

Is mother living? If so, what is her age? What is she doing at the present time? State social background of mother, whether or not a worker, what category, did she work after marriage?

What was economic status of family? What sources of income did it have? Describe your home environment. How many children in family, your place in family? Did you have a religious training? Do you have any religious affiliation? To what political parties did your parents belong?

When did you begin to work? At what kind of work? Give complete history of the various jobs you have held, length of time at each job, etc. State name of company for which you worked, where located. State why you changed jobs; if you were fired from jobs, state reason. Have you ever had any other income except your wages? If so, from what source?

Have you had military service? In what branch? Reason for enlistment? Rank in service? What is the extent of your military knowledge? Did you play any part in the World War 1914-1918? If not, what were you doing at this time?

If you are married, give brief biography of your wife (or husband), social background, political status, economic position, field of work, when married, etc. If divorced, state when and for what reason. If married more than once, give details.

State number of brothers and sisters living. Their occupation, economic position, political affiliation, economic position of wife or husband, number of children in each family, etc.

How many children have you? State age and sex. Are they members of the Pioneers, Y.C.L. or Party. State whether or not in school or working. If working, state details, kind of work, place, etc. Are they members of any other organizations? If so, what kind. Are any members of your family sympathetic to the Communist Party? State details, whether or not they read the Party press, vote the Party ticket, etc. Have any of your relatives (parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, cousins) ever worked for the government in any capacity? Have you ever traveled outside of the U.S.A.? If so, for what purpose?

### B. INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Give full details about your education (Non-political). When did you enter school? How many years did you attend? Did you finish grammar school? High school? University? How many years in university? Have you attended evening classes or taken correspondence courses? State reasons for leaving school. What Party education have you had? Evening classes? Independent study? Party schools? What literature have you read? In answering this question differentiate between what you have read and what you have studied. What propaganda work have you done in the Party? What agitation? What have you written? With what languages, other than English, are you familiar? State extent of your knowledge, i.e., can you read, write, speak?

### C. POLITICAL LIFE

When did you enter the revolutionary movement? Where? State fully your activities. Were you a member of the Socialist Party? The I.W.W.? The Socialist Labor Party? Give full details. To what youth organization did you belong? When did you join the Communist Party? Where? Under what circumstances? Who was the District Organizer? With what recommendation did you join? With whom were you associated in the Party at the time you joined? State fully your activities from the time you joined until the present date. What mass work have you done? Where? What factory work? Where? What offices have you held in the Party? When? How long? Where? (Answer this question in fullest detail.) Have you ever been out of the Party? Under what circumstances? For how long? When were you reinstated? State full details. What conventions, conferences of the Party have you attended? Give full details. In what district have you been a member? In what cities, sections, units? What work did you do in each place? How many workers have been recruited into the Party through your efforts? What position did you take in the chief periods of Party life? State fully your position in the inner struggles of the Party. Have you at any time associated yourself with an opposition group outside the Party? If so, state details, length of association, etc.

### D. PARTICIPATION IN TRADE UNIONS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

To what trade union have you belonged? Name of local? When did you join? Where? How long in union? What offices did you hold in Union? What paid positions? Present status in Union? Date and extent of membership? What have been your union activities? What is your present union status?

To what other workers' organizations have you belonged, and what offices in them have you held? Give dates, whether paid or voluntary services, other details. Give the same information as of the present time.

Have you ever participated in government bodies? Give dates, description of posts, other details.

### E. REPRESSIONS AND PERSECUTIONS

Have you taken part in strikes and demonstrations? Give dates, places and other details. Have you ever been arrested? On what occasion? For what cause? Have you been convicted? When? On what charge? What prison sentences have you served? Length of time in jail? Where? Were you tortured while in jail?

### F. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

State chief Party and mass organizations paid positions and places of work. Who can confirm the truth of the above statements? Name responsible Party members familiar with the various phases of your activities as stated above.

RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WITH YOUR ANSWERS PROMPTLY.

SIGN THE STATEMENT.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIAL MAILING

These instructions for special mailing are technical matters, however, if not followed up properly difficulties of a political nature are bound to develop as experience has already shown us.

The D.O.'s are not to keep these directives to themselves. After reading it, the D. O. is to give it to the Comrade in charge of special mailing, and the D.O. is to see to it that these instructions are carried out.

1. ADDRESSES:

a) Each district must have a minimum of two addresses for receiving mail from the Technical Dep't, CC, an address for telegrams, and a safe return address.

b) Best addresses for this purpose is business places, or professionals who are sympathetic to our movement. They are not to be Party members, or active in our auxiliary organizations.

c) Change addresses every three to six months depending on the safety.

d) These addresses are not to be used for any other purpose but to receive mail from the Tech. Dep't, CC

e) In order to make sure that the return address functions, mail a letter once a month to New York to an assumed name and place with your safe return address, and check up if same is returned to you.

f) Letters should be addresses in pen and ink, or typewritten. An address should never be written in pencil. Always make sure that the address is written correctly before mailing.

g) Make arrangements that you get the mail the same day it is received, as there may be mail which requires your immediate attention.

h) Addresses that you get from the Tech. Dep't should not be given to any other organization or individual.

i) When receiving mail for another organization or individual,

## Instructions for Special Mailing

- 2 -

just give them the letter, NO ENVELOPS. Experience has taught us where envelopes were given, the Comrade corresponded through our return address which is impracticable.

j) When sending a new address always specify if it is Miss, Mr., Dr., or Mrs., state if it is St., Ave., or Blvd. Specify the inner name to be used.

It is advisable to use first assumed names such as Harry, Jim, Dick, Anna or Sarah. Never use the first name of the DC or the real first name of the Comrade who collects the mail.

k) When receiving new addresses they must always first be tested, and not used before you get an acknowledgment that the address was deciphered correctly. When you receive a test on your new address, you are to acknowledge same immediately in order to enable us to use it.

l) Make arrangements in advance that when your addressee moves he or she should notify you at least two weeks in advance, and notify the ID accordingly, also see to it that the addressee's address is changed in the post office.

m) Do not go directly from the Party office or from any of our organization offices to collect mail. Make sure that you are not followed.

n) Do not send KP packages to the confidential address.

### 2. WHAT MATERIAL TO SEND THROUGH SPECIAL MAIL

a) All minutes, important reports (shop work, etc.) resolutions, letters of a confidential nature, transfers, membership books should be sent through special channels.

b) Do not send heavy letters, not more than two candelas. If you have heavy material send it in two separate letters to two different addressees, or forward them two to three days apart.

c) Send all material on onion skin paper. When retranscribing documents, you can take off four copies for the CC on onion skin paper.

- d) Mail a minimum of four copies of all reports, minutes, etc.
- e) On each letter, minutes, leaflet, bulletin, resolution, etc., specify the District by number or the City where the District office is located. A rubber stamp is most desirable for this purpose.
- f) Always make sure to have sufficient postage on your mail. When in doubt it is better to have an extra stamp than a stamp not enough.

### 3. RECEIPTS:

- a) All mail you send, as well when returning documents must be accompanied with your receipt which is to follow in consecutive number.
- b) Mark on your stub as well as on the reverse side of the receipt all material you are sending, and to the address you are mailing it to, (You can mark the address by number or letter) as should something go wrong we should be able to check-up on it. Date receipts the date of mailing.
- c) Check-up receipts you receive if all material was received as enumerated, make check marks accordingly. Date our receipts when post office delivered.
- d) Return receipts promptly. Do not keep them more than one week. When receiving mail make sure that the receipts follow in consecutive number and return them accordingly. If you notice a number missing call this to the attention of the T D, CC. Do not wait 'till we call this to your attention. This is very important in order to assure ourselves that all mail is received.

### 4. HOW TO SEAL SPECIAL MAIL:

- a) Wrap material in onion skin paper. Do not write messages on the wrapper, as it can easily be destroyed, before reading it.
- b) Use staples, small pins or paste for attaching documents. **DO NOT USE CLIPS.**
- c) Use transparent sealing tape and make sure that it is sealed properly.

## INSTRUCTIONS For Special Mailing

- 4 -

- a) Always ~~make~~ sure that you have the inner name written inside.
- b) Use small envelopes. Only in very rare occasions are you to use large envelopes. Make all efforts to make mail look like private letters.

### 5. CODES

- a) Always use code when sending addresses, and for messages of a strictly confidential nature.
- b) When sending coded messages make sure to have your District number on it or name of City.
- c) When making up a coded message use the number mark (#) after each and every word in order we should be able to decipher same properly.

### 6. WHAT MATERIAL TO RETURN:

- a) Return all Tel. Data minutes and all material that is marked "PLEASE READ AND RETURN", and no other material.
- b) Material marked "READ AND DESTROY IMMEDIATELY" you should destroy it by fire.
- c) Material marked "CONFIDENTIAL" you should keep in confidential files.

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6/3/42

(U)

Report relating to ~~"Confidential"~~ Document.

The "Confidential" document relating to "Instructions For Special Mailing", is for members of the National Committee of the Communist Party and State organizers. It is a guide to use of the United States mails to prevent Party confidential mail such as minutes of important meetings of the Political Bureau, National Committee, Technical department instructions, party membership books, reports on local activities, decisions of disciplinary bodies and fractions from falling into the hands of the postal intelligence.

These instructions are given to all comrades on the National Committee, heads of the Party in the various states, leaders of important fractions in trade unions and mass organizations outside of New York City in order that Confidential information can be transmitted to the National Party office without it falling into the hands of government agents who check mail sent directly to the Party offices, and vice-versa.

Each comrade receiving these instructions immediately selects a comrade not generally known in Party circles as a Party member to handle exclusively this special mailing apparatus.

All the operations of this department are checked and re-checked by the Technical Department of the National Committee. The local apparatus is set up on the same basis as the National apparatus.

The Technical Department is a special department set up for the purpose of transmission through the mails of all matters that the Party does not want to fall into the hands of the authorities. Each member is carefully schooled in this work. Its job is to work out a efficient and smooth smoothly operating system for each State Party Organization.

Moreover this department has the responsibility of working out codes and deciphering codes. A specific code is given to each leading comrade that is known only to him and the Technical Department. Test messages are sent until the system is perfected. Each mistake is carefully noted and the person making the mistake is severely reprimanded.

The initial confidential addresses are given verbally to each leading comrade in New York City at special conferences with them arranged by the Technical Department. They are then instructed to use these confidential addresses to send them the names and addresses of persons in their localities to whom confidential mail can be sent.

The head of the Technical Department for many years has been J. Peters. He works very closely with the Control or Disciplinary Committee of the Party.

He reports all negligence, laxity, inefficiency and errors to A. Burba Head of the Central Control or National Disciplinary Commission.

Definition of initials:

D.O.'s relate to District or State Organizers and heads of Party organizations in places outside of New York City.

CC relates to the Central Committee or National Committee.

PP relates to parcel post.

Polburo relates to the powerful National Executive Committee of the Party.

*Good*  
*Wick*

FOI # 439740  
7/2/00 SP2 ALM/EHL

[Redacted]

New York, New York

MMT:EMC  
[redacted]

June 8, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

RE: GENERAL COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith a report of [redacted] relative to Confidential document entitled "Instructions for Special Mailing." Informant furnished this office with a copy of the document entitled "Instructions for Special Mailing" which is furnished to functionaries of the Communist Party by the National Headquarters, from which photostatic copies were made and the original returned to Informant at his request. Two photostatic copies of this document are being forwarded to the Bureau with the copy of the Informant's report in which he comments on the instructions set out therein.

There is also being transmitted herewith photostatic copies of a questionnaire setting out questions to be answered by the functionaries of the Communist Party relative to their life and activities. The photostatic copies of this questionnaire were obtained from a questionnaire furnished to this office by the Informant, the original of which was returned to Informant at his request.

Informant has advised that he will make a thorough search of his files for any additional confidential documents about the Communist Party which he might have and which might be of interest to this office.

FD 439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/27/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc.  
cc - NY 100-4931

b3  
b7D

[redacted] - 14  
b3

**Report United Retail, Wholesale And Department Store Employees  
Of America, Affiliated with Congress Of Industrial Organizations.**

The United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America affiliated with the C.I.O. was chartered five (5) years ago.

There are approximately one hundred and ten thousand (110,000) members organized in the distributive industry comprising more than two hundred and forty (240) local unions stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The Convention was held in the Hotel Morrison located at Clarke and Madison Streets in the City of Chicago, starting May 18th and ending May 23, 1942.

According to the report of the Credentials Committee there were five hundred and forty delegates attending the Convention representing two hundred and fifteen local unions. These delegates represented more than eighty seven thousand members.

I was informed immediately upon my arrival that there was a conspiracy on the part of Communists and sympathizers to take over the International. They had attempted to pack the convention with delegates from the local unions that they represented and as many other local unions that they could depend upon to support their program and policy at the Convention.

The leader and chief spokesman for the Communist Party fraction at the Convention was Arthur Osborne, International Vice-President and head of Union Local 65 the largest in the International Union with a membership of fifteen thousand. He was ably supported by David Livingston representing Union Local ~~Local~~ #65. Livingston is also leader in the Communist fraction.

The following is a list of the outstanding Communists present at the Convention and the Local Unions that they represent and control:

Dave Livingston	
Arthur Osborne	Local Union #65

Sam Nessim	
Lox Basis	Local # 104

George Meisler	Local # 1350
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Eli Halpern	Local # 4
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Fred Freed	Local # 5
------------	-----------

Alex Millstone	
Nathan Solomon	Local # 830

Ben Burman	Local # 144
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<del>Frank</del>	
William Michleson	
Seiden	Local #2

FDI #439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL



Local #36 is composed of persons employed in the warehouses in New York City.

Local #104 is composed of persons employed in lumber yards in New York City.

Local #1250 is composed of persons employed in Hearns Department Store in New York City.

Local #2 is the Gimble's Chapter of the Retail Union consisting of the employees in Gimble's Department store.

Local #5 is the Sterns and Finlay Straus Chapter of the Retail Union consisting of employees in the Finlay Straus and Sterns Department Stores in New York City.

Local 830 is composed of persons employed in the Davess and Vin stores in New York City.

Local #4 is the Saks Chapter of the Retail Union consisting of the employees of Saks Department store in New York City.

Local #144 is composed sign painters employed in various establishments in New York City.

All of the above mentioned local unions are controlled and led by the Communist Party.

The Communist Party controlled Unions joined hands with two other Local Unions namely Locals 338 and 1199.

Local 338 has a membership of more than 11,000. It has very strong Communist Party leanings. In fact three of its outstanding leaders were at one time active leaders in the New York State Committee of the Communist Party namely Norman Eselson, Tribush and the Editor of the Union paper Ephraim Schwartzman. Members are grocery, dairy and fruit clerks.

Local 1199 is composed of pharmacists employed in the drug stores in New York City. It is led by such former outstanding Communists such as Benjamin Godes and Charles Weiss. This Local Union has strong Communist Party leanings.

Combined these Local Unions comprised approximately one third of the voting strength at the Convention. However Local #338 was split. The majority of delegates voting against the Communists.

The majority of delegates voted the removal of all Communists and their sympathizers from the leading positions in the International Union. Namely International Vice-President Arthur Osmon and International Vice-President Benjamin Godes.

However the Communists still control the Local Unions that I have listed as ~~are~~ Communist controlled.

William Nicholson delegate from Local #2 Gimbles' Chapter on leave of absence from the Officers Training School United States Army presented the Communist Party views on the War. He was wildly applauded by his fellow Party members and fellow travellers.

The Resolution demanding that the Convention go on record demanding that President Roosevelt "open a second front NOW" was rejected by the majority of delegates. This resolution was submitted by the Communists. The Convention was of the opinion that our Commander and Chief and his able staff know best how to conduct the war, and that we should be loyal followers.

Attached hereto is a photograph of Arthur Osman leader of the Communist fraction in the International Union.

*Received 5/30/42  
Good - MRP*



b7D

New York, N.Y.

NET:EMC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b3

June 11, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF UNITED RETAIL,  
WHOLESALE AND DEPARTMENT STORE EMPLOYEES  
OF AMERICA - C.I.O.  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith a report of [redacted]  
[redacted] relative to the convention of the United Retail,  
Wholesale and Department Store Employees of America, affiliated with  
Congress of Industrial Organizations which was held at the Morrison  
Hotel, Chicago, Illinois from May 18 to May 23, 1942.

b7D

In addition to the report, Informant has furnished this office  
with a photograph of ARTHUR KANE whom he advises is leader of the  
Communist fraction in the International Union and until his removal at  
the recent Convention, held the position of International Vice-president.

The Informant has also furnished photographs of BENJAMIN GIBBS  
and NORMAN ESELSON whom he reports to be Communist sympathizers. The  
above photographs are being made a part of the New York file on general  
Communist activities.

Informant advised that he attended the recent Union Convention  
held in Chicago and that upon receipt of a copy of the proceedings  
of the Convention which he had requested, he will submit an additional  
report in which he will comment on the action taken at this Convention.

FBI # 439740

RECORDED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL

7/27/00

cc - NY 100-4931  
Enclosures

Very truly yours,

*RRS*  
F. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

b3

16

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:ASR  
[redacted]

June 13, 1942

b3

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
DISTRICT #2  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that [redacted] recently furnished the New York Office with a thirty-two page booklet entitled "Lenin's Teachings About The Party," which Informant advises is used as a manual of instructions at the Communist Party Workers' School in New York City. Among other things, this booklet gives a brief resume of the party structure and its policy relative to discipline of its members and the party's reaction to freedom of speech and criticism by its members.

b7D

In view of the possibility that the Bureau may have received previous copies of this manual and the fact that the New York Field Office has but the one copy, it will not be forwarded to the Bureau unless advised that the Bureau does not have a copy of this manual.

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

FOI # 439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL

ON 7/27/00

b3

17

-----X  
An appeal to the General Executive Board from decision #2384 of the General President in the Matters of:

1. The refusal of the Local Joint Board of New York City to obey the order of General-Secretary Treasurer, Hugo Ernst, issued January 29, 1941.

2. The validity of the election of the Local Joint Executive Board officers, held January 15, 1941.

-----X  
TO:

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD, Hotel & Restaurant Employees International Alliance & Bartenders International League of America.

Your appellants, the following named unions:-

SAM FRIEDMAN and BENJAMIN GOTTESMAN, as President and Secretary-Treasurer of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local 1.  
CHARLES JENNINGS and JACK TOWNSEND, as President and Secretary-Treasurer of Bartenders Union, Local 15.  
PHILIP SHAPIRO and JOSEPH DECKER, as President and Secretary-Treasurer of Delicatessen & Countermen's union, Local 80.  
AL SUPRAN and JOSEPH STELCEN, as President and Secretary-Treasurer of Luncheonette & Soda Fountain Employees Union, Local 254.  
MANNING JOHNSON and MIKE RODRIGUEZ, as President and Secretary-Treasurer of Bartenders & Restaurant Employees Union, Local 388.

respectfully appeal from decision #2384, dated February 14, 1941, of the General President in the above stated matters.

On January 13, 1941, the appellant unions herein withdrew from any participation in the New York City Local Joint Executive Board for the following reasons:

1. The Communist Party, through its control and domination of eight of the fourteen local unions comprising the Local Joint Executive Board, was about to seize complete control of the Local Joint Executive Board in the elections to be held that same day.

2. Nominations of known Communists had been made for the chief offices of the Local Joint Executive Board.

3. Participation in such elections on the part of the appellant unions herein would have given sanction to the Communist Party to proceed with its campaign to openly take over control of the approximately 45,000 workers who are members of our International in New York City.

4. The elections were to proceed with the delegates of Waiters & Waitresses Union, Local 219, and the delegates of Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302, participating in the voting, despite the fact that these two locals were in arrears at least two months in payment of their per capita tax to the International.

The delegates of the remaining locals on January 13, 1941, did proceed with the elections to the

Local Joint Executive Board, and the following Communists were elected to the following offices:-

Samuel Kramberg, the President of Cafeteria Employees Union, Local 302, was elected to the office of President of the Local Joint Executive Board;

Michael J. Obermeier, Secretary-Treasurer of Hotel & Club Employees Union, Local 6, was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Local Joint Executive Board;

Harry Reich, President of Chefs, Cooks, Pastry Cooks & Assistants Union, Local 89, was elected Legislative Representative of the Local Joint Executive Board, and

William Albertson, ~~former~~ Secretary-Treasurer of Hotel & Restaurant Workers Union, Local 16, was elected Recording Secretary of the Local Joint Executive Board.

The General President, in decision #2384, in deciding upon the validity of the election of the Local Joint Executive Board offices held January 13, 1941, stated as follows:

"Secretary Ernst has reported to me fully respecting difficulties and issues presented in connection with the election of officers of the Local Joint Executive Board of January 13, 1941. I have given careful consideration to all matters in issue and I find that the election of all officers conforms in every respect with the provisions of the constitution, and I therefore decide and declare the election of all officers of the Local Joint Executive Board to be valid."

Your appellants assume that the General President considered the question as to whether or not Locals 219 and 302 were suspended at the time the elections were

held on January 13, 1941, under Section 50 of the constitution of our International because of their failure to pay their per capita tax to the International for a period of at least two months. Your appellants respectfully request that this General Executive Board make a thorough investigation of the facts pertaining to the failure of Local 219 and 302 to have their per capita tax properly paid at the time the elections of the Joint Board were held on January 13, 1941.

However, that is not the main issue upon which the <sup>five</sup> ~~six~~ appellant unions withdrew from the Local Joint Executive Board. The compelling reason for this withdrawal was the fact that the Communist Party was about to seize, and did in fact seize, control of the Local Joint Executive Board.

It is unfortunate that the General President in his decision failed to make the slightest reference to this all-important issue. Affidavits had been sent to the General President showing that Sam Gramberg, Michael J. Oberweiler, Harry Reich and William Albertson were Communists, actively associated with Communists and Communist affiliated organizations.

So that all the members of our International may know that the International is firmly opposed to Communism and Communist principles, and so that there shall



be a decision rendered as to whether or not Communists or persons connected with Communist affiliated organizations can hold office in our International and, through secret, coordinated efforts, obtain a stranglehold over both the members of our International, as well as the policies of the International, we, the Presidents and Secretary-Treasurers of the <sup>five</sup> ~~six~~ appellant unions, are this day filing with the General President charges, in our capacity as individual members of the International, against Sam Kramberg, Michael J. Obermeier, Harry Reich and William Albertson, which charges allege that these four individuals have been and are members of the Communist Party, have been and are members of organizations affiliated with the Communist Party and seek to follow the doctrines of the Communist Party to undermine, and if necessary, destroy the avowed American purposes and principles of our International.

A duplicate original of such charges is being sent to this General Executive Board with ~~five~~ copies of this appeal, so that the members of this General Executive Board may acquaint themselves more in detail with the specific charges filed against Sam Kramberg, Michael J. Obermeier, Harry Reich and William Albertson. In addition to the affidavits previously sent to the General President pertaining to the Communist principles and affiliations of these four individuals, other affidavits will be sent to the General President in substantiation of these charges.

Your appellants respectfully urge that the General President in failing to consider the all-important issue of Communist domination of the Local Joint Executive Board, overlooked the only essential issue in the entire case. The ~~six~~<sup>five</sup> appellant unions herein will willingly co-operate and take part in the activities of the Local Joint Executive Board once its Communist domination is removed. Your appellants are loyal unions of the International, and in withdrawing from the Local Joint Executive Board had only the best interests of the International at heart.

Our International, with its principles of American democracy, has always been opposed to Communism as practiced under the doctrines of the Communist Party. Our General President, whom we admire and respect as a sincere trade unionist and American, has always been our leader in this fight against Communism.

At the 25th General Convention of our International, held at Kansas City, Missouri, during the month of August, 1929, the "President's Report" to the delegates of that convention contained the following:

'Charges were filed against several members of Local 302, New York City, for holding affiliation with the Communist Party. Two of those charged acknowledged their affiliation and were expelled from membership in the International Union. We believe that in the interest of our movement that this Convention should make a declaration that anyone holding membership in the Communist

Party or any of its affiliations should not be allowed to hold or maintain membership in the International Union."

The Committee on the General President's Report, of which Committee Brother Emanuel Koveleski was the Chairman, approved of the President's Report, including the proposed declaration and resolution. The official report of the Convention proceedings gives in full the debate held upon the proposed resolution and declaration of the General President pertaining to the prohibition against allowing Communists or those who are members of affiliated Communist organizations to hold or maintain membership in our International.

This debate was extensive and the General President, by his logic and eloquence in speaking in behalf of his declaration and resolution, not only defeated an effort to amend such resolution and declaration, but was persuasive in causing the Convention to unanimously adopt the Report of the Committee on General President's Report, as a whole. Our appeal can best be pleaded by quoting from the speech of the General President at the Kansas City Convention. He said, in part:

"I challenge the statement that this is a question for the local unions. It is a question of a more serious nature, and not a question solely for the localities. What is breeding in New York City, what is gradually creeping into Chicago, will eventually reach San Francisco. If it has not reached there yet it will be

there in a short time. The man who says that Communism is not advancing is not in touch with what is going on at the present time."

\* \* \* \*

He further stated:

"I know that within our organization today there are men who are trying to wreck -- and I do not say wreck with any qualifications -- who are trying to wreck the work we have done so loyally in order to build up something for the workers in our industry. A delegate said the other day the officers do not usually talk until after the election, for political reasons. If you want to talk in favor of Communism today, if you want to talk in favor of allowing the Communist Party to control the organization, then you do not have to elect me as your President for the next term. I want you to know here, now and forever, that I stand on principle and not on jobs."

\* \* \* \*

He also declared:

"Let us vote here, without discredit to the introducer of the amendment, to not adopt the amendment. Let us say we are opposed to Communism, that we are opposed to allowing Communists to come into our organizations, and give the man you will put into office as your General President the power to say that where he finds a man or woman who is trying to destroy the work of our organization, and who acknowledges affiliation with the Communist Party, that our organization is positively opposed to that sort of thing, and give him power to expel that man or woman from the organization."

"Back up the American Federation of Labor in its efforts to remove from its ranks those who are trying to destroy it and give us a chance to teach the men and women who are coming into the labor movement that Communism does not mean anything in the advancement of the workers. With that thought in mind I want to warn you of this danger -- not that I want to hold any fear before you, but there is this one danger."

Your appellants believe and know that our General President thinks now as he did in 1929, for the danger which he clearly foresaw then is much greater now, not only to our International, but to our beloved country.

The defiance of the Communists of the principles of our International, once they think they have power, is clearly illustrated by the blatant refusal of the rump Communist dominated Local Joint Executive Board to obey the directions of the General Secretary contained in his letter of January 29, 1941, which was directed to the Local Joint Executive Board. Since the facts of such findings are quite thoroughly discussed by the General President in his decision #2384, in the instant matter, there is no need to dwell upon such details. However, your appellants urge that the decision of the General President pertaining to the refusal of the Local Joint Executive Board of New York City to obey the order of General-Secretary-Treasurer, Hugo Ernst, issued January 29, 1941, was entirely too mild.

Without conceding that the elections of the Local Joint Executive Board, held on January 13, 1941, were in fact valid, it is obvious that if Sam Kramberg, Michael J. Obermeier, Harry Reich and William Albertson are Communists, not only were the elections therefore improper, but moreover, even if said four individuals had been duly elected, they should be expelled from the International since as

Communists they deliberately and defiantly disobeyed the order and directions of the General Secretary, conveyed through the authority vested in him by the General President. Your appellants therefore ask that not only should the elections of the Local Joint Executive Board be declared invalid, but that the said four individuals be expelled from the International as Communists who deliberately disobeyed the order and directions of the Secretary-Treasurer and the General Secretary. These four individuals as the President, Secretary-Treasurer, Legislative Representative and Recording Secretary, were responsible for the defiance by the Local Joint Executive Board of New York City of the directions and orders contained in the letter of January 28, 1941, directed to the Local Joint Executive Board of New York City and signed by the General-Secretary-Treasurer.

The <sup>Five</sup> ~~six~~ appellant unions ask permission of this General Executive Board to pay to the International Vice-President in charge of the New York City area the amount of money in per capita tax which they would be required to pay to the Local Joint Executive Board, which money is to be held in escrow by the said International Vice-President, pending a decision of this General Executive Board of the within appeal.

Your appellants respectfully urge that a stay of execution of decision #2384 be granted to the <sup>Five</sup> ~~six~~ appel-

lant unions, insofar as it affects their interests, pending a determination by this General Executive Board of the within appeal. Your appellants further respectfully urge that decision #2384 of the General President be reversed and the elections of the Local Joint Executive Board held on January 15, 1941, be declared invalid because of the fact that members of the Communist Party were elected as officials; that the Communist Party, through its members and persons affiliated with it, dominated the elections; and that Locals 219 and 302 were in arrears at least two months in payment of their per capita tax to the International, and, therefore, the delegates of these two locals should not have voted in the elections.

Dated: New York, February 24, 1941.

(Union Seal)

WAITERS & WAITRESSES UNION  
LOCAL NO. 1

By SAM FRIEDMAN  
President

BENNY GOTTFESMAN  
Secretary-Treasurer

(Union Seal)

BARTENDERS UNION LOCAL NO. 15

By CHARLES JENNINGS  
President

JACK TOWNSEND  
Acting Secretary-Treasurer

(Union Seal)

DELICATESSEN & COUNTERMEN'S UNION

By PHILIP SHAPIRO  
President

JOE DECKER  
Secretary-Treasurer

LUNCHEONETTE & SODA FOUNTAIN  
EMPLOYEES UNION LOCAL NO. 254

(Union Seal)

By AL SUPRAN  
President

JOSEPH STELOEN  
Secretary-Treasurer

BARTENDERS & RESTAURANT  
EMPLOYEES UNION LOCAL NO. 386

(Union Seal)

By NANNING JOHNSON  
President

FRANK DIRZ  
Secretary-Treasurer



New York, New York

# 439740

[REDACTED]  
RECEIVED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

June 26, 1942

DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF HOTEL AND  
RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL  
ALLIANCE AND BAR TENDERS INTERNATIONAL  
LEAGUE OF AMERICA (A.F. of L.)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of a report  
of [REDACTED] relative to the Communist infiltration  
in the above captioned labor union, and photostatic copies of two affida-  
vits reflecting the names of Communists in this labor union.

The affidavits from which the photostats were made were re-  
turned to the informant at his request.

Copies of the informant's report and photostatic copies of  
the affidavits are being retained in the New York City office for infor-  
mation purposes.

Very truly yours,

*P. E. Foxworth*  
P. E. Foxworth  
Assistant Director

Enc. (2)

*Copy 2/150-27111-344*

[REDACTED]

*178*

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b7D

b3

Report on the Trade Union And Peoples' VICTORY CONFERENCE.

6/26/42

At a meeting held about the middle of May 1942 of the Negro Commission of the National Committee comrade Ford stressed the imperative need of counteracting the March On Washington Movement because of its Nationalist and anti-Party character. It was considered as a definite danger to the united front policy of the Party, that is unity of black and white.

Moreover the danger of the whole Negro movement falling under the leadership of the Socialist Party represented by A. Phillip Randolph was a serious one and that the entire Party must be mobilized to meet the situation. It was decided that negative criticism was not enough, that simultaneous with criticism there must be set up an organization setting forth the policy of the Party in contra-distinction to the purely nationalist movement led by A. Phillip Randolph.

Ben Davis Jr. was assigned to write an article for the Daily Worker criticizing the March on Washington Movement. The article was published in a recent edition of the Daily Worker.

The Trade Union And Peoples' Victory Conference is a broadening of the Harlem Victory Council. It is aimed at meeting the March on Washington Movement in a positive way. It is "Marxist effort" to regain leadership over the millions of Negroes in America who are becoming radicalized as a result of the treatment received at the hands of reactionary employers and prejudiced individuals. The question was posed "who shall lead the Negro masses, the petty bourgeois, social-reformist leadership around A. Phillip Randolph or the Communist Party?"

The Trade Union And Peoples' Victory Conference is to be held Saturday June 27th at the Fraternal Club House 110 West 43rd Street, New York City.

The Order of Business is as follows:

Jobs and training for Negroes  
Equality in the armed forces  
Fulllest participation in Civilian Defense

There will be two sessions. The first beginning at 11:30 am until 1 pm. The second 2pm until 6pm.

Elmer Carter, member of the State War Council Chairman. Mr. Carter is not a member of the Communist Party.

Invocation by the Rev. John R. Johnson pastor of St. Martins' Church Located at 153rd street and Lenox Avenue. He is not a Communist.

Ferdinand Smith, Secretary of the National Maritime Union, affiliated with the U.I.O. is the principal speaker at the morning session. He is a member of the Communist Party, member of the National Committee of the Party, member of the State Committee of the Party. The Party is building him up as the leading Negro Party trade unionist in America. He is a West Indian by birth has been in the Party to his knowledge more than eight years.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP-2 ALM/EHL

Sabina Martinez is co-chairman of the 2nd session. She is an organizer of the Cleaners and Dyers Union Local 230 affiliated with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, C.I.O. Member of the Communist Party since 1934. She was with the Laundry Workers Union prior to her placement by the Party in the position she now holds. She has been active in the National Negro Congress a Party front organization and also in the upper Harlem Section of the Party.

Harry Reich is co-chairman of the 2nd session. He has been a member of the Communist Party since 1933. He was an organizer of the Food Workers Industrial Union an organization built by the Communist Party. The Food Workers Industrial Union was affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League. The T.U.U.L. was for years the Communist center of trade union activity in the U.S.A. The T.U.U.L. was affiliated with the R.I.L.U. (Red International of Labor Unions) with headquarters in Hamburg, Germany and later transferred to Moscow. He is a member of the leading Party fraction in the Culinary Industry in the U.S.A. and Canada. He is also a member of the State Committee of the Party in New York.

Congressman Vico Marcantonio is the main speaker at the 2nd session. He has consistently supported every policy of the Party and has participated in every front organization set up by the Party with the full knowledge that it was created by the Party. In Congress he has been the spokesman for the Party on all issues. He is generally considered by the Party members as a member of the Party. He is President of the International Labor Defense which is a Party Defense organization that has for years been affiliated with the International Red Aid with headquarters in Moscow. The International Labor Defense is the American Section of the International Red Aid. He works with Anna Doman National Secretary of the International Labor Defense. Anna Doman was for years head of the Women's Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. She has attended meetings of the Central Committee of the Party to my knowledge since 1933. She is considered one of the ablest members of the Party and a confidant of Earl Browder.

There will be a "Unity for Victory Mass Meeting" on Sunday June 28th at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.

#### The speakers:

Joseph Curran President of the National Maritime Union, affiliated with the C.I.O. He has been a member of the Party to my knowledge since 1936. I have met him at numerous fractions of the Party group in the marine industry. He is considered the Harry Bridges of the East coast. His organization was built primarily with Party funds and through the aid of Harry Bridges. He meets regularly with Roy Hudson the Party representative in marine which is one of the basic concentration points of the Party.

Winifred Norman is Chairman of the National Conference of Negro Youth which is a Party front organization aimed at getting leadership over the Negro youth of America. He has been a member of the Young Communist League to my knowledge since 1935. He is also a member of the Communist Party. He actively worked for the building of the National Negro Congress and was charged by the Party and the YCL with the responsibility of rallying the Negro youth in support of the Congress. He was also instrumental with the help of Angelo Herndon to organize the Southern Youth Congress. He was also a student in the Lenin School (Moscow). He is a member of the National Committee of the Young Communist League.

A. Clayton Powell Jr. is a member of the City Council of the City of New York and Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church located on 138th Street between Lenox and 7th avenues, New York City. He is also one of the owners of the Peoples Voice a Negro Newspaper that was launched February 13th, 1932. I have known Powell since 1934. At that time he was active in united front movements started by the Party. He was active in organizing the first sponsoring committee in New York City for the National Negro Congress. He took an active part in the First National Negro Congress in Chicago. His election to the City Council was due primarily to the large vote given him by Party members and sympathizers. He is an active participant in all Party front groups and lauds their work.

The chairman of the "Unity For Victory Mass Meeting" is Charles Collins organizer of the Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6 affiliated with the American Federation of Labor with offices at 701 8th Avenue, NYC. He is a West Indian by birth. He is married to a West Indian. He has been in the Party since 1934. He is a member of the National Food Fraction of the Party. He has never held until recently any prominent position in the Party. He is one of the Negroes that the Party is building up in the trade union field.

The Trade Union And Peoples' Victory Conference was initiated by the Negro Labor Victory Committee of Greater New York which is located at 237 West 125th Street, Room 105.

#### Arrangements Committee:

Charles Collins, organizer or business agent of the Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6 A.F.L. member of the Communist Party.

Ferdinand Smith Secretary of the National Maritime Union, C.I.O. member of the Communist Party.

George Brown International Vice-President of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America, A.F.L. Member of the Communist Party.

James Alston Business agent and organizer of Local 633 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, A.F.L. Member of the Party.

Arthur Garvin organizer of the Hotel Front Service Employee Union Local 144 A.F.L. Member of the Communist Party.

Sabina Martinez organizer Cleaners and Dyers Union Local 228 C.I.O. Member of the Communist Party

#### Endorsers:

The list of endorsers are in the main members of the Party and fellow travellers. The organizations in the main are controlled by the Party. I have marked on the attached "Conference Call" all the persons known to me as Communists and all the organizations controlled by them.

*Very Good ✓  
JHEP*



New York, New York

SPECIAL DELIVERY

June 26, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Subject



Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. J. K. Mumford

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

RE: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE,  
THE TRADE UNION AND PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE, and  
UNITY FOR VICTORY MASS MEETING  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the above captioned conference which is to be held in New York City on Saturday, June 27, 1942, at the Fraternal Club House, 110 West 48th Street.

Informant will attend the meeting of the Saturday afternoon conference as well as the "Victory" mass meeting which is to be held on June 28, 1942, at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.

There is also being transmitted herewith a program of the conference and mass meeting on which Informant has checked the names of individuals and organizations known to him to be Communist which are sponsoring or participating in these meetings.

Copies of Informant's report are also being retained in the New York Field Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

RRB  
P. A. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Enclosures  
C 100-27,739

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19

Report on the Unity for Victory Mass Meeting

6/30/42

The Unity for Victory Mass Meeting was held Monday June 28th at the Golden Gate Ballroom 142nd Street and Lenox Ave., New York City.

The Chairman of the meeting was William Collins business agent of the Hotel and Club Employees Union Local # 6 member of the Communist Party.

The other speakers were as follows:

1. Winifred Norman who spoke generally on the question of discrimination and urged support of the program of the Victory Conference. She was forced to stop speaking as a result of the unwillingness of the audience to listen to her.

2. Eddie Tolson atempted to speak generally about the situation in Detroit Michigan and the fight against discrimination. He was forced to stop speaking as a result of the steady interruption by the audience.

3. Kate Adelaide Bedenbach head of the Ladies Auxiliary Dining Car Employees Union Local 870 A.F. of L. She presented the letter of Boris Miller head of Ford Motor with a bouquet of flowers in the name of Local 870.

4. Chairman Tobias National Council of the I.W.O.A. presented a program read to the mother of Boris Miller.

5. Ferdinand G. Smith Secretary National Maritime Union speaking for Joseph Duran President National Maritime Union also presented the program of the Trade Union and Peoples Victory Conference that was adopted on Saturday June 27th at the International Club House 110 West 45th St, New York City. The program was unanimously adopted.

6. Paul V. McNeil Federal Security Administrator was introduced by A. Claytons Powell Jr. Comptroller of the City of New York. The speech of Mr. McNeil was broadcast.

7. Adam Clayton Powell spoke about discrimination generally and announced his candidacy for Congress and urged the reelection of Vice Varranombis.

8. Vice Varranombis Congressman delivered the same speech that he made at the Trade Union and Peoples Victory Conference.

There were approximately 5,000 people present the overwhelming majority were not members of the Party and were not even sympathetic. They came as a result of the general campaign for the rights of the Negroes. They in the main were all good Americans who were anxious to hear what Mr. McNeil had to say about alleviating their conditions.

In my previous report I indicated some of the pertinent facts in relation to the conference and the meeting. I now want to add a few additional facts. Immediately upon Winifred's release he severely criticized James H. Ford because of the failure to attract properly the work doing Negroes. However he was severely reprimanded because of the loss of many outstanding Negroes by the Party such as Manning Johnson, Richard B. Moore, Cyril Briggs, Raymond. Fowler is so much concerned with the situation that he is at the present time trying to work out a way to get them back into the Party. The indication of Winifred's feelings are seen in the fact that he stated strongly to some former leading Negroes that were Party is "Victory" that they are individually, as is more or less convinced that Ford is responsible for the deplorable situation of the Negroes' work among Negroes. Most of the Negroes in the Party are against Ford

439740  
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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/ETHC



They have only sought to get rid of him but he has been so strongly entrenched and has received so full support and confidence of the powerful Political Bureau. All those who have opposed Ford have either been expelled or broken politically. The situation is changing now and there are prospects that there will be a deep and fargoing shake-up in leading Negro personnel. Whether Ford will get a vote of confidence is problematical.

The national leadership of the Party among Negroes has narrowed down to the following persons James H. Ford, A.W. Barry, Theodore Barnett and Ferdinand Smith. Those consulted are Louise Thompson, William Patterson, Charles Collins, H. Ross Weston, Steve Kingston, George Brown, E.L. Dimitri, R.P. Osborne, Samuel Patterson and a few others.

Ever since A. Phillip Randolph resigned as National President of the National Negro Congress in opposition to Communist Party domination there has been a bitter feud between him and the Party. He with the assistance of the people that he was able to carry with him out of the National Negro Congress formed the March on Washington Movement with a definite anti-Communist program. Immediately upon its inception the Communist tried to bore from within. Their object was to embarrass Randolph and to snipe him out of leadership. Failing to do this they pursued a policy of sharp criticism in the Daily Worker and at public gatherings. When President Roosevelt asked Randolph not to persuade the Negroes to march to Washington because he wanted to study the situation and to make recommendations Randolph complied with the President's request and as a result Executive Order 9835. The Communist accused Randolph of selling out the Negroes. They have persisted in spreading this insinuation to discredit him.

When the March On Washington Movement announced that it was planning a large mass meeting in Madison Square Garden the leading Party people were of the opinion that it would be a flop and publicly stated so. At the same time they sought to get in to direct it from its strictly Negro character. They severely criticized it, branding it nationalistic and urged people not to support it. In spite of all the activities of the Communist the movement gained popularity and the people rallied around Randolph. The best answer was that between 15 and 18 thousand people attended the Garden meeting.

The March On Washington Movement was in fact created to fight the Party created and controlled National Negro Congress. The growth of the this movement alarmed the Party to such an extent that they decided that criticism was not enough that a positive form of action must be taken. That is the reason why the Trade Union and Peoples' Victory Conference was born. It is a full mobilization of Party strength to regain hegemony over the Negro people. It is the loss of leadership that caused Browder's criticism of Ford and his negative criticism of the March on Washington Movement. Browder recommended this step to be taken and to work in the direction of unity with the March On Washington Movement if possible. The fear of isolation from the negroes is the primary fear.

The Party estimate of the Madison Square Garden rally was that it indicated a sharp and deep-going radicalization of the Negroes and was a forerunner of tremendous struggles among the Negroes involving hundreds of thousands of them and that the Party must take the leadership of these masses who are more and more becoming disillusioned as result of their treatment. They liken the present situation to the one immediately following the first World War that enabled Marcus Garvey to build a movement embracing more than a million and a half Negroes. The Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Party has failed to understand this trend of events and consequently have let the initiative fall into the hands of Randolph and his petty-bourgeois element.

The "The Union And Peoples' Victory" Conference was essentially a Party rally. With the exception of a few it was the full utilization of all Party forces in every organization to create an impressive front, laying particular stress particularly on labor and linking it up with all the other strata of the population. It was sectarian. That is the estimate of the Party even though in their opinion a good program evolved.

The next meeting was considered a huge success. It indicated the tremendous possibilities work among broad masses of Negroes and to rally them around the program of the Party. The main weakness of the meeting was the marked inability of the Party members speaking at the meeting to effectively put over the Party program. With the Powell and Marcantonio the other Party speakers were ineffective. Powell's speech was not too much to the liking of Party because of its strictly racial character. Marcantonio defended the Party and attacked "red baiters". No Butler's attack on the Party in his speech was considered necessary in view of the criticism that was leveled at the meeting by the March On Washington Movement.

The next step is to work in the direction of a National Victory Conference to be held in September of this year. This Conference to be initiated by the Party to unify the struggle nationally. Similar Conferences and mass meetings are planned in different cities over the country.

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b7D



New York, New York

MET:mep  
100-27339

July 7, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the Unity For Victory Mass Meeting held under the auspices of the Peoples' Voice, National Convention of Negro Youth of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, on June 28, 1942.

Two copies of the Informant's report are being retained in the New York City Office for information purposes.

The Informant will keep in touch with the activities of this organization and report any additional information he may obtain to the New York City Office.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

*Jm*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Enclosures (2)

cc: NY file [redacted]

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Report on the Trade Union And Negro Peoples' Victory Conference. 6/28/42

The Trade Union And Negro Peoples Victory Conference was held on Saturday June 27th, 10am till 6:30pm. Fraternal Club House 110 W. 48th St. New York City.

The first session was opened by Charles Collins member of the Communist Party and business agent of the Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6 with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner sung by William Bowers of the cast of Porgy and Bess.

The invocation by Rev. John A. Johnson pastor of St. Martins Church. He also took an active part in the entire program of the conference.

The report of the Arrangements Committee was given by Charles Collins which consisted of the establishment of the following Committees: 1. Credentials; 2. Resolutions; 3. Program; 4. Rules.

After the election of Committees the chair was turned over to Elmer Carter editor of Opportunity Magazine and member of the New York State War Council. In his remarks he spoke of the conflict between the March On Washington Movement and the Trade Union and Negro Peoples' Victory Conference and called for unity. He also emphasized the need of utilizing of all our own power in the war effort and that this could not be attained until racial discrimination is removed.

John A. Davis school teacher and Executive Secretary of the State of New York Committee on Discrimination in Employment. He spoke of the necessity of combatting strong pro-Japanese sentiments that prevail among certain Negro elements as a result of the attitude and actions of prejudiced individuals who refuse to treat the Negro as citizen and extend to him justice and fair play. He also stated that Britains imperialist policy must be abandoned before there can be any hope of winning the war and the peace. England The United Nations must reconstruct the world without concepts of race, color, creed or political beliefs. Failure to do this would lead eventually to a war between the white and the darker races.

The keynote address was delivered by Ferdinand Smith National Secretary of the National Maritime Union and Vice President of the New York State C.I.O. Industrial Council. He is a member of the Communist Party. A copy of his speech is attached hereto.

The second session was opened Harry Reich President of the Cooks and Kitchen Employees Union Local 89 A.F. of L. Member of the Communist Party. In his remarks he cited a few examples of how they are combatting discrimination in the food industry.

Edward Lawson Field Employment Assistant, Labor Division, War Production Board spoke on the importance of trade unions in placing Negroes into industry. Need of trade union cooperation with the War Production Board to intergrate Negroes into industry. He stated that there are 400,000 people in New York State out of work, not producing for the war and that they should be transferred to other localities where they are needed. He also spoke of the need of war contracts for New York City.

#### Report of the Credentials Committee

The report was given by a young by the name of Drayton representing the National Council of Negro Youth. He is to my knowledge a member of the YCL (Young Communist League). His mother has been a member of the Party for many years.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1/24/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

## Partial Report

350 delegates and 73 observers. Representing 11 International unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and 75 Local Unions of them A.F. of L. 17 International Unions affiliated with the U.I.O. and 180 Local Unions.

45 of the delegates represented religious, fraternal, political and civic groups.

The final report of the Credentials Committee was not given. It was stated that the final report would be given in the proceedings.

### Committee On Rules

Samuel Kramberg Secretary Treasurer of the Cafeteria Employees Union Local 303 chairman of the Committee recommended that the Roberts Rules of Order govern the operation of the Conference. He is a member of the Communist Party.

### Program Committee

Arthur Osman Manager of Local 65 C.I.O. reported for the Committee. Member of the Communist Party. He presented a 12 point program which was unanimously adopted.

1. Effective use of human material both in industry and the armed forces through the wiping out of discrimination. Secure the rights of the Negro. The War Production Board should be compelled to place Negroes in the war industries. Abolition of Jim-crow pay.

2. War Production Board should be compelled to train 100,000 Negroes for war production by October 1943. Finance them while in training.

3. Demand War orders for New York City and to create war plants.

4. Negroes to be placed on all war power Commissions. Joint labor and management groups be set up to eliminate job and wage discrimination.

5. That a National Conference on Discrimination be called as soon as possible.

7. Federal Fair Employment Practices Committee be given power under Section 8802 to penalize firms that violate its decisions.

8. Demand that federal action be taken to protect Negroes from police and mob violence.

9. Demand that President Roosevelt grant Executive pardon to Odell Waller and the Scottsboro Boys now.

10. Demand that Negroes be appointed to all Government regulation bodies such as rationing boards, price control board etc.

11. Demand full citizen rights for the Negro everywhere. Immediate passage of the Pepper anti-poll tax Bill. Abolition of the Jim-crow laws.

12. Bid the army and navy of Jim-crow. Admit Negroes into all branches of the army and to all naval training stations and schools.

*Program*

After the report of the Arrangements Committee the chair was turned over to Eleanor Goding Educational Director of State County and Municipal Workers of America, Local 1 affiliated with the C.I.O. Member of the Communist Party.

There were 17 speakers in discussion of the the report of the Program Committee. They were:

James Huntig of the Unite Radio and Electrical Workers of America C.I.O. Member of the Party to my knowledge since 1934. Has served on District, Section and State Committees of the Party. Member of the Trade Union Commission of the Party. Directs the Party fraction work in the U.R.W. of A. Active participant in the Hunger March on Washington, the Bonus March and numerous May Day rallies.

George Weisler Department Store Employees Local 1230. Member of the Party fraction in his Local Union.

Theodore A. Jackson President of the Dining Car Employees Local 332 (370) affiliated with the A.F. of L. Former member of the Communist Party. Dropped out two years ago. He still goes along.

May White Warehouse and Department Store Employees Local 65 C.I.O. Consistently follows the Party line on all matters. I do not know whether she is a member or not. The Local Union of which is a delegate is controlled by the Party.

Roger Stranghn President of the Harlem Labor Union. Works very close with the Communists. According to my knowledge he is not a Party member. He is influenced by the Communists.

Arthur Mc Avoy of the Greater New York Industrial Council affiliated with the C.I.O. Member of the Communist Party. Member of the top Party fraction in the C.I.O. Industrial Council.

Mc Coy United Automobile Workers Local 259 affiliated with the C.I.O.

Miss Jett, Young Mens' Vocational Foundation.

William Russell Painters District Council 3 former business agent for the Painters Union. Former member of the Party. Dropped out on account of political differences but still believes in the basic program of the Party. He was a member of the Party for more than 5 years.

Elmitri, Better School for Harlem. Member of the Communist Party to my knowledge 4 years. Member of the Upper Harlem Section of the Party. Active leader in the National Negro Congress and the American Labor Party.

Edward Fitt Transport Workers Union Local 100 affiliated with C.I.O. he is one of the Negro bus drivers recently employed as a result of the boycott against the bus companies for refusal to give employment to negro drivers.

Mamie Latiste, Workers Alliance. Member of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party. She handles numerous relief cases before the Relief Bureaus. A member of the Party for 3 or 4 years.

Arnold Johnson Former Member of the Communist Party. Insurance man and leader of the Young Democrats. Was active in the Co-ordinating Committee for jobs for Negroes on 125th Street, and the public utilities. Participated in the boycott of the bus companies, Edison Company and telephone

He lost his job as a supervisor in the Home Relief Bureau as a result of his failure to accept Party discipline. He is now trying to get into the good graces of the Party.

Ellis Williams gave a report on his tour of all the West Indies that is the British West Indies stating that conditions on the islands are deplorable and asked the Conference to go on record for self-determination for the West Indies now. He has been actively engaged in the organization of the West Indians to fight for independence. He said that he hoped there would not be a repetition of Malaya, Borneo etc..

Vito Marcantonio keynoted for the Conference. He stated that the Conference like himself was the target of "red baiters". That this was the weapon of Hitler to bring about conquest from within. He very bitterly and sarcastically condemned Westbrook Pegler, Martin Dies accusing them of being labor haters, Negro haters, and 5th columnists, the friends of Hitler and Mussolini. John Rankin Congress who fought against the Anti-poll Tax Bill was characterized as a mongrel a cross between our domestic fascists and Wilhelmstrasse fascists. Continuing he stated that like the people won the War of the Revolution and of the Civil War so also will the people win this war against the mongrelized domestic and Hitler fascists. He concluded with a promise that he was going to introduce a number of riders on Bills asking for appropriations that would bring the issue of discrimination before the American people.

James King employed in the United States Employment Service stated that the C.I.O. Local of which he was a leader has 500 members in government service many all of whom were with the Conference. He asked the Conference to demand that all defense jobs be placed under the W.E.B. and that the Negroes be given representation in this governmental agency. He has attended meetings of Party front groups and has consistently followed the Party line. I am unable now to state at what inner Party meeting I saw him.

Geordayn Bennett representing the School for Democracy recently organized by the Party. It has approximately 2,000 students enrolled. She was removed from the project which he headed on the WPA because of her Party affiliations during the purge of Communists from the relief rolls in New York City.

Clarence V. Johnson Attorney at Law. from Brooklyn, N.Y.

#### Report of the Resolutions Committee

The report was given by Lyndon Henry Manager of the Fur Dressers and Dyers Union Local 68 C.I.O. Member of the Communist Party. The Resolutions were not read because of the shortness of time and for that reason only the final resolve of each resolution was read. They were as follows:

1. That the Mayor and the Board of Education appoint a Negro to the Staff of City College.
2. That Negro nurses and doctors be integrated in the hospitals of the City of New York.
3. That the Mayor of New York City, the State and Federal government provide nurses for children so as to release parents for war work; more schools, recreation centers, extend N.Y.A.
4. That a Negro be placed on the Board of Education.
- 5.

5. That support be given to the Mayors Committee For the Study of Conditions in Harlem.
6. That the want ads that stir up race bitterness and hate be condemned.
7. That all "red baiters" of the World Telegram, Westbrook Pegler be branded as disloyal and subversive.
8. That all self seeking groups be condemned.
9. That William Green take steps to eliminate discrimination from many of the international unions that are affiliated with the A.F. of L.
10. That the United States give Puerto Rico her independence now.
11. That the United States end foreign domination of foreign countries.
12. That the trade union movement in America lend every assistance to the trade union movement of the West Indies. Appeal to the War Production Board, the Navy and The Army to cease and desist from discrimination and exploitation of the West Indies.
13. Political amnesty for all political prisoners in the West Indies and Puerto Rico.
14. That the Civilian Conservation Corps be extended. That the National Youth administration be extended. That youths held for minor offenses should be released for military service.

The Conference, indeed looked like a Communist Party convention. It was a general mobilization of their entire strength in greater New York. Approximately seventy percent of the delegates are members of the Party. Among the delegates were: James W. Ford, Steve Kingston, A. W. Berry, Costas Dritsas, Benard Branda, Sam Nesin, Helen Holman, William Patterson, Otto Hall, Solomon Harper and a number of others.

*Good  
me*

b7D

New York, New York

MEF:mep  
100-27339

July 7, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the Trade Union and Negro Peoples' Victory Conference, which was held June 27, 1942, at the Fraternal Club House, 110 West 48th Street, New York City. This conference was sponsored by the Peoples' Voice, National Convention of Negro Youth of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE.

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Copies of the Informant's report will also be retained in the New York City Office for information purposes.

[redacted] has been advised to keep in touch with the activities of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE and report any additional information he may obtain.

There is also being transmitted herewith a copy of the speech matter by FERDINAND C. SMITH, National Secretary, National Maritime Union at this convention. A photostatic copy of this speech is being retained in the New York City Office.

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Enclosures (3)

cc:NY file [redacted]

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[redacted] 23

# REPORT ON ORGANIZATION

May, 1938

## Material for the Organization Commission 10th Party Convention

We are coming to the 10th Party Convention with an approximate membership of 75,000 (although the registration figures and the 1938 recruiting thus far account for only 53,940 and 12,000, or 66,000). This figure is calculated on the basis of the members registered January 1st, plus the number recruited up to May 1st. It shows that our Party has doubled its membership since January 1936. This growth is due especially to the successful recruiting drive that culminated in the Party Builders Congress.

The statistics gathered for the Convention on the basis of the registrations of 1936, 1937 and 1938, indicate clearly both the strong and weak points in the Party organization. They enable us to draw conclusions regarding the further building of the Party quantitatively and qualitatively. They indicate in which direction we must improve the functioning of the Party, upon which depends to a great extent the increasing role of the Party as a political factor in the life of the country.

### The Growth and Composition of the Party

	JAN.1936	JAN.1937	JAN.1938
Registration	30,836	37,682	54,012
Shop Units	600	517	555
Industrial Units	-	336	582
Neighborhood Branches	-	1,226	1,391
Members in shop units	5,000	6,120	7,478
"    "    industrial units		5,667	10,585
"    "    branches		19,470	33,116
Negroes	3,000	2,627	4,940
Women	8,047	10,990	16,898
Housewives	3,352	3,355	6,014
Working women	3,802	6,888	11,094
Male	22,783	26,103	36,051
Employed in shops of 500 workers	7,700	12,905	28,596
Employed in shops of 1000 workers	2,000	4,383	5,670
Members AFL	8,000	14,226	8,987
Members CIO	(independent) 4,000		16,509
Members Workers Alliance		4,210	5,929
Employed		22,485	30,665
Unemployed		15,167	19,929
Native	14,743	19,853	30,165
Foreign Born	16,093	17,829	23,847
One year or less in Party		16,852	26,806
Two years in Party		5,312	7,061



Dist.	Negroes in Party by Districts			
	Jan. 1937	Registration	Jan. 1938	Registration
New York	863	16,796	1,405	22,060
Philadelphia	188	1,933	247	2,539
Ohio	137	1,730	264	2,677
Illinois	342	2,714	703	4,662
Alabama	180	250	448	581
Missouri	90	280	192	484
Florida	70	236	123	389
Maryland	42	364	145	859
Oklahoma	12	114	129	341
California	104	3,391	194	4,739

	National Groups		
	Jan. 1936	Jan. 1937	Jan. 1938
Italian	1,040	906	1,372
Polish	710	902	1,193
Spanish		831	633
Hungarian		557	642
Lithuanian		424	700
German	637	427	590
Jugoslav		361	862
Czechoslovak		196	273
Ukrainian		74	210

	Social and Industrial Composition		
	Jan. 1936	Jan. 1937	Jan. 1938
Steel	584	646	1,212
Mining	844	732	1,037
Marine	(446	242	289
Longshore	(	910	1,034
Auto	291	422	991
Railroad	259	239	285
Textile	282	266	479
Rubber		21	133
Oil		41	
Packing		83	
Metal		537	683
Building trades (incl. bricklayers, laborers, carpenters, painters)		1,950	2,920
Needle trades		2,735	3,050
Food		1,581	2,214
Agriculture		264	513
Farmers		870	939
Office Workers	1,788	2,630	4,073
Social Workers	480	770	934
Teachers	941	1,717	2,097
Professionals-1937 registration	6,822		
Students	"		
Storekeepers	"		
PARTY SCHOOLING			
Section Training Sch.		Jan. 1937	Jan. 1938
District	"	3,267	3,889
National	"	1,304	1,424
		276	282

## Conclusions

- 1) From the figures we see that the number of shop units between 1936 and 1938 remained practically static. We notice, however, that since 1936, 582 industrial units were built, so that today we have altogether almost 18,000 members organized in units which are directly involved in work in the industries and in unions (shop and industrial units). Compared with 1936-37, we find an increase of about 12,000 members belonging to units of both types.
- 2) The neighborhood branches show only a very slight increase in the numerical growth between 1936-1938. The number of members in this form of organization are, however, 14,000 more today than one year ago. This shows that the size of the branches has grown considerably, due especially to the latest successful recruiting drive. The growth of the branches in membership gives us the possibility today of establishing working groups in the election districts and precincts in the big cities. This will enable us to establish the individual members of the Party as citizens of the community, and thereby enable the Party to participate more successfully in the political life of the Assembly Districts, Wards or precincts.
- 3) Negroes: The figure of Negro members in the Party show that between 1936-1937 there was a slight decline. It is only in January, 1938, through the special efforts made during the recruiting drive that we brought this number to almost 5,000. While numerically we can record this increase, yet the percentage of Negro members in relation to the total Party membership remains practically the same. From now on greater efforts and systematic work and attention will have to be paid to the Negro neighborhoods and Negro organizations, not only for the purpose of increasing their number in the Party, but also to cut down the fluctuation which among Negroes is much higher than the average fluctuation in the Party.
- 4) Women: The increased number of women in the Party is very satisfactory. Between 1936 and 1937, it has been more than doubled. What is more encouraging, is the fact that the number of working women between 1936 and 1938 has been practically tripled. These figures prove not only that with the trade union drives the working women are becoming more politically conscious, but also that the proper efforts made by the Party organization to draw the most militant women into the ranks of our Party has seen results. This pace must be kept up. There are possibilities of swelling our ranks with tens of thousands of working women.
- 5) The figures of the employed in shops show that since 1936 we tripled the number of employed in the light industries, and increased substantially also the number of Party members working in the basic industries. We are far behind our aim, however, in deeply rooting the Party in the basic industries of the country. This is shown not only by the smaller proportion of those recruited from basic industries compared with the light industries, but especially by the small increase in some of the basic industries. Where a real effort has been made, as for example in steel, the results are obvious in comparison to mining, railroad, textile, longshore and others. One main task remains: concentration on the basic industries for the purpose of building new shop nuclei, strengthening the existing ones with intensified recruiting. This calls for special well-planned drives in the concentration districts in the mining and textile territories, in the most important ports, etc.
- 6) Figures giving the length of time in the Party show that we have over 20,000 members who have been in the Party over two years, as against nearly 34,000 who have been in the Party less than two years. Adding to the 27,000 members that are in the Party for one year or less, the 12,000 that have joined the Party since January, we find that out of a total of 65 to 66 thousand active members on record today, 40,000 are in the Party less than one year.

This shows immediately that we have not only to combat fluctuation in general, but we must pay special attention to prevent the dropping of the older Party members. At the same time it is necessary to intensify the education to the utmost, for the purpose of maintaining and developing the large numbers of new Party members.

7) In 1936, at the time we conducted a drive to get all eligible Party members into the trade unions, we had on record 8,000 in the AFL and 4,000 in Independent Unions. In January, 1937, we find 14,226 Party members active in AFL unions. In January 1938, 8,987 in AFL, 16,509 in CIO unions and 1,000 in Independent and other unions.

From 12,000 Party members active in the trade unions in 1936, we have reached in January the number of 27,000. This is a real advance the Party has made in the trade union field, especially in the industrial unions. Adding to the 27,000 the number of Party members organized in the Workers Alliance, we find today 50 of the membership active in trade unions and unemployed organizations. This figure, beside its positive side which cannot be underestimated, shows, at the same time, that there are still thousands of members eligible for membership not only in trade unions but also in the Workers Alliance.

8) The figures on native and foreign born in the Party are very indicative of the growing attraction of the Party among the native masses. In 1936 the foreign born comprised 53-54% of the Party membership. In 1937, and especially in 1938, we see a change in the picture. Today, the majority -- 30,165 as against 23,846 -- are native born. (Figures from January registration. Today the percentage of native born is still higher, considering the high percentage of native among the newly recruited since January).

Among the national groups we find a slight increase among Italians, Poles and a few others, which is not in step, however, with the possibilities and needs to counteract the forces of fascism and reaction among these masses.

It is natural that having reached its present size, the Party will attract increasingly more native and young elements. One of our main tasks is to concentrate in this direction. Because of the strong ties which our Party has established for years with the masses of the various national groups, the role these masses play in the basic industries and political life of the country, and their close relation to the new generation, it is necessary however, to take special measures to strengthen the Party among these masses, and especially among the millions of Jewish, Italian, German, Polish and Spanish speaking people.

9) The Party attracts also more and more young elements: There are in the Party 7,560 below 25 years of age, 18,617 under the age of 35, making a total of over 26,000 under 35 years of age. The doors of the Party must remain open to all who agree with our program and are prepared to be active in the Party's work. Special concentration on young elements must continue with undiminished intensity.

10) The social composition shows that in the last period the Party has made real headway in recruiting thousands of professionals and white collar workers. The Party will have to keep up the tempo of work among this stratum of the population. At the same time, however, we must emphasize, and take the proper measures for building more intensively the Party among the industrial workers. While we cannot neglect recruiting among the professionals, the work of the Party organization must be concentrated mainly on the industrial workers. We must strive to get a much higher proportion of industrial workers in our ranks. (This is mainly the problem of the New York City Organization).

11) The figure on Party schooling shows the real effort the Party has made to concentrate in the direction of training forces for leadership. In the years 1936 and 1937, 7,000 members went through section training schools, nearly a thousand and through district training schools, and over 450 through the National Training School. To this we must add other thousands of Party members enlisted in evening courses and workers schools.

These results must be viewed only as a healthy beginning, considering the tens of thousands of new members that need education, the growing tasks of the Party. the establishing of new schools on a state, county, section scales, of evening courses, of a greater utilization of the Workers Schools, must be regarded as the most important task for building and further consolidating the Party organization.

### Recruiting and Fluctuation

Between January 1936 and January 1937, 25,148 men and women signed membership applications. Between January 1937 and January 1938, the figure rose to 30,272. Adding the initiations of 1937 to the registered members January 1936, which was 30,836, would have given us by January 1937, a membership of 56,000. In January, 1937, however, the registration was 37,682 members. It means that during 1937, 18,302 members have dropped out, which means a 32% loss of the total membership. However, if we consider the total recruits as compared with the lost membership, we have a turnover of 72% this year. (We must consider, however, that the figures of 25,148 that appeared as recruited, in reality expressed the figure of initiations, which do not correspond to the number of assigned members to the units).

During the year 1938 the fluctuation dropped considerably. Adding to the 37,682 registered members January 1937, 30,272 initiations, we should have had a total membership of 68,000 by January 1st. Considering that the registration January, 1938 gives us a figure of 54,012, we see an approximate loss of 14,000 during the year. This shows in comparison with the previous year, that the loss has been lowered to 20% and less. However, if we consider the total recruits as compared with the lost membership, we have a turnover of 46% this year, (With the exception of New York and a few other state organizations who have registered as recruited only those that are assigned to units. Most of the state organizations still consider the number of initiations as recruited.) At this point it is necessary to state that from now on we shall adopt the system of considering as new recruits only those who have signed applications and actually assigned to units.

If we add the recruited up to date to the 54,012 registered January 1938, we have today a membership of about 75,000.

The above figures prove two outstanding things:

- 1) A steady increase in recruiting.
- 2) A steady decline in fluctuation.

This achievement is due not only to the more intensive political life of the Party, but to the organizational measures put into effect since the 9th Convention, and especially during 1937 for the mobilization of the Party in regard to the intensification of recruiting and cutting of fluctuation. The setting up of recruiting committees and the establishment of membership commissions and membership directors in the Party organizations for the purpose of checking on the attendance, on dues payments, etc. has helped a great deal. Briefly, to the extent that the leading committees paid more attention to this problem, the Party was able not only to strengthen its ranks, but keep the new members.

This conclusion shows that to speed up the tempo in building the Party, it is necessary to strengthen its political life and education, and at the same time, improve the organizational apparatus which must insure continuous intensified recruiting, a better attendance at Party meetings, further improvement in the system of collection of dues, etc. These are essential measures to equip the Party in carrying out its political activities.

### Essential Problems of Organization

To concretize the resolution on organization before the Convention, to cope with the new political needs, it is necessary to evaluate all the experiences gained in the last two years, and see to what extent the decisions of the 9th Party Convention were fruitful, to see in which direction our efforts shall be concentrated today to further improve the structure and functioning of the Party apparatus and the lower organizations. We must see to what extent the changes in the lower organizations have fulfilled our expectations, and whether some readjustments are necessary. It is only through mass recruiting, through building a mass circulation of our Party press, through intensifying the activities of Party members among the organized masses, through paying the utmost attention to the functioning of the Party apparatus and of the Party organization proper and intensifying education, that we will "solve the problem of the political and organizational consolidation and the strengthening of the Party as an organic and key part of the task of forging the anti-fascist democratic front".

As the figures show, since the 9th Party Convention, our Party has grown in quantity and quality; has grown in influence. It was from the 9th Convention on primarily, that we laid the basis for building a mass Party. During this period one of the most important problems before us was how best to adapt the structure of the Party organization to the new political needs of the Party and the working class; how to improve the existing forms of organization, develop new ones, to enable the Party to connect itself strongly with the organized masses of the shops, trade unions, the masses in the neighborhoods and with their communal life.

Since 1936, the Party has grown in size, the apparatus has been strengthened so that today there are state organizations in all important states of the union. Instead of 27 districts which we had two years ago, there are today 40 state organizations functioning, and there are Party units in all 48 states. State organizations as Florida, Oklahoma, Texas and others, which two years ago had only a few hundred members, have grown into organizations of 500 Party members and more. The Party has grown numerically and in quality not only in the most industrial states, but it has taken root and gained in influence throughout the entire country.

The organizational readjustments decided at the time of the 9th Convention made possible such successful mobilization of the Party as in the case of the election campaign, of the trade union drives, in the campaign for the defense of the Spanish and Chinese peoples, etc. They have helped in making the Party react more quickly to the various political problems that have arisen on a national, state and local scale.

The organizational measures decided at the 9th Party Convention as regards meetings, dues payments, improvements of the inner life of the branches and units, the development of greater initiative and inner Party democracy, combined with new methods of work suited to the traditions of the American workers, have strengthened the power of attraction of our Party so that thousands upon thousands of trade unionists, workers from the basic industries, from the light industries and thousands of professionals have joined our ranks.

## Past Forms of Party Organization

The results obtained since the 9th Convention were made possible because the organizational changes were combined with increased political activities, more intensive education, and the development of hundreds, thousands of new leading forces in all types of Party schools.

In a short time we were able to pass from the street unit form of organization to the branches, built on the basis of the political divisions of the cities (on an assembly or ward scale). The old sections adapted themselves to the new political needs, becoming the Party organization on a county or assembly district scale, etc. Today the state organizations are divided into counties, assembly districts, wards, etc. To the extent that Party influence has grown in the shops and trade unions, not only the shop nuclei have gained new forces, but 582 industrial units, with a total membership of 10,585 have come into life. Industrial units launched at the time of the 9th Party Convention helped not only the growth of the Party, but were effective instruments in the trade union drives.

## Our Organizational Forms in Accord with the New Political Needs

Since the 9th Party Convention, profound changes have taken place in the country which raised the political consciousness of the toiling people. The establishment of the CIO as a powerful organization, the growth of a progressive movement inside of the AFL unions, the development of political organizations as the American Labor Party, the Commonwealth Federation, Labor's Non-Partisan League, etc. under the influence of progressive forces, are playing a great role in raising the political level of labor on a national, state and local scale. Considering that the progressive political movements are not merely organized on a trade union basis, but are developing on a territorial political basis as well, we see at once how such changes require an improvement in the Party organization and Party activities to make the Party a more vital instrument towards the development of progressive political movements of the broad masses and moving the great mass of the toiling people into the stream of the anti-fascist democratic front.

This convention reaffirms the decision made at the 9th Party Convention, and emphasizes:

- 1) That we must maintain and improve the structure of the Party on a State, County, Assembly District, Precinct, Ward basis; that we must maintain and improve the activities of the three form of organization -- shop units, industrial units and branches.
- 2) That we must concentrate on strengthening the shop units and build new ones in the basic industries. Shop nuclei shall not be organized artificially. They must be established there where they can and must become mass organizations in the larger shops.
- 3) We must abolish the idea that the branches, the Party organizations that act on a neighborhood scale, are today a secondary form of organization or just a temporary one. They must become decisive permanent organizations in the neighborhoods that tie the Party with the political life and problems of the communities.
- 4) The industrial units, whether based on trade unions or industry, in some cases as a temporary and in other cases as permanent organizations, must be applied flexibly. This organization must be maintained or built where it serves a real purpose. It should be abolished wherever there is a basis for building shop nuclei in its place, or where it no longer serves the purpose for which it was built.

### Shop Units

To achieve the above stated aim, it is necessary to raise the role of this organization in its full Leninist light. We must combat opportunistic tendencies that have reduced some of the shop units to mere fractions, or have transformed some of the shop units into industrial units, thus limiting their political role.

In view of the thousands of new Party members in our ranks, it is highly important to promote a thorough discussion of the role of the shop units, as the organization of the most advanced workers in the shops, which raise the daily problems of the workers in a political light, and connect this with the position of the Party on the political issues on a state, national and international scale.

In the classes for new members, in the evening courses, in the discussions on organizational problems, this question must be raised. Furthermore, we must create guarantees that these important organizations receive continuous guidance and help, so as to enable them to speak to the masses regularly through their shop papers and daily contacts with the workers, as the only way of establishing this organization as the Party in the shop, mills and mines.

### Industrial Units

... regard to industrial units, the 9th Party Convention correctly conceived this organization as a transitional form, for the purpose of building shop units and becoming a positive force in helping to build and consolidate the trade unions. Today a number of industrial units have fulfilled their purpose. Others, because of lack of guidance, have not orientated towards transformation into shop units; others again for the same reason, have been reduced to fractions and are not involved in the development of the broad movements in the communities. Professional units have sprung up and developed without control, separating the professionals in our ranks from the proletarian elements, resisting a transformation into units on the basis of institutions. To solve the problem of industrial units, it is necessary, as stated above, to review them one by one, under the direct guidance of the leading committees, to determine which of them shall be strengthened and how they shall be strengthened; which are ready to be transformed into shop units, and which shall be dissolved and their members assigned to branches. Above all, we must strive to improve this leadership, which is a decisive factor in the well functioning of the organization.

Those industrial units based on large unions shall not only remain in existence, but must be strengthened. In the larger industrial centers they can be built by taking into consideration, not only the problem of the union, but the political needs of the Party on a geographical basis.

Taking for granted that there is an industrial unit of 200 members in a union of 20,000 workers, why can't such an industrial unit be split into two or three industrial units on the basis of the territory where the Party members live? Such industrial units -- their work coordinated by a joint bureau -- will not only be able to carry on their political task in the union, but will become a vital Party organization in the communal life of the territory where it will meet, where the members live, and where they can join in the activities of the Party as the most advanced force of a strong union.

The members of the industrial units built in all kinds of very small unions or small craft locals can be assigned to strengthen the branches. In such type of unions or locals, only a few Party members are needed to carry on. By strengthening the most important industrial units, by involving them in territorial work, it will also be possible here and there, as the situation demands and under the strict control of the leading committees, to transfer a certain number of Party members from industrial units to strengthen the political life of the branches.

### Strengthen the Branches in the Communities

As stated above, the branches have proved themselves to be one of the main instruments of our Party through which we spread our agitation and bring the Party in close contact with the political life of the masses in the neighborhoods; are the main vehicle of the Party in carrying on political campaigns and also one of the main electoral instruments of our Party. To make them a better Party organization which links itself with the problems, with the life of the community in which they are active, we must keep in mind at all times:

- 1) To strengthen, to develop their leadership.
- 2) To limit their size to a number not exceeding 50 (as decided in previous resolutions of the C.C.)
- 3) To improve, wherever necessary, their composition by drawing in industrial workers.
- 4) To get the branches to issue neighborhood papers.
- 5) To establish, in the larger centers, the group system on a precinct or ward basis, which will help to activize the individual members of the branches.

In building the groups we must be on guard against the conception that the groups are independent units, and warned against mechanical organization. The groups shall, as a general rule, be built where they are necessary, but only when there are guarantees that within the group there are a few comrades with initiative who will know exactly how to carry out the decisions of the branch, how to stimulate the activities of the rest of the membership.

The building of the group system must be viewed as a process of development. The groups based on a precinct Election District basis or other political subdivisions, should be led by a captain whose task shall be, not only to guide the group in its activities, but to keep in contact with all Party members living in the territory of the precinct, etc., irrespective of the Party organization to which they belong.

At the same time, we must keep in mind that it is the branch that shapes Party policies, discusses the political problems; that the branch is the main place for the education of the members, while the group is an active body carrying out the policies of the branch in a given territory.

Membership meetings on an assembly or ward scale, of all Party members living in the territory, must be introduced as a regular feature of Party life. This will help a great deal in stimulating the activities of all Party organizations and individual Party members living in the territory, and will make them conscious of their political role and tasks.

### Conclusion

The improvement of the political life and function of the Party organization must be accompanied by an improvement in the system of collection of dues and of attendance. This calls for careful selection of membership directors, financial secretaries, and the establishment of well functioning commissions on a State, county, assembly, or section scale.

The carrying out of the above decisions, accompanied by intensified education and political discussion in all the organizations, by intensified political activity in the shops, trade unions, mass organizations and the communities, will enable us to go forward with the circulation drives of the three Party dailies, to extend our agitation among the broad masses, and to carry through intensive recruiting.

Onward in building the Party, to make of it the dynamic force moving the masses towards achieving a powerful anti-fascist democratic front!



New York, New York

MEF:mep  
100-14931

July 7, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of a report which was made to the Tenth Party Convention of the COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A. relative to the Communist infiltration into the basic industries in the United States.

These photostatic copies were obtained from a report furnished to this office by [redacted] which was returned to him at his request after photostatic copies were made.

b7D

Two copies of these photostatic reports are being retained in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Enclosures (2)  
cc:NY file [redacted]

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ON 7/27/00

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May, 1938

## REPORT ON NATIONAL GROUPS

Material for National Groups Commission, 10th Party Convention

### Facts About the Work of the National Groups Their Strength, Influence, Press and Circulation

The June Plenum of the Central Committee marked a decisive turn in our movement in the work among the various national groups. As a result, we may report to the Convention that the work of some of the National Bureaus has been greatly improved due to:

a) A better understanding throughout the Party, and especially among the leading people in the Districts, of the importance of the National Groups in the economic, political and cultural life of the country, hence -- in the progressive movement, the trade unions, and in the class struggle generally.

b) The Central Bureau of the Central Committee for National Groups is now functioning much better than before the June Plenum.

The central task of our Bureaus of the various nationalities was, and still is, to develop the activity designed to unite the fellow-countrymen of the various nationalities into a democratic front on the basis of immediate issues -- common to all the working people -- such as: for peace, for civil rights, against fascism, for higher wages, for better working conditions, etc., in connection with some particular issue that may concern primarily a particular nationality. Special emphasis must be made so that such activity is not confined to the so-called left-wing movement, but is broadened out to include even church groups, fraternal organizations, and all other types of organizations that can be drawn into it.

As in all other activities, the principles of concentration shall be applied in approaching the various National Groups, especially in connection with united front activity. In this respect, four major groups -- Jewish, German, Italian, and Polish (consisting of about 16 - 18 million people altogether) must be recognized as groups that should receive special consideration.

### Some Facts about the Work of the National Groups\*

#### German Bureau

The German population, together with the Austrians and Swiss-Germans, is about 8,000,000. The membership of the Party is about 700. Only about 100 are involved in work among the German masses.

The concentration points of the Germans are New York, Chicago, Milwaukee, Newark, Cleveland, San Francisco, and St. Louis. The mass organizations in which the Party has influence are: The Krankenkasse, singing society, Nature Friends (about 65,000 members). In spite of successful recruiting into the Party, because of lack of work with the new members, there is a fluctuation of almost 96%. In this respect, the corresponding districts did not pay sufficient attention to the problems of the German-Americans as a nationality.

\* Statistics, especially about Party membership, are approximate, not always corresponding to the registration records, due to the fact that the Bureaus do not always have exact figures.

The German Bureau utilizes the two weeklies - Volks Echo (New York) and Volks Front (Chicago) - in its people's front activities. The Volks Echo, according to the official report, is in a very bad financial condition. Due to this financial condition the functionaries of the Bureau, and the editorial staff as well, are receiving less than half the average wages of a worker. This problem can be solved only by finding ways and means, first of all, of establishing a special fund for the paper, which must have some base, and also by introducing regular and suitable wages for the workers on the paper.

Here also arises the question of pay for the Secretary of the Bureau. This is a problem for all papers and Bureaus, since their wages depend upon their work on the paper, which means that they have to give all their time to the paper and cannot give time to the educational work which is necessary.

### Italian Bureau

There are more than 4,000,000 Italians in the United States, according to the census. Very favorable conditions exist for involving them in the democratic front. There are about 600 Party members.

In spite of the very good results in recruiting, there is also a fluctuation of more than 100%. This can be explained, as in the case of the other Bureaus, by the lack of educational activity, the lack of work with new members, and the lack of concentration in education and broadening out of our influence in the mass organizations of the Italian people.

The paper, which previously was a Party paper (Labor Unity), a daily and later a weekly, was finally, more than a year ago, united with the Socialist paper, Stampa Libera, a daily, of a people's front type. Recently, this paper was suspended because of lack of funds.

All the work of the Italian Bureau was very limited and of a sectarian character, in spite of the good work of the present secretary of the Italian Bureau, who had been the editor of the Stampa Libera. There was lack of understanding by the former Bureau of its real task as a Party agency, and was even affected by a wrong interpretation of its role as a Party body, having a double allegiance--to the American Party and the Italian Party. This point was held by the former secretary. In spite of the fact that this point of view was officially defeated, it hampered the real development of the work among the Italian masses, in spreading our influence, etc., and in the position of the paper.

The financial condition was very poor. There was no special drive organized or attempts to better their finances. This was the reason for the suspension of the paper. The character of the paper was a good one, but because of the objective material situation, it failed.

The bad material situation of the leaders of the Bureau, who were full-time Party workers but not paid for lack of funds, also hindered their work. There was no money for sending people into the field for organization work. Concrete steps are now being taken to change this situation.

It is very important to stress that the work among the Italians in the trade unions is not well developed, in spite of the very good conditions for this. For instance, in such unions as Local #9, ILGWU, where there are a majority of Italian workers, there is the possibility of organizing the Italians, especially the women who are the majority, and who even publish a monthly paper for the Italian women.

### Polish Bureau

There are more than 4,000,000 Polish people in the United States, as officially registered by the census. In reality, together with the native born, this figure is higher. There are about 400 Party members. The main concentration points are: Detroit, Chicago and Pennsylvania. They published, until recently, a daily paper in Detroit, with a circulation of 4,000. Recently the publication was suspended because of acute financial difficulties, and disharmony among the members of the editorial staff. The paper had been changed to a weekly.

The work among the Polish masses in recruitment was good, but it was not consolidated and the fluctuation is more than 100% in some districts. This is because the Polish Bureau is separated from the masses, concentrating only on issues of co-ordination between the members of the Bureau. Conditions for work among the Polish masses are very favorable, but still we have not yet developed Party cadres who could help with this.

The reports that we have from various centers indicate that the auto union, in order to create a base among the Polish people, is involving them in the democratic front through trade union activity, and has had very good results.

If we will consider that during the municipal elections in Detroit, the Polish masses showed a real tendency to support the progressives and our policy in the democratic front, then we can see how important it is to make a drastic change in the activity of the Polish Bureau. It is necessary to stress that we have the possibility of promoting new cadres, especially from the young Polish people, who show all the symptoms of their revolutionization. But we have not yet approached them.

In the existing Polish mass organizations, such as the Polish Alliance in Chicago, and other organizations, we have a very good field for work. But still the Bureau is very far from really approaching this problem and putting it on the order of business. The same can be said of the other cultural and mass organizations.

### Jewish Bureau

There are about 4,500,000 Jews living in the United States. There are more than 4,000 Party members. The majority of the Jewish people are workers and small businessmen. The main trades in which the Jewish workers are engaged are: needle and building. There is some percentage of white collar, light metal, machinists. The Jewish population in the United States is highly organized. The American Jewish Year Book lists about 200 national Jewish organizations of religious, fraternal and cultural character.

The political organizations of importance among the Jewish people are: the Zionist Party, the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee. In these organizations we do not have influence. We are trying to get closer contact with them.

Recently the Jewish People's Committee was organized, which is beginning to play a big role among the Jews. The Jewish People's Committee, which is becoming a serious factor in the organization of the Jewish people, is the instrument for the building of the Jewish front in defense of the rights of the Jewish people and the fight against anti-Semitism and fascism. It has its concentration points in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York and Chicago. Last November, it organized a march to Washington, of a very broad united front character. Its activity and influence is growing constantly.

Another phase of activity among the Jewish people is the building of the cultural people's front. After the World Jewish Cultural Congress, which took place in September, 1937, in Paris, many Jewish writers and cultural workers were won to our influence. As a result, IKUF was organized, and has become the cultural center of the Jews in the United States.

The organ of the Jewish movement is the Morning Freiheit, which has a circulation of 26,000 daily, and 28,000 on Saturdays and Sundays. It is an 8-page paper. The financial status of the paper is strained.

Among others, they publish periodicals which counteract the bourgeois propaganda -- The Hammer, a monthly theoretical magazine published by the Bureau; Jewish Life, a monthly magazine, published in English by the New York District Bureau; Proletarische Derziung, published by the Jewish Children's school; Yungvarg, a monthly magazine, published by the same organization; Jewish People's Voice, which has been started by the Jewish People's Committee; Hilf, published by the Patronati; Auf der Wach, a united front monthly, published by the Clockmakers Branch for Peace and Democracy.

The organizations influenced and led by the Jewish Bureau are the Jewish Section of the I.W.O., with 38,000 members; the Children's Schools of the I.W.O., with 8,000 pupils; about 50 workers' choruses throughout the country; Icor, which popularizes the Soviet Union among the Jewish masses; the organization of proletarian writers, Proletpen; and other mass organizations.

The activities of the Jewish Bureau still are limited to the left-wing and fraternal organizations. A turn from this isolation is already in process, but here there is also the shortage of qualified cadres, which is hampering the development of this work. This demands the training of cadres among the Jewish Party members, and paying special attention to the younger generation, among whom the Trotskyites and other hostile trends are active, and we are lagging behind.

The Jewish people take an active part in the life of the trade union movement.

#### Hungarian Bureau

There is a population of about 1,000,000 Hungarians, with a Party membership of 700. They publish a people's front paper, Uj Elore, in New York City. Until a year ago it was a Party paper with a circulation of about 5,000. Nine months ago it became a daily paper, with a circulation of from 7 to 9,000. They have financial difficulties, because they have not broadened out its financial base accordingly. The paper is a tabloid of 8 pages.

The Bureau has developed very successful democratic front activities, through the Hungarian Democratic Federation of North America, which is very active in sponsoring the Congress of Nationalities in the United States, corresponding to those of Central Europe and the Balkans. The Hungarians have a section of the I.W.O., with 10,000 members.

### Czech Bureau

There are about 800,000 Czechs in the United States. About 100 Party members. They issue a paper in Chicago under the influence of the Party, almost a Party paper, Obrana. It is a weekly, with a circulation of from 2,500 to 3,000. The Party Bureau has no influence in the progressive movement. In spite of the fact that there has been developed quite a broad united front People's movement, this is not influenced by us.

The financial status of the paper is good. We have now only the beginnings of our influence in organizing the Czechs into the broad democratic front.

### Slovak Bureau

There are about 500,000 Slovaks in the United States. There are 300 Party members. They publish a daily paper, Ludovy Dennik, in Chicago, with a circulation of about 3,000. This is a Party paper. The financial condition of the paper is good.

The Slovaks have a section of the I.W.O., with 9,000 members, and have influence among the Catholic organizations. It is very important to stress that the work of the Slovaks among the broad masses was developed in the correct direction, trying not to antagonize, but working together with, the religious masses.

### Roumanian Bureau

There are about 100,000 Roumanians in the United States. About 100 Party members. The basic occupations are auto, rubber, steel, mining. The concentration points are: Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and West Virginia. They publish a 4-page weekly paper, Destintorea in Detroit, with a circulation of about 2,000. It is a people's front paper. The financial situation of the paper is critical. They have a shortage of cadres.

The main mass organization in which the Bureau has influence is the Section of the I.W.O. with approximately 3,000 members. There were great possibilities of organizing People's front activities in connection with the developments in Roumania, but due to the lack of clarity on the issues in this connection, the Bureau is not carrying on effective work.

### Bulgarian Bureau - Macedonian

They have about 70-80 Party members, out of a population of about 60,000 in the United States. They issue a weekly Party paper in Detroit - Narodnaya Vola, with a circulation of 2,000. It is from 4 to 6 pages, usually 4.

In developing the people's front movement, it still has the character of a Macedonian movement, since the special problems of the Macedonians are presented rather than all the problems and struggles of the whole Bulgarian people.

### Croatian Bureau

The Croatian Bureau publishes a weekly paper in Chicago, Radnicki Glasnik, with a circulation of 5,000. This is a Party paper. The financial status of the paper is satisfactory.

There are 300 Party members among the Croats. This is one of the best Balkan groups.

The main base of activity of the Party members is in the Fraternal Union of Mutual Aid in Pittsburgh, which has a membership of 60,000 and a progressive leadership. This organization is the best one for developing the people's front movement. The concentration points are Pittsburgh, Illinois, and Gary, Indiana.

The majority of the Croatian masses are working in the steel industries and they are now transferring their center to Pittsburgh. Comrade Borich is the editor of the paper, and Comrade Loran the secretary of the Bureau. They take the lead of all the Balkan groups in developing the democratic front, and involving the broad masses of the steel workers and workers in other industries, in the fight for democracy and progress, and against fascism.

There is also a Croatian Section of the I.W.O. with 4,000 members.

### Serbians

There are 60 Party members. This group was organized about two years ago, and is a young Party group. They publish a weekly paper, Free Speech, in Pittsburgh, which is a people's front paper, and has a circulation of 2,000. A Serbian Section of the I.W.O. has been recently organized, with about 1,000 members.

### Ukrainian Bureau

There is a population of about 700,000 in the United States, with a Party membership of 600. They publish a daily paper in New York, Ukrainian Daily News, with a circulation of from 7 to 8000. The paper is also published on Sundays. The financial status of the paper is satisfactory.

They are developing a movement along the lines of the democratic front. The concentration points are: Pittsburgh, the Anthracite, New Jersey and New York. They have 13,000 members in the I.W.O. section. In the mass organization, the United Ukrainian Toilers, a cultural organization, there are about 2000 members. There are various organizations, loosely organized and not centralized, known as the Workers Home, a cultural center, embracing about 5000 members. There are various cultural groups, theatrical, singing societies, and about 30 children's schools.

The influence of the Ukrainian Bureau is also spreading among the nationalist organizations, such as the Ukrainian Workers Alliance with 10,000 members, the Ukrainian National Alliance with 20,000 members.

The obstacle in these organizations is the activity of the Trotskyites, especially in the Workers Alliance, which has been kept alive by agitation of a narrow nationalist nature. The counter-revolutionary organization in the Ukrainian field is the Ukrainian Nationalists, which publishes a paper, Svoboda (Liberty), a daily paper, and several weeklies throughout the country.

#### Lithuanian Bureau

About 600,000 population in the United States, among whom there are 600-700 Party members. The principal papers are: Laisve in New York, a daily with a circulation of 5,000, and Vilnis, in Chicago, a daily with a circulation of 4,000. The financial condition, according to the latest information by the Bureau, is unsatisfactory.

The main organizations through which the Lithuanian Bureau operates are: The Literary Society, with about 4,000 members; and the Lithuanian Alliance, a fraternal organization with about 8,000 members. There also are some cultural organizations.

The weakest feature of the work of the Lithuanian Bureau is in the development of the people's front activity.

#### Russian Bureau

There are about 400,000 Russians in the United States. This figure is not exact. This does not embrace the second generation. About 12,000 of them are occupied as farmers. They have special concentration points: Connecticut, New Jersey, New England and New York. Large groups of Russian workers are concentrated in mining, steel -- in Illinois and Pennsylvania.

Their main mass base is the I.W.O. Section, which has 13,000 members. Besides this, they have workers clubs, cultural organizations with about 19,000 members.

They publish a workers paper under the control of the Bureau: Novy Mir, in New York, with a circulation of 3,342 daily and 1,770 Sunday. The financial status of the paper is unsatisfactory. They also have problems with their editorial staff, particularly because of a shortage of cadres. They have not developed new cadres for work in the Russian field. In spite of the very favorable factor of many Soviet publications and literature, they have not reached the level of propaganda which they could have with sufficient cadres.

Party recruiting was very good, about 300 new Party members. The fluctuation is very small, not more than 5%.

In general we have a very favorable field in which to work among the Russian population, and in some of the districts they play a big role in the fight against fascism and for democracy. It is necessary to strengthen the Russian Bureau and make it more flexible and able to work collectively. One of the weaknesses of the Russian Bureau, as with the other Bureaus, is that it still limits its work to that among the foreign born.

#### Finnish Bureau

There is a population of 320,000, with a Party membership of 600. The concentration points are: Upper Michigan, Minnesota and New York.



The trades among the Finnish people are, Lumber, metal, carpenters. 50% of the population are farmers. The mass organizations through which the Party operates are: The Finnish Workers Federation, of a cultural character, with about 5,000 members; the Finnish Women's organizations with about 2,000 members; the Mutual Aid progressive organization in which the Party has influence. There is also the cooperative organization, the United Alliance, with 5,000 members, which tried to unite with the Cooperative Central Wholesale, with 30,000 members. In this organization 80% are Finns; and it is spread mostly over the state of Michigan. There is also the Mutual Aid organization with 3,500 members, which is progressive, on the west coast, and with which we have contact.

The Finnish Socialists are very much influenced by the Trotskyites and wage a fight against the Party. There is also the Finnish American Youth League, with 300 members.

They publish a daily, Etcempain, in New York, with a circulation of 3,664, which has increased since 1936. Naisten Viiri, a weekly woman's paper, is published in New York, with a circulation of 4,525. Tyomies (The Workman) a daily published in Superior, Wisconsin, has a circulation of over 4,000. Until recently they published Kansanhumer (Popular Humor) a bi-monthly with a circulation of 3,907, which had decreased to 1,000, and they plan to discontinue publication because there is no base for its existence. All these papers are the organs of the Finnish Workers Federation, a cultural educational organization, guided by our Bureau. These papers still do not clarify the issues among the Finnish-Americans which are linked up with the whole life of the American workers movement. They limit themselves to describing the life of the Finnish people in general.

#### Armenian Bureau

In a population of 125,000 Armenians in the United States, there are about 300 Party members.

Panvor is a people's front daily paper, published in New York, with a circulation of about 8,000. It had been a Party paper. The financial status is very poor, because of the poor management and unsatisfactory editing of the paper, which has put it on the verge of bankruptcy.

The financial situation of the Bureau is also very poor. They do not have a full time secretary, and he has to look for a job to keep alive. The editor and staff are paid by the paper, but because of the deficit, they do not receive any wages.

The work of the Bureau in attempting to unite with the masses of Armenian people, was not understood by the Bureau members. After the work of a Commission, appointed by the Central Bureau to help the Armenian comrades, we see signs of improvement, but there still is the problem of cadres, which remains the sharpest in the Armenian field. We have taken steps to change this situation. Educational activities have not been developed.

#### Greek Bureau

There are 500,000 Greeks in the United States. About 600 Party members. The basic occupations are food, steel, coal mining, textile, shoe and rubber. There are also about 60,000 small businessmen.

The main organizations in which the Greek Bureau is carrying on its activities are: The Greek Workers Educational Federation; about 6 locals of the Sick and Benevolent Society, a united front organization composed of 40 organizations; the League for the Protection of Greek Immigrants; the Greek Union for Democracy, an anti-fascist organization.

The Greeks are active in some trade unions: The Greek Furriers Local #70, and the Food Workers locals, in which there are about 8,000 members.

The Greek Bureau has developed very good educational activities. They have distributed many leaflets, pamphlets, etc. Their paper, the Empros, published twice a week in New York, 6 pages, has a circulation of 5,000, an increase in the recent period. The financial status is satisfactory, in spite of the deficit, which they hope to cover through the present financial drive.

The concentration points are: New York, Detroit, Ohio, Illinois and Gary, Indiana.

#### Scandinavian Group

There are about 1,500,000 in the United States. There are three groups: farmers, building trades workers and marine workers. They are well organized in fraternal organizations with almost 400,000 members. There are Scandinavian organizations which are not connected with the Party directly. We have Scandinavian members in the Party, but they are working in various fields.

One of the important tasks which we must solve in the future, especially in the districts where there is a concentration of Norwegian and Swedish people, already Americanized, is that of organizing these national groups. They should be approached through special tactics in connection with the problems of their national peculiarities.

#### Oriental Groups

The Chinese comrades publish a Party paper, the Chinese Vanguard, a fortnightly, with a circulation of 2,000. Educational work is being carried on among the Chinese Party members. But we do not have enough information to give a characteristic of their work, except from reports of Comrade Young, who is leading this work, which indicate that they are linking up all their activities with the fight to involve the Chinese Americans to help China in its fight against the Japanese invasion.

We have very scarce information about the Japanese, but we are making an attempt to approach them and help them in their work. The information on hand shows that their concentration is on the West Coast amongst the fisherman and teamsters, and the Party comrades are working to involve them in trade union activities.

#### Spanish Group

The Spanish groups are generally known in the Party as those groups speaking the Spanish language. In this group there are Mexicans who live in the United States, Spaniards who have become Americanized, Puerto Ricans, etc. Many are already American citizens and have specific problems, for which we are now working out plans along educational and organizational lines. We have no figures or exact data, but plan to publish literature in the Spanish language and help organize these masses. The concentration points are: New Mexico, Texas, Florida, New York and on the West Coast. There is a turn toward recognizing the importance of mobilizing the Spanish speaking masses. The Central Bureau took definite steps to give this work an organizational base, concentrating in New York. A Spanish Bureau has been organized, with national tasks.

### Groups of Local Importance

These are small groups, Esthonians and Letts, and we have already made a decision that they shall be taken care of by the specific districts in which they are concentrated. At the same time, we will help them with instructive and educational material.

The Letts publish Strahzneeki Zihna, organ of the Lettish Workers Unity of America, which is affiliated with the I.L.D., with a circulation of 700. There are 40,000 Letts in the United States.

The Latvian organizations, of various types, have about 3,000 members.

The Esthonians have a very small population, concentrated in New York and some in Boston.

The paper of the Federation of the Clubs, Uus Ilm, is a people's front paper.

### Tasks For Work Among the Masses of the National Groups

In order to improve the work of the National Bureaus, the following tasks must be carried out:

1. To strengthen the leadership generally, we must select responsible people with experience in mass work, who are familiar with the problems of the American labor movement, to head the movements among the various nationalities. Special care must be taken to improve the papers of the National Groups. This means that the editors and editorial staffs must receive better guidance. It also means that not only the Central Committee and its Commissions shall be obligated to pay more attention to the National groups, but the District leadership as well. District Committee shall be instructed to assign comrades to help some of the Bureaus.

2. The Party organizations should be instructed to give concrete and efficient assistance to the leaders of the National Groups in their task of educating the broad masses, and especially in connection with the united front activities. This means that the Districts shall assign a member of the District Bureau to be responsible for giving general guidance to the National Groups in the corresponding districts. The work of the Bureaus in the Districts should be examined periodically at the meetings of the District Bureaus. The leaders of the National Groups should be involved in the educational activities of the Party organizations.

3. Special attention should be paid (and this has long been neglected) to the training of cadres of the National Groups. A quota should be given in the National Training School for students of the National Groups. It is also necessary to consider the organization of a special school for the National Groups. Discussion circles also should be organized. A special course for editors of the language papers may be organized, in the form of a series of lectures and discussions. The National Bureaus should be instructed to have weekly discussions with the editorial boards on current major political problems.

4. The task of eliminating all alien elements still remains a problem for the movement among the National Groups, and should be dealt with special care. As a prerequisite for eliminating these elements, the various Bureaus should get

rid of the remnants of sectarianism which still dominates some of the National Groups. To carry out successfully the major tasks requires, without a doubt, the education of the masses, bringing them to an understanding of Marxism and Leninism, not through an academic approach, but by establishing a closer relationship with the mass cultural organizations, and attempting to aid them to become a real progressive force, fighting inside these organizations against all fascist tendencies. For this purpose, comrades should be assigned to work inside these organizations as regular members of the organization.

5. Special attention should be paid to the organizations of the women and youth. The youth should receive greater assistance, bearing in mind that the fascists have already penetrated many of the sport organizations, such as the Sokol, the Polish sport organization, as well as others. Serious efforts should be made to abolish the influence of these elements which, covering their activity with progressive phrases, are hostile to labor organizations.

6. The major task of our Bureaus of the National Groups is to develop the activity designed to unite their fellow-countrymen in united front activity on the basis of immediate issues. In carrying out this work many of our Bureaus very often deviate from the correct line, and because of that, fail in their efforts. It is necessary, therefore, to do the following:

- a) help each Bureau individually to work out the policy of united front activity, and if they have one, to examine this policy to see if it is correct;
- b) continually watch closely the application of such a policy.

It means that not only the Central Committee and its National Bureau shall be obligated to perform these tasks, but the District Committee and Section Committees of our Party as well.

7. Special steps must be taken in relation to the most strategically situated three national groups -- German, Polish, Italian:

- a) to obligate all German, Polish and Italian Party members to work among their respective nationalities; that is, in the mass organizations of each nationality to which they will be assigned by their Bureaus;
- b) the Convention shall instruct the Districts to select from the Party cadres those of German, Polish and Italian descent, who speak their languages, and assign them to work among these groups;
- c) to develop new cadres, mainly German, Polish and Italian Americans, at special training schools, at the same time making special arrangements in these schools so that there should be some courses dealing with the specific problems of these nationalities.

\* \* \*

Language Press and Progressive Press

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Panvor (Armenian)<br>Box 168, Station F,<br>New York City.              | 12. Laisve (Lithuanian)<br>46 Ten Eyck Street,<br>Brooklyn, N.Y.      |
| 2. People's Will (Bulgarian)<br>1343 E. Ferry Street<br>Detroit, Mich.     | 13. Glos Ludowy (Polish)<br>5762 Chere Street,<br>Detroit, Mich.      |
| 3. Obrana (Czech)<br>3624 S. 26th Street,<br>Chicago, Ill.                 | 14. Radniki Glas (So.Slav)<br>1849 N.Halsted Street,<br>Chicago, Ill. |
| 4. Chinese Vanguard<br>144 Second Ave.<br>New York City.                   | 15. Novy Mir (Russian)<br>344 East 32nd Street,<br>New York City.     |
| 5. Etteempain (Finnish)<br>35 East 12th Street,<br>New York City.          | 16. Ludowy Dennik (Slovak)<br>1510 W. 18th Street,<br>Chicago, Ill.   |
| 6. Tyomies (Finnish)<br>Box 553<br>Superior, Wis.                          | 17. Uus Ilm (Esthonian)<br>126 E. 120th Street,<br>New York City.     |
| 7. Maister Viiri (Finnish)<br>35 East 12th Street,<br>New York City.       | 18. Ukrainian Daily News<br>85 East 4th Street,<br>New York City.     |
| 8. The Morning Freiheit (Jewish)<br>35 East 12th Street,<br>New York City. | 19. Slobodnaya Rech<br>Pittsburgh, Pa.                                |
| 9. Empros (Greek)<br>344 East 32nd Street,<br>New York City.               | 20. Strahdneeku Zihna<br>Lettish<br>New York City.                    |
| 10. Deutsches Volksecho (German)<br>5 Beekman St. Rm.419<br>New York City. | 21. Destepterea (Roumanian)<br>6527 Russel Street,<br>Detroit, Mich.  |
| 11. Vilnis (Lithuanian)<br>3116 S. Halsted Street,<br>Chicago, Ill.        |   |

New York, New York

MET:mep  
100-4931

July 7, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of a report which was made to the Tenth Party Convention of the COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A., relative to the Communist infiltration in the various labor groups showing their strength, influence, press and circulation.

These photostatic copies were obtained from a report furnished to this office by [redacted] which was returned to him at his request after photostatic copies were made.

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Two copies of these photostatic reports are being retained in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Enclosures (2)  
CC/NY file [redacted]

FOI # 439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

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[redacted]

27

Report on the Odell Waller Memorial Meeting held under the auspices of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party Sunday July 5th at the Congress Casino.

The meeting was opened by Abner Berry Executive Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party. The speakers were:

James W. Ford member of the National Committee, Political Bureau of the National Committee and National head of the Negro Commission.

Peter V. Cacchiione recently elected member of the City Council. He is second number of the Communist Party to be elected to the City Council in the City of New York the other was ex-councilman Michael Quinn.

Elizabeth Barker Organizational Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section of the Party.

Howard Johnson Organizer of the Young Communist League.

Cyril Phillips member of the National Negro Commission, active Party organizer among the West Indians. Prints most of leaflets and other printed matter for the Harlem Section in the Arlain Printing Co., located at 136th Street and 8th Avenue.

All the speakers were vitriolic in their denunciation of the execution of Odell Waller Virginia sharecropper and called for nation-wide demonstrations in protest and to link it up with the struggle for the passage of the anti-Poll Tax Bill.

The execution of Waller was branded "legal murder" and responsibility in the first place rested upon Governor Darden of Virginia, and in the second place upon the "scoundrels" and Negro baiters of the South. The jury that convicted Waller was labelled a "poll tax jury" and the Governor a "Poll Tax executioner".

The audience was urged to demand that President Roosevelt issue an Executive Order against lynchings and other attacks.

There was a tense moment at the meeting when James W. Ford branded a man in the audience a stoop-pigeon of the Police Department. He stated that he was recently expelled from the Party. Councilman Cacchiione stated that he was going to take this matter up with Mayor La Guardia and Police Commissioner Valentine.

A telegram was sent to Mr. Hatton Summers, Chairman of the House Rules Committee demanding that the Cayer Anti-Poll Tax Bill be reported out of Committee. Pardon of the Scottsboro Boys was demanded of the Governor of Ala.

A delegation was elected to visit Democratic Congressman Joseph Cavanagh to demand that he sign the House Petition to get the Cayer Anti-Poll Tax Bill out of Committee. Similar Delegations are to visit Congressman Sel Wloom and Vito Marcantonio.

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Good  
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New York, New York

MET:LLB  
100-4931

July 14, 1942  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA  
DISTRICT NUMBER 2  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the Odell Waller Memorial Meeting held under the auspices of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party at the Congress Casino in New York City on Sunday, July 5, 1942.

[redacted] has been advised to be on the alert for additional protest meetings of this nature which may be instigated by the Communist Party.

Copies of this Informant's report are also being retained in the New York Field Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

CC: [redacted] ✓  
Encs. - 2

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

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The National Control Commission is elected by the National Committee. It is composed of Party members who have been in the Party more than 5 years and whose loyalty to the Party can not be questioned. Its objective is to ~~strengthen~~ strengthen Party unity and discipline and supervise the audits of the financial books and records of the Party.

In all cases involving violation of Party unity, discipline and ethics or concerning lack of class vigilance in facing the class enemy, or of spies, swindlers, double dealers, agent provocateurs, careerists, turncoats-- the National Control Commission makes an investigation and decision.

The work of the National Control Commission during the last few years, has, in the main followed the same general lines that prevailed during the preceding years. It has insisted on proper and prompt reports on all disciplinary cases arising in the various districts of the Party.

In the handling of appeals, in the passing upon public exposures, and in dealing directly with cases involving national functionaries or otherwise requiring National Committee attention, it merits recording that without a single exception, the proceedings and decisions of the National Control Commission have always met the unqualified approval of the Polburo and the National Committee.

The head of the National Control Commission is A. Durba who lives at 455 Townsend Avenue, Bronx, New York. He lives with a Party member known as Lapin. ~~At the above address he goes under the name of Goloz.~~ *Under the name of Goloz or Sapin.*

As head of the National Control Commission Durba has in his possession an exhaustive biography of every leading functionary in the Party. It is his job to study the life and activity of every Party member holding a leading position in the Party, mass organizations and trade unions.

Moreover, he is responsible for the rooting out and exposing spies spy suspects and provocateurs.

The work of the Commission covers the following:

1. Lovestonites
2. Trotskyites
3. White Chauvinists
4. Petty-bourgeois right opportunists.
5. Careerists and turncoats
6. Unprincipled factionalists.
7. Generally disruptive
8. Generally irresponsible (drunkards etc.)
9. Financially irresponsible
10. Financially dishonest (thieves and swindlers)
11. Generally unreliable (spy suspects, scabs etc.)
12. Spies and provocateurs.

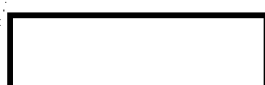
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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHC

*Good  
well*



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b7D



New York, New York

MEY:LEE  
100-4931

July 14, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA  
DISTRICT NUMBER 2  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the National Control Commission of the Communist Party.

This report reflects the <sup>purpose</sup> parties for which the Control Commission is formed and some information concerning the work of this group.

Copies of this report are also being retained in the New York Field Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,



P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

CC: [redacted]  
Enc. - 2

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

Report on the March on Washington Movement.....

There was a meeting of the New York Chapter of the March On Washington Movement on Friday July 17th at the Y.M.C.A. at 7:30 pm. (u)

The purpose of the meeting was to report on the delegation that went to Washington and Virginia in behalf of Odell Waller and to make preparations for a Silent Parade. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The delegation to Washington consisted of A. Phillip Randolph, Frank Crosswaite, Layle Lane, Channing Tobias. They held conferences with the secretary of Vice President Wallace, Elmer Davis ~~with him~~ after they were unable to talk with Vice President Wallace and President Roosevelt. They also held a conference with the attorney general of the State of Virginia. In each instant they were told that nothing could be done. Mary Mc Cloud Bethune was also on the delegation. (u)

Parades will be held in all the principal cities of the United States in protest against the execution of Odell Waller. This is to be coupled with the fight for the abolition of the poll tax and the enactment of anti-lynch legislation. (u)

The parade in New York will be held on Saturday July 25th. The marchers will assemble at Columbus Circle at 8th Avenue and 59th Street, and march to Union Square where a mass meeting will be held. The parade will start at 2 P.M. (u)

All the discussion at the meeting centered around preparations for the march. Thousands of throw aways, leaflets and placards will be distributed in Harlem and Brooklyn. Speakers will announce the parade at churches next Sunday. A huge float showing a Negro being lynched and a huge black cross made up of persons dressed in black and white will be the two main features. (u)

All the speakers stressed the need of getting Negro rights now and the example of India was stressed as a classical example and that the Negroes could learn many valuable lessons from Gandi. The delegation was very incensed over their treatment in Washington and also in Virginia. (u)

The final meeting before the parade will be held on Wednesday July 22. (u)

All during next week street meetings will be held in Harlem to rally the people for support and participation in the parade. (u)

The speakers were as follows:

Ellica Riley  
Aldrich Turner  
Layle Lane  
Lawrence W. Ervin  
Robert Early Jr.

(u)

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REASON FOR EXTENSION  
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DECLASSIFICATION 6/22/90~~

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ON 7/27/00

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New York, New York

MMT:MM  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

July 21, 1942

439740

7/27/00

SP2 ALM/ETHC

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the activities of the above organization. (u)

According to this report, the March On Washington Movement is planning to hold parades in all principal cities in the United States, in protest against the execution of JOELL WALLER. This is to be coupled with the fight for the abolition of the poll tax and the enactment of anti-lynching legislation. The parade in New York City is to be held Saturday, July 25, 1942, followed by a mass meeting in Union Square, at 2:00 p.m. (u)

Informant advised on the evening of the meeting of the New York Chapter on July 17, 1942, the Young Communist League held a meeting just a few doors away and distributed their members along the street in front of their own meeting place and that of the March on Washington Movement, to pass out literature, propagandizing the abuse of the negroes, in an attempt to make it appear as if the two organizations were making a combined effort. A copy of the circular handed out by the Young Communist League is being transmitted with this report. (u)

Further information relative to the above captioned organization's program will be furnished by [redacted] (u)

Copies of this report are also being retained in the New York Field Office.

Very truly yours,

6/20/80  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc - [redacted]

Enc.

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6/20/90

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Report on the Negro Labor Victory Committee...

7/14/42

The Negro Labor Victory Committee headed by Charles Collins and Ferdinand Smith both of whom are Communists held a meeting in conjunction with the National Conference of Negro Youth also a Party built and sponsored organization at the Renaissance Casino, 136th Street and 7th Ave. Wednesday July 15th.

This is a part of the campaign that the Party is organizing on a nation-wide scale around the Otell Waller execution to do away with the poll tax and lynching. At the same time it is a movement to counter the March On Washington Movement.

The Party fears loss of leadership over the Negro people in America and are feverishly working to destroy the gains that the March On Washington Movement has made among the Negroes. They fear the anti-Party character of this movement. The Party policy is to utilize the sympathies of the Negro, arouse his bitterness and direct it in channels that are in best interest of the Party and its program. The anti-Party (Communist) character of the March on Washington Movement is a real danger to the Party and they recognize it.

At the present time the Negro Labor Victory Committee is making overtures to the March On Washington Movement for a united front. That was the policy laid down by the National Negro Commission of the Communist Party and dramatically presented at the Trade Union and Peoples Victory Conference of which the Negro Labor Victory Committee is a part. The Conference adopted the whole program of the March On Washington Movement and made a few additions as a move in the direction of unity. The move was to create the impression that the March On Washington Movement was the splitters of the people and that the Communists are the only ones that seek and work for unity.

All the efforts of the Party have been in vain. The leaders of the March on Washington Movement are firm in their determination to keep the Communists out. Frank Crosswath the one of the spokesmen for the March on Washington Movement recently issued a statement bitterly assailing the Communists and the their attempts to get into the March On Washington Movement. The efforts of the Communists has resulted in creating some confusion but at the same time it has intensified the determination of the leaders of the March On Washington Movement to fight them.

The efforts of the Party to force the March On Washington Movement into a united front or face bitter opposition is seen in the actions taken by the Young Communist League on Friday July 17. They called a meeting a half block away from the Y.Y.C.A. at the same time the March on Washington Movement was holding its meeting. They distributed circulars near the Y.Y.C.A. in order to confuse the people and to get them to their meeting. Their leaflet carried the same program as that of the March On Washington Movement.

The Party through the Negro Labor Victory Committee is planning a parade similar to that of the March On Washington Parade.

The National Negro Commission of the Party has decided that local conferences be held in every large city similar to the Trade Union and Peoples Victory Conference that was held on Saturday June 27th in New York. The National Negro Congress shall take the initiative in organizing these local conferences. The heads of the local councils of the National Negro Congress have already received instructions from John Davis (Communist, member of the National Negro Commission) make all arrangements, such as time place, sponsors etc..

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

## Report On the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

The national policy of the Party known as expressed through the the Negro Labor Victory Committee statement is the line that will be followed by all local groups now formed or in the process of being formed. This statement unanimously adopted at the mass meeting is as follows:

"Today, when our country is preparing for an all-out offensive action against the enemies of all mankind, it is more than alarming that organized fifth columnists are allowed to disrupt the unity of our people by flagrant, unprovoked attacks against Negro citizens. The recent brutal lynching in Tennessee of a hospitalized, helpless, Negro youth, Willie Vinson, is not an isolated instance of the challenge to our war effort.

"The attempt to keep Negro war workers out of the Sojourner Truth project in Detroit, police brutality against Negro citizens, even when in uniform of the United States Army; the poll-tax verdict against Odell Waller; the lynching of Willie Vinson are but examples of the organized attempt by the small but insidious fascist-minded groups who are attempting to disrupt national unity.

"The challenge to our national unity is growing and must be met by swift and concerted action. These fascists and their activities must be stamped out by the determined action on the part of our national government in conjunction with our local authorities.

"We call upon our Commander in Chief, President Roosevelt, to issue a statement redefining the citizenship rights of Negro Americans; to ask the governors of the 48 states and the mayors of our cities to issue like proclamations; and to order all federal agencies to take swift and appropriate action to safeguard the rights of Negro Americans.

demand

"We make this demand not only in justice to the Negro people but in the interest of all Americans as well.

"Pass the Cey anti-poll tax bill.

"Outlaw the Ku Klux Klan

"Full equality and democratic rights for the Negro people for victory over Hitler and Hitlerism."

The line of the resolution is clearly seen in the circular of the Young Communist League (Harlem Branch)

"STOP LYCHING BY THAILOPS"

"Hitler's 5th Column Attacks Negroes"

3 Negroes lynched in 10 days"

Odell Waller in Virginia

Willie Vinson in Texas

Private Smith in Arizona

"These crimes of the Hitlerite and K.K.K. must stop here at once.

"The crimes of the Nazi in Europe must be stopped through a 'End Front Row' "Act Now! Tomorrow May Be Too Late"

Attend

Mass Protest Rally Friday July 17, 1942

200 West 135th Street

Sponsored by: Harlem Young Communist League

New York, New York

MMT:MM  
100-27339

July 21, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740

SP2 ALM/EHL  
7/27/42

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE;  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to the Negro Labor Victory Committee, in which he points out the Communist Party is organizing a nation-wide campaign to protest the ODELL WALLER execution, and to do away with the poll tax and lynchings.

It is also to be noted, according to this report, the Communist Party fears the loss of negro leadership to the March On Washington movement, and are hoping to regain the leadership and form a united front through the activities of this organization.

It is also to be noted, according to this report, the leaders of the March On Washington Movement are firm in their determination to keep the Communists out of their organization. He points out that FRANK CROSSWALTH, one of the spokesmen of this organization recently issued a statement bitterly assailing the Communists for their attempt to get into the March on Washington Movement. Informant was probably referring to an item in the New York Amsterdam Star News, dated July 11, 1942, giving publicity to a memorial meeting of the March On Washington Movement in protest against the execution of ODELL WALLER, in which Mr. CROSSWALTH is reported to have stated: "They, the Communists, are grasping the dead neck of ODELL WALLER with their filthy fingers to put across their propaganda."

This same article reflects that PHILIP RANDOLPH remarked the Communists are attempting to "cash in on the gates of the March On Washington Movement" and to usurp from the latter group the confidence it has inspired among the negroes. He branded the Communist party's attempt as a "kiss of death."

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ME:MM:100-27339  
Letter to Director

July 21, 1942

The report also reflects the National Negro Commission of the Communist Party has decided that local conferences shall be held in each large city and that the National Negro Congress shall take the initiative in organizing these local conferences.

Copies of this report are also being retained in the New York Field Division Office.

Very truly yours,

Enc.

cc -



P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

b7D



The Constitutional Convention of the New York State Industrial Union Council affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations met in Syracuse New York June 19th and 20th in the Hotel Syracuse.

The delegates were called upon to reorganize the Industrial Union Council that was broken up at the last Convention because of the attempt of the Communist Party to gain control. During the interim between the two Conventions the New York State Industrial Council functioned under the direct supervision of the national C.I.O. in order to avoid a split.

Allen Raywood in his speech to the Convention pleaded for unity and suggested a certain constitutional changes that would unify the Convention and bring about a functioning Industrial Union Council. His recommendation of Raywood was accepted.

The National Trade Union Commission of the Party decided that under no circumstances were the Party members who were delegates to the Convention, to do anything to hamper the reorganization of the Council; that they were to follow the policy of Raywood. Their primary task was to get representation on the Industrial Union Council, denigrate the Constitution, rally the delegates in support of the resolution on the 2nd front, all effort for defense, resolution against Bennett, Dewey and the defeat of all anti-labor candidates.

All the resolutions submitted by Party delegates were unanimously adopted.

There were 20 persons elected to the Industrial Council. President Vice President, Secretary and the others representing every International Union affiliated with the Industrial Council. Each International Union selected one representative.

The following members of the Communist Party were elected on the New York State Industrial Union Council:

Irving Potash Furriers Union  
Douglass Mc Mann Transport Workers Union  
Ferdinand Smith National Maritime Union  
James V. King State County and Municipal Workers  
Max Perlow United Furniture Workers  
James H. Brooks  
Isador Rosenberg

There were two others elected that went very closely with the Party. They are

George Curran  
Josephus Times

FBI # 439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP-2 ALM/EHL

b3  
b7D

Good ✓  
TUCP

New York, New York

LET:ME

July 22, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE  
NEW YORK STATE INDUSTRIAL UNION  
COUNCIL C.I.O.;  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] which reflects the names of Communist Party members who were elected to office in the New York State Industrial Union Council, C. I. O., at their convention, held in Syracuse, New York, June 19 and 20, 1942.

Copies of this report are also being retained in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc.

cc - [redacted]

439740

7/27/00 SP2 ALM/EHU

Report on mass meeting of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party.

A large outdoor rally of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party was held at 126th Street and 7th Avenue on Friday July 18th 1942. There were approximately 300 people present at the peak of the meeting. The arrangements committee set up a table on the street at which they sold defense stamps and at the same time recruited members into the Party.

Present at the rally were Abner W. Berry, Audley Moore, Ben Davis, Solomon Harper, Ellis Williams, Mamie Batiste

The speakers at the meeting were:

Mamie Batiste of 59 West 126th Street.

Abner W. Berry

Fleming a young baritone singer who also sang two Negro spirituals.

A resolution was unanimously adopted to demand an executive order from President Roosevelt on Lynching, the Poll Tax and Negro rights generally. This resolution was to be sent to President Roosevelt.

A.W. Berry the keynoter of the evening called for action against the lynchers, stating that he knew who shot Willie Vinson in Texas and asked the audience to insist upon his prosecution along with other members of the mob. He characterized the southern "crackers" as Hitler agents and enemies of democracy. "They are the same ones who wanted to maintain slavery, they are the ones who instituted the Jim Crow law and the poll tax" and the struggle against Hitler is the struggle against Hitlerism in America. He finished his speech with an appeal to his audience to go over to the table and fill out applications for membership in the Party and at the same time to buy Defense Stamps.

The Party is now laying particular stress on recruiting. They consider the opportunity very favorable for mass recruiting. The widespread good will created as a result of Russia's role and position in the war is being utilized to build the Party. They are thinking no longer in terms of a Party member here and there. They thinking in terms of hundreds and thousands of the basic American element. The entire Party has been mobilized for this task. They are using the favorable situation to strengthen their leadership in the trade unions and to firmly establish all their key positions.

The policy of the Party is to build itself during the course of the united front as a necessary pre-condition for the fulfillment of its historic task. . . "the liberation of the workingclass" through the transformation of the great social upheavals and revolutionary movements that will arise out of the present war into a victory for socialism" (Communist). The all out effort for the successful prosecution of the war is coupled with main "liberation task of the Party. They consider a defeat of Russia the "Fatherland of the Workingclass" a mortal blow to the world Communist movement. It is for that reason that great stress and emphasis is placed upon the opening of a second front now. It is a question of utilizing the democracies to save the "fatherland", ~~the workingclass~~ and consequently the world liberal and democratic movement.

Considerable discussion centers around the lessons and implications of the last post war period of capitalism (World War #1). The revolutionary upheavals that swept all Europe and the possibility of greater and more profound revolutionar upheavals following the present war

439740  
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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP3 ALM/CHL

New York, New York

MEt:hs  
100-26603

July 25, 1942  
CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY - U.S.A.  
DISTRICT #2, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 22, 1942 relative to a meeting of the Communist Party held at 126th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City, on Saturday, July 18, 1942.

b7D

This report reflects that at this meeting a resolution was unanimously adopted to demand an executive order from President Roosevelt on lynching, the poll tax and negro rights generally. It also reflects that the Party is now laying particular stress on recruiting Party members.

Two copies of this report are also being retained in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXNORTH  
Assistant Director

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

Enc. (2)

cc-NY File [redacted] ✓

b3

Report on the Labor Victory Committee of New York... 7/25/42

Date: Friday July 24th 1942.

Time: 8 P.M.

Place: Uptown Fur Center 2132 7th Ave. New York City.

Order Of Business: Draw up an action program for getting Citizens Rights for the Negro in America today.

Report of the Committee on the trip to Washington and the Conference with Attorney General Biddle.

The meeting was presided over by Ewart G. Guinier President New York Dist State, County & Municipal Workers of America, C.I.O.

The speakers at the meeting were:

George Murphy Administrative Secretary of the National Negro Congress, Member of the Communist Party. He is related to the Editor of the Afro-American a Negro weekly paper published in Baltimore, Maryland. He has been active in the National Negro Congress since its inception. Worked for a long time in the office of the Crusader News Agency. The Crusader News agency is a Party news office that sends out news releases to the Negro press. He reported on the situation of the anti-Pell Tax Bill now in the Committee of the House of Representatives; 109 members of the House had signed the Bill and that 25 additional signatures were necessary to bring the Bill out of Committee to the Floor of the House. He severely criticized Congressman Joseph Cavanagh for his attitude toward the Bill, his refusal to sign the petition and to urge other members of the House to sign it. He recommended that a Delegation be elected to visit Joseph Cavanagh at his office 1773 Broadway Saturday July 25th at 1 P.M. This delegation to also contact Congressman O'Toole of Brooklyn; Congressman McAvoy and Barry. In addition Congressmen from upstate demanding that they sign the petition. The upstate Congressmen are to be contacted by telegram. He also recommended that the delegation contact Wendell Wilkie and Thomas E. Dewey for the purpose of getting them to bring pressure to bear on Republican Congressmen in this state to sign the House petition. All the recommendations were unanimously adopted. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

The delegation consisted of:

- o Ferdinand Smith, National Maritime Union
- o Solomon Harper
- o Sabina Martinez Cleaners and Dyers C.I.O.
- o Ewart G. Guinier Chairman
- o George Murphy

All the above mentioned persons are members of the Communist Party.

Ferdinand Smith spoke on the necessity of putting the head on Joseph Cavanagh; that he should be exposed and the Negroes urged not to support him in the coming elections. He also recommended the enlisting of support of the C.I.O. ; A.F. of L.; National Association For The Advancement of Colored People and churches to send telegrams to Congressmen demanding support of the petition.

Ewart Guinier spoke on the conference with Attorney General Biddle stating that he had presented the facts about recent lynchings and injustices against the Negro people and urged that the individuals responsible should be prosecuted in the same manner as Nazi agents and 5th columnists. He also urged that he ask the President of United States to issue a proclamation on Negro rights. He stated that he was assured by attorney General Biddle that he would take the matter up with the President.

A recommendation was passed to bring pressure to bear on Attorney General Biddle and President Roosevelt to get the Proclamation.

439740

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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP8 ALW/CH

Guinier also reported that during the last two years Negro Labor Victory Committees have been organized in two other cities namely Buffalo, New York and Chicago, Ill. He said both conference were very successful and made special mention of the conference in Buffalo at which Ferdinand Smith spoke.

0 Arnold Johnson former Communist spoke on the need of calling a national Negro Victory Conference or Congress to co-ordinate and direct the work nationally. His suggestion was taken under advisement

0 Harry Small former employee of the Springs Products plant in Long Island City stated that the plant closed down because the owner refused to work on defense orders and because he wanted to get rid of the union. He ask the Committee to explore the possibilities of the Government taking over the plant and operating it. Ferdinand Smith explained to the body that this was not possible.

The Committee decided to hold a huge mass rally on Saturday August 8th at the Borraine Brooks Square 137th street between St. Nicholas and Bradhurst Ave. The meeting will start at 5 p.m. The Committee that was elected to see various congressmen are to arrange the details.

The Committee voted to support the March on Washington parade and mass meeting on Saturday July 25th. It was also decided that instead of getting out their own petitions that they would use the petitions of the March On Washington Movement. The delegation will also visit the March on Washington to try to effect an understanding.. The petitions circulated by the Committee will be stamped with their name.

There were approximately 35 people present.

*Good  
me*



NET:RMS  
100-27339  
cc - [redacted]

NEW YORK CITY

b3

July 27, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE OF GREATER NEW YORK  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 25, 1942 concerning the above captioned organization.

b7D

In this report informant points out the program adopted by this organization, which he refers to as an action program for getting citizens' rights for the Negro in America today. It should also be noted that according to a report by one of the speakers at this meeting the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE has in the last two weeks organized in Buffalo, New York and Chicago, Illinois. A huge mass rally of this organization will be held in New York City on August 8, 1942 at the Dorrence Brooks Square, 137th Street between St. Nicholas and Bradhurst Avenues.

[redacted] will follow and report further activities of this organization in the New York area.

Two copies of this report are also being retained in the New York City office.

43 9740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EMC  
ON 7/27/00

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2)

b3

Report on parade of the March on Washington Movement held Saturday  
July 25th, 1942

The parade started at 3 p.m. There were 275 person marching.  
They marched down 8th Avenue to 17th street and East to Union Square.  
There were approximately 350 persons at the mass meeting. X(u)

The speakers were:

- Morris Hilgram representing the Workers Defense League.
- Anna Hedgeman Regional Relations Director of Civilian Defense.
- Channing Tobias member National Council Young Men's Christian Association.
- Iona Morris March On Washington Movement.
- Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin Local Chairman March On Washington Movement.
- Golden Brown Chairman of the speakers Committee.

The meeting was opened by Golden Brown who presides as chairman.  
The slogans at the meeting were:

No discrimination in the Air.  
No discrimination on the assembly line.  
Against the Poll Tax  
Against Lynching  
Equal rights for Negroes  
Winning democracy for the Negro is winning the war for democracy.  
Protest against the lynching of Odell Waller

All the speakers called for an end to discrimination, Jim Crow, and lynching. The Odell Waller case was the center of the discussion. Particular emphasis was laid on the poll tax states and the poll tax congressmen who control both the upper and lower houses. ~~afterwards~~ They singled out the Governors of Georgia and Alabama for special attack in relation to their anti-Negro utterances and their open defiance of the President of the United States. X(u)

439740

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ON 7/27/00

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/20/90 BY SP-1 ALM/6/20/80

2

6/20/90

b3  
b7D



New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

MET:GBH  
100-26792

July 30, 1942

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
Internal Security

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of report of [redacted] dated July 27, 1942 relative to a parade and mass meeting held by the above captioned organization on Saturday, July 26, 1942. *X(u)*

Informant will keep in touch with this organization and furnish further activities to this office.

Two copies of this report are also being retained in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

*X*  
SP-1 PH 6/20/80

*2*

*6/20/90*

cc: NY [redacted]

b7D

b3

*X*  
[redacted] - 44

Report on the Trade Union Committee To Elect Win the War Candidates. 7/27/42

This committee was organized according to a decision of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party for the purpose of purging the legislature of legislators that are anti-Communist. It is a committee composed of Party members based upon their strategic positions in labor organizations who are in a position to get the support of leading persons that would go along with them on the basis of their labor connections.

This committee has headquarters in the Hotel Picaadilly 227 W. 45th Street New York City. Suite 211. Phone Circle 6-6600.

The chairman of the Committee is Joseph Curran President of the National Maritime Union. C.I.O.

Vice Chairman:

Samuel Krambery Secretary Treasurer of Local 303 Cafeteria Employees A.F. of L.

Michael Obermier Secretary Hotel and Club Employee Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Michael Quill President Transport Workers Union C.I.O.

Secretary:

Bella V. Dodd Legislative representative Teachers Union.

Treasurer

Samuel Burt Manager Furriers Joint Board, Dressers and Dyers C.I.O.

Executive Board:

Charles Collins Organizer Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6 A.F. of L.

Frank Dutto Secretary, Bakers Union, Local 1 A.F. of L.

Jack Arra Organizer Local 68 Furriers Joint Board, C.I.O.

James Lustig Organizer, District 4 United Electrical and Radio and Machine Workers of America. C.I.O.

Lewis Merrill President United Office and Professional Workers of America C.I.O.

Saul Mills Secretary-Treasurer Greater New York C.I.O. Industrial Council.

Arthur Oenan President Local 65 United Wholesale and Warehouse Workers C.I.O.

Max Perlew President Local 76B United Furniture Workers of America C.I.O.

Ferdinand Smith Secretary National Maritime Union C.I.O.

Louis Weinstock Secretary District Council No. 9 (Painters Union A.F. of L.

The object of this Committee is to primarily work for the defeat of Hamilton Fish, Frederic Coudert and William Barry and to guarantee the election of Vito Marcantonio.

Their jobs is to educate the voters between now and the primary elections to differentiate between present and past ~~staunch~~ supporters of President Roosevelt.

They are soliciting campaign worker especially for work in Marcantonio's District in order to guarantee his election. Any candidate that is against the 2nd Front in 1942 is to be purged that is the slogan of the committee.

Contributions are asked of the trade unions for this purpose

The Trade Union Committee will hold an affair for Vito Marcantonio in the Pennsylvania Hotel on August 4th. Mayor LaGuardia will be one of the speakers that is the main speaker.

There will be a mass rally in support of Marcantonio in the 20th Congressional District at the Odd Fellows Hall 105 East 106th Street on August 7th.

All the executive officers are leading members of the Party. Either members of the National Committee or members of the State Committee, the State or National Trade Union Commissions. All the Vice-Presidents are members of the Party. The president attended Party meetings in 1936 and the early part of 1937. He is generally spoken of in Party circles as a member of the Party.

*Very good!  
MCA*



b7D

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MT:GSH

July 30, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/BAH  
ON 7/27/00

Re: TRADE UNION COMMITTEE TO ELECT  
WIN THE WAR CANDIDATES;  
Internal Security - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of report of [redacted] dated July 27, 1942, relative to the above captioned organization.

According to Informant's report, this organization was organized in accordance with a decision of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party for the purpose of purging the Legislature of Legislators that are anti-Communist and to elect candidates that are in favor of a Second Front. One of the primary purposes of this organization will be to work for the reelection of VITO MARCANTONIO.

Page two of Informant's report reflects that an affair for VITO MARCANTONIO will be held in the Pennsylvania Hotel on August 4, 1942 and that Mayor La Guardia will be one of the speakers. There is also to be a mass rally in support of MARCANTONIO in the 20th Congressional District, at the Odd Fellows Hall, 105 West 106th Street on August 7, 1942.

There is also being transmitted herewith a newspaper clipping taken from the New York World Telegram dated July 29, 1942 relative to the August 4th meeting of this organization. It is to be noted that this newspaper article refers to Michael J. Quill as the President and Bella V. Dodd as secretary. Informant's report refers to these same two individuals as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

[redacted] will report future activities of this organization to this office. Two copies of Informant's report are also being retained in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

cc: NY [redacted]  
Enclosures

F. L. FARMORE  
Assistant Director

b7D

b3  
b7D

46

8/6/42

**Report on "Trade Union Committee To Elect Win - the War Candidates.**

**Place:** Pennsylvania Hotel 7th avenue and 34th Street, New York City.

**Date:** Tuesday August 4th.

**Time:** 5 pm to 8 pm.

**Chairman of the meeting** Michael J. Quill President Transport Workers Union.

The speakers were:

Charles Collins member of the Party and organizer of Local 6/Club Employees Union affiliated with the A.F. of L.

Adam C. Powell Councilman of the City of New York and Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church. ✓

Joseph Curran President of the National Maritime Union C.I.O.

Hope R. Stevens Labor Attorney and candidate on the American Labor Party for State Senator in the 19th Senatorial District.

Lyndon Henry Manager Fur Dressers and Dyers Union Local 89 C.I.O.

Clifford Mc Avoy member of the New York State Industrial Council C.I.O.

Vito Marcantonio Congressman from the 20th Congressional District.

There were other speakers who were called upon to state briefly their support of Vito Marcantonio.

The policy of the meeting as expressed by all speakers was the re-election of Vito Marcantonio, the defeat of the pro-war isolationists and the head of the Napp-Condert Committee (Frederic R. Condert). They also raised the question of the "second front" now and the importance of Marcantonio in Congress to fight for it. They consider Marcantonio the peoples candidate and the fight that he has in his district a fight against reaction and fascism. Adam Powell and Charles Collins spoke about the Negroes problem and hailed Marcantonio as the leader in the struggle for Negro liberation.

Clifford Mc Avoy reported on a conference with Mayor Fiorella La Guardia. He stated that the mayor said, "I have already indorsed Marcantonio and that indorsement still stands".

Michael Quill stated that there was a secret meeting of certain members of the American Labor Party at which time David Dubinsky said that the financial support of the International Ladies Garment Workers would be withdrawn from the A.L.P. if the Communists were not purged. Quill emphasized the need of unity in the A.L.P. and that every effort should be bent in this direction. Luigi Antonini was characterized as a fascist and a agent of Hitler. The Journal American was called Goebbels propaganda sheet. My conclusion from the remarks of Quill pertaining to the A.L.P. arose from a fear that the right wing will withdraw from the A.L.P. branding it as Communist and thus isolate the Communists and the unions that they control the sole supporters of them and members of the A.L.P. He launched into a tirade against Augustus Strebel President of the New York State C.I.O. Industrial Council and asserted that there will be a fight at the next meeting of the Council and that Gus Strebel will be put in his place. He assured the group that it would be done without splitting the Council.

*Other reports reflect attacks were made on World Telegram*

439740

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/27/60 BY SP2 PLM/EHL

Augustus Strehel stated that the State C.I.O. Industrial Council was opposed to the re-election of Marcantonio. *Refers to Strehel's stand regarding Marcantonio. Statement was not made at this meeting by Strehel.*

Vito Marcantonio was escorted into the hall by Adam Cowell, William Albergen and Ferdinand C. Smith.

Among the persons on the platform were:

Helen Jack member of the New York State Legislature.  
Saul Mills Secretary Greater New York Industrial Council C.I.O.  
Charles Collins Organizer Local 6  
Michael Obermier Secretary Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6.  
Bella V. Dodd Legislative Representative, Teachers Union.

Each representative present from the various unions was urged to send their members to Marcantonio's headquarters to help canvass the District.

There were approximately 800 to a thousand persons present.

A huge Labor Rally will be held on August 7th in the 80th Congressional District at Odd Fellows Temple 105-111 East 106th St.

b7D

*Good  
MEP*

New York, New York

MET:AMN  
100-31386

August 8, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: TRADE UNION COMMITTEE TO ELECT  
WIN-THE-WAR CANDIDATES;  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original  
and one copy of the report of [redacted]  
dated August 6, 1942 relative to the above-captioned case.

b7D

This report reflects that the above organization  
held a meeting at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City  
on August 4, 1942 at which time the speakers at this meeting  
discussed the reelection of VITO MARCANTONIO and the defeat  
of pre-war isolationists.

A summary of this information was previously fur-  
nished to the Bureau by teletype dated August 5, 1942.

Informant will follow and report further activities  
of this organization.

Two copies of this report are being retained in  
the New York City files for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc. (2)

CC NY file [redacted] ✓

b3

50

**Report on Trade Union Committee To Elect Win-the - War Candidates.**

**Place:** Odd Fellows Temple, 105-111 East 106th Street, New York City.

**Date:** Friday August 7th, 1943.

**Time** 9pm to 11pm.

**Chairman:** Michael J. Quill President, Transport Workers Union C.I.O.

**Speakers:**

Dave Livingston organizer of the United Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Local 65 C.I.O. Member of the Party (Communist).

Danny Allen Secretary State County and Municipal Workers C.I.O. This union of which the speaker is Secretary was organized and built by a small nucleus of Party members that were employed as relief investigators in the Home Relief Bureaus, city county and state agencies. The policy of the union and all its officials has been and still is consistent with the policy of the Party.

Clifford McAvoy Legislative Counselor Greater New York C.I.O. Industrial Council.

John Goodman Hotel Front Service Employees Union Affiliated with Hotel Trades Council A.F. of L.

William Albertson member of the State Committee of the Communist Party former Secretary of Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union Local 16.

Ruth Weldon United Radio and Electrical Workers C.I.O.

Ferdinand Smith Secretary National Maritime Union C.I.O.

Charles Collins Organizer Hotel and Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.

Robert Sebastian Organizer United Warehouse Workers Local 65. C.I.O.

Arnold Gaines representative of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

William Moody representative of the Department Store Workers Local 1260 C.I.O.

Miss Townsend American Communications Association.

Vito Marcantonio Congressman 20th Congressional District.

The essence of all the speeches was the re-election of Marcantonio and that his re-election blow against fascism and war and against their "stooges" and agents at home, who ably support the Axis. It was emphasized that only through the sending of Marcantonio back to Congress could the "second Front" be opened this year and the war won in 1943.

Michael Quill in introducing Arnold Gaines launched into a tirade against Luigi Antoninni characterizing him as racketeer and agent of Hitler. Arnold Gaines also in his remarks attacked Antoninni and contended that the attitude and policy pursued by Antoninni was not the policy of the rank and file membership. He called for re-election of Marcantonio as the best answer to Antoninni and his ilk and for a "second Front" now.

Charles Collins stated the analysis of the Party made recently in relation to an inner Party discussion of the "Second Front" and the hesitancy of the United Nations to take such action now. He stated that the United Nations are permitting Hitler and Russia to bleed themselves white, keeping the armies of the United Nations in reserve for the purpose of being able to crush Hitler and Russia at the same time and to beat down the people of Europe who are really seeking a peoples peace. The aim of the United Nations was to impose their peace upon the people of Europe which includes the retaining to power the

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP8 AKM/HU



heads of the governments deposed by Hitler. He asserted that the people would not permit the United Nations to get away with it. What we must fight for "is a peoples world".

Marcantonis's speech was a hysterical attack against the persons and newspapers that branded him as a "Red". He called them "Hitler stooges" and agents of fascism the "domestic type" and that this election campaign was an alignment of the people against the forces of reaction and fascism. He stated that he would rather "be Red than yellow" and that if defense of the people "makes me a red then let it stand at that". He answered the charges that he was an isolationist before Russia was attacked by saying that his record of support of defense measures and his consistent fight against fascism was the best answer to his critics. He assured the gathering that he would continue to fight vigorously for the Second Front and that he was going to attach riders on all appropriation and other bills to keep this matter constantly before the House. He urged all his listeners to enlist the support of relatives and friends to report to his campaign headquarters to work hard between now and Tuesday to guarantee that he will win the Democratic, Republican and American Labor Party primaries. He praised Michael Quill, Bella Dodd and other leading Communist trade union leaders for their support.

The American Peoples Chorus sang several songs including the Russian Army Song. A Negro baritone by the Name of Tyler sang three songs at the opening of the meeting.

There were approximately 500 people present.

John P. Davis National Secretary of the National Negro Congress was present also George Murphy Administrative Secretary of the National Negro Congress and legislative representative of the Harlem Victory Council, were present but did not speak.



b7D

*Good  
net*

New York, New York

CONFIDENTIAL

MIT:RGP  
100-31386

August 11, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: TRADE UNION COMMITTEE TO  
ELECT WIN-THE-WAR CANDIDATES  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being forwarded herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to a mass rally of the Trade Union Committee to Elect Win-The-War Candidates which was held at the Odd Fellows Temple, 105-111 East 106th Street, New York City on August 7, 1942.

While this meeting was advertised as a campaign rally for the re-election of VITO MARCANTONIO, it is to be noted that considerable emphasis was placed on the opening of a second front and some mention was made of the United Nations policy in relation to Russia.

Informant will follow and report further activities of this organization.

Two copies of this report are also being retained in this office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Encs.

✓ cc [redacted] (NY File)

Classified by 5886  
Exempt from GDS, Category  
Date of Declassification Indefinite 8/24/77

DECLASSIFICATION AS OF 8/24/77

5886

52

Report on the mass meeting held in Madison Square Park Wednesday July 22 under the auspices of the Greater New York Industrial Council C.I.O.

The keynote of the meeting was the immediate opening of a second front to defeat Hitler. The chairman of the meeting was Michael Quill head of the transport workers union who has been a member of the Communist Party for several years. It was with Party funds and concentration of Party members on the subway systems in New York City that Quill was able to organize the workers.

Joseph Curran President of the Greater New York Industrial Council C.I.O. and head of the National Maritime Union. He has consistently followed the Party line on all matters. His National Secretary (Maritime Union) is a member of the Party. Tommy Hay was recommended by the fraction of the National Maritime Union for membership on the Central Committee in 1938. He participates in all the meetings of Party front groups. He is considered a member of the Party.

Among those present on the platform at the rally were Ben Gold who has been a member of the Party to my knowledge for more than ten years. Ben Gold is head of the Furriers Union.

Lewis Merrill National President of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, C.I.O. was first placed on the Central Committee in 1938 and is now a member of the National Committee of the Party.

Irving Potash head of the Furriers Joint Council in New York has been in the Communist Party for more than 8 years to my knowledge. He served on the National Trade Union Commission, New York State Trade Union Commission and is considered one of the leading Party trade unionists.

Jay Ruben Secretary of the Hotel Trades Council A.F. of L. member of the National Committee of the Party and member of the National Trade Union Commission.

Vito Marcantonio was one of the principal speakers also Irving Potash.

Arthur Osman head of the Department Store Employees Local 55 member of the Party.

Santos former leader of the Transport workers union who was a member of the Party group that started the Transport Workers Union.

There were approximately 35,000 people present at the meeting.

The Greater New York Industrial Council of the C.I.O is controlled by the Party. The majority of delegates to the Council are either members of the Party or fellow travellers. There are a few delegate that are considered right wingers.

439740

*Good  
MEP*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

b3  
b7D

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

ROUTED  
100-31389

August 13, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: DECATTER NEW YORK INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL,  
C.I.O.;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 22, 1942 relative to a meeting of the above captioned council held in Madison Square Park, Wednesday, July 22, 1942.


b7D

It is to be noted that this report reflects that the majority of the speakers at this meeting were Communists.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York Field Division Office files for information purposes.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

Very truly yours,

  
P. D. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Enc. (2)

cc NY [redacted] ✓

b3

56

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MEF:100  
100-26608

August 18, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY - U.S.A.,  
DISTRICT NUMBER 2,  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 6, 1942 which refers to a report of [redacted] relative to the National Control Commission of the Communist Party. This letter points out that the terminology used by informant in his report makes it appear that the informant's information is somewhat antiquated.

The Bureau's attention is called to a letter to the Bureau dated May 4, 1942 re: "THE INVESTIGATIVE STAFF OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY-INTERNAL SECURITY - C". in which it is set out that on April 28, 1942, [redacted] was interviewed relative to the existence of an investigative staff of the Communist Party. This letter reflects that informant furnished information at that time to the effect that the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party had been abolished and that the duties of this Commission had been taken over by the Disciplines Committee. It is noted that at that time this informant was unable to state whether or not the Disciplines Committee acted in exactly the same capacity as the Central Control Commission.

Informant furnished the New York Office with a report on the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party, as the result of a request of the agents interviewing him, and the above information was obtained from him at that time.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/ah

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

cc NY [redacted] ✓

b7D

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[redacted] 55

8/10/42

Report on March On Washington Movement..... (u)

The Executive Committee of the March On Washington Movement decided to hold a huge rally at the Golden Gate Ballroom, Bronx Ave., and 142nd Street on September 11th, 8 P.M. (u)

A. Phillip Randolph will deliver the speech that he was not able to deliver at the Madison Square Garden meeting. His speech will be a statement of past, present and future activities of the organization. (u)

The main feature of the meeting will be a play presented by Dick Campbell "The Watchword is Forward". It will be similar to the play presented at Madison Square Garden with a few additional scenes. (u)

Meetings are planned for Washington, St. Louis, and Los Angeles (u)

The general admission to the meeting will be 25 cents with reserve seats at 75 cents. (u)

The Program is as follows:

Star Spangled Banner.....	Muriel Rahn
	Concert Soprano
Opening Address .....	Dr. Lawrence W. Ervin
Address .....	Miss Bernice Mc Millan
Address.....	Dr. Thomas S. Harten
	Holy Trinity Baptist Church Brooklyn
Address .....	A. Phillip Randolph

There will a special meeting on Wednesday August 12th in the Young Mens' Christian Association. This is a meeting of the Greater New York Chapter. (u)

Attached hereto is a copy of the financial report of the organization. (u)

The main activity of the March On Washington Movement at the present time is investigating cases of discrimination in the defense industries. These cases will be presented to the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Local Chapters are to be set up in the cities where the above meetings are to be held. (u)

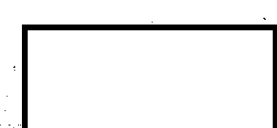
Good  
7/26/42

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SP 2 MM/ETH  
7/27/00

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Y

MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT

2084 Seventh Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

August 7, 1942

The Finance Committee, pursuant to the order of the President and Director, hereby tender to the general membership, sponsors, and the public, a brief summary of the moneys received and expended in connection with the Madison Square Garden Meeting on June 16, 1942. Copies of the detailed, itemized report will be forwarded to the press and will be read at the meeting on Wednesday, August 12th at the Y.M.C.A.

Anyone wishing to review the report may do so at our headquarters at the Theresa.

RECEIPTS

Contributions received from Organization Sponsors (\$25.00 or more)...	1,200.00
Contributions received from Individual Sponsors (\$5.00 or more).....	1,366.00
Loans from Individuals and Organizations.....	880.00
Tickets sold.....	2,614.25
Tickets sold at Madison Square Gardens.....	1,408.00
Membership dues collected at Madison Square Gardens.....	199.14
Souvenir Journals.....	390.00
Return from Cocktail Party.....	205.00
Collection taken up at Madison Square Gardens.....	1,371.69
Miscellaneous.....	2,184.14

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CONTAINED  
CLASSIFIED

7/27/00

SP2 ALM/EHL

TOTAL

\$11,819.22

EXPENDITURES

March.....	78.67
April (Madison Square Gardens \$875.00).....	1,448.55
May (Rent \$100.00).....	698.30
June (Madison Square Gardens \$3,576.73).....	5,991.47
July (Loans Repaid).....	800.00
July (Balance in Bank).....	2,802.23

TOTAL

\$11,819.22

Regular meetings of the Organization are held every second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

BARDLIE JOHN  
Chairman - Finance Committee

100-26792  
WLT:MMJ

~~CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

51-10476100

2

August 25, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

7/1/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated August 10, 1942 relative to an executive meeting of the above captioned organization. (u)

It is to be noted that according to this report this organization will hold a huge rally at the Golden Gate Ballroom, Lenox Avenue and 142nd Street on September 11, 1942, at 8:00 P.M. The main feature will be a play presented by JACK CAMPBELL, "The Watchword Is Forward". A copy of this play will be obtained and forwarded to the Bureau. (u)

It is also to be noted that meetings of the March on Washington Movement are being planned for St. Louis, Missouri; Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, California. Informant has subsequently advised that the meeting in St. Louis was to be held August 14, 1942; and dates for the meeting in Washington are set tentatively at September 14 or September 21. (u)

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York files for information purposes.

Informant also furnished a brief summary of the monies received and expended in connection with the Madison Square Garden gathering June 16, 1942. This report is being transmitted herewith with copy of informant's report. (u)

439740

7/27/00

SP2ALM/EHL

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc - NY [redacted]

Enclosures - 2

b7D

b3



Report on the March On Washington Movement...

Meeting: Greater New York Chapter March On Washington Movement.  
Place: Young Mens' Christian Association 139th Street near 7th Ave.  
Time: 9 P.M. 8/13/42  
Chairman Dr. Lawrence Ervin.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

A report on the mass meeting to be held at the Golden Gate Auditorium Friday September 11th. Similar meetings to be held in St. Louis and Washington D.C. The meeting in St. Louis August 14th. A tentative date for the Washington meeting is September 4th. It may be pushed up to the 21st. The meeting in Washington will be held in Griffith Stadium. Dr. Thurman Dodson is in charge of arrangements. (u)

Report on the Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was given. The two points mentioned was the splendid reception given the speech of A. Phillip Randolph and the resolution adopted by the Convention. On the resolution it was stated that the delegates from 37 States assembled at the Convention unanimously adopted the following resolution:

That the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People continue its affiliation with the March On Washington Movement, and,

That every branch of the N.A.A.C.P. cooperate and actively support local chapters of the March On Washington Movement, and;

That where no local chapters of the March On Washington Movement exists the local N.A.A.C.P. branch take the initiative in forming a local chapter. (u)

One of the members suggested that a resolution supporting the Indian Leaders in their fight for the independence of India be passed by the local chapter. Dr. Ervin warned against this stating that any action involving international political questions should not come from the Local Chapter but should be first dealt with by the National Committee. He further stated that any statement on the situation in India should come from A. Phillip Randolph. However a compromise motion was made that a committee of three headed by Golden Brown head of the speakers Bureau draw up a resolution on the matter and refer it to the National Committee. (u)

The Communists have succeeded in infiltrating a small group into the New York Chapter. They are young Communists not generally known. They have insisted on forming a youth section of the March On Washington Movement. Because of the refusal of the Executive Committee to yield on this matter they opened an attack on the leaders of the Movement accusing them of stifling the youth, bureaucracy and hindering the growth of the organization. The members of the Local chapter with the exception of 8 persons voted to sustain the policy of the leadership by a motion to continue the policy formerly adopted by the Local Chapter. Iona Morris a former member of the Communist Party lead the attack which was quickly picked up by the others. (u)

There were 250 persons present at the meeting. (u)

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DATE

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(CONFIDENTIAL)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-26792  
MET:RBJ

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SP-1 on 7/1/80

2

August 26, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

7/1/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
ADJ. GEN.  
IS. C.  
CH. 1.

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated August 14, 1942, relative to a meeting of the Greater New York Chapter of the above-captioned organization held August 13, 1942, in New York City. (u)

b7D

This report reflects that the national colored organization known as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is closely affiliated with the March on Washington Movement, in that where no local chapters of the March on Washington Movement exist, the local N.A.A.C.P. branch takes the initiative in forming a local chapter. (u)

This report also reflects that the Communists have succeeded in infiltrating a small group into the New York Chapter. This group is apparently headed by IONA MORRIS, a former member of the Communist Party. (u)

Informant will follow and report further activities of this organization to the New York Office. (u)

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York Office for information purposes.

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
7/27/00

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc - NY [redacted] ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b3

TRADE UNION COMMITTEE TO ELECT WIN-IT- WAR CANDIDATES.

The Committee is calling a meeting of Trade Union leaders on Wednesday August 28th, 10 am at the Hotel Piccadilly. Vito Marcantonio, Helen Jack, Morris Mintz and other candidates have been invited to the meeting. The objective of the meeting is to rally trade unions for successful political action in the November elections.

Below is the analysis of the primary election and the program for the future work of the Committee:

August 18th, 1942.

1. The Trade Union Committee to Elect Win-the - War Candidates was organized 4 weeks before the primary elect of August 11th for the purpose stated in its name. Its organizers (all of whom are members of the Communists) were able to get the backing and support of representatives of more than 300 A.F. of L. and C.I.O. unions.

2. The main points of concentration in the primary were to obtain nomination for the reelection of Representative Vito Marcantonio in the Bronx American Labor, Republican and Democratic primaries; to defeat the pro-fascist Congressman William Barry of Queens, and to promote unity in the ALP to assure the nomination and election of a Win-the -War Governor.

3. For the Marcantonio campaign, mobilized canvassers from the trade unions and printed considerable literature. In addition it furnished services of its publicity committee for Marcantonio press releases and for the design and execution of the Marcantonio posters and literature. It also organized a much publicized reception for the Congressman at the Pennsylvania Hotel and a highly successful labor rally in the district.

A leaflet was printed for the campaign to obtain the Democratic nomination of William F. Brannan against Barry in Queens, and a special Queens committee mobilized workers for the campaign.

Toward the promotion of unity in the ALP the committee supported actively on candidates for party position who were pledged to strive to unite this balance of power party. Two leaflets were issued addressed to the members of the International Ladies Garment Workers whose officials are the leaders of the ALP.

A special advertisement promoting the candidacies of Marcantonio, Helen Jack and Morris Mintz. The ALP unity slate was printed in the Peoples' Voice.

The Committee did not take an active part in the campaign against Hamilton Fish. However steps are being taken to actively participate in the campaign from now until election day.

The committee plans to bring about a coalition of Republicans and ALP members in Queens to avoid a three corner fight which they contend would favor Barry.

a. Defeat of Hamilton Fish, William Barry and State Senator Frederic R. Coudert.

The main objective

The main objective of the committee was the election United States Senator James H. Mead to succeed Governor Lehman. This was upset by the results of of Democratic Party Convention. This is considered a vital blow against the Communists and as they contend labor and the progressive forces of the Country. The Committee is determined not to support Bennett or Dewey. The trend of the Committee is toward a third Party candidate.

*Hood  
MEH*



b7D

New York, N.Y.

MMT:AHB  
100-31386

August 31, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: TRADE UNION COMMITTEE TO ELECT WIN-THE-WAR  
CANDIDATES  
INTERNAL SECURITY. (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to the above captioned matter.

In this report, informant furnishes a brief resume of the purpose of this organization and the program for the future work of this committee.

Informant will follow and report future activities of this organization.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York file for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/ERH  
ON 7/27/00

D. E. POWHYTE  
Assistant Director

Enc.  
cc [redacted]

b7D

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- 61

Re: Jack Stachel and Alex Bittelman 8/27/42

I have known Jack Stachel for the eleven years as a member of the Political Bureau (Pol-Buro) of the Central Committee now known as the National Committee. He is considered one of the ablest Communist in the American Party. He is the head of the powerful Trade Union Committee of the National Committee. This committee works out the strategy of the Party in the trade unions both in the United States and Canada. It co-ordinates and directs the activities of all communist Party fractions and groups in both the A.F. of L. and C.I.O. unions and also the independent unions. The basic organization of the Trade Union Commission is the Party Fraction in the local unions the next is the national fractions in each International or national Union. Each State Committee of the Party has a State Trade Union Commission that carries out the decisions of the National Trade Union Commission. The State Trade Union Commission co-ordinates and directs the activities of Party fractions and industrial units within its respective jurisdiction.

The main task of the National Trade Union Commission is to carry the political campaigns of the Party into the trade unions, build the Party fractions, participate in and direct wherever possible organizational drives to build the trade unions, place Party trade unionists into strategic positions in the trade unions and everywhere work to make the Party fraction a decisive factor in the life of every union.

Prior to every Convention of the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. or any of their affiliated national or international unions the Trade Union Commission of the National Committee works out the activities of the Party delegates to the Convention. Moreover they prepare for weeks in advance to get as many Party members elected as possible to these conventions.

All these activities are directed by Jack Stachel who heads this Commission. He receives regular reports from all parts of the country and Canada on developments in the trade union field. He has a commanding knowledge of every situation.

In accordance with a request I have inquired as where Jack Stachel lives. The only available information obtainable is that he receives confidential mail and mail from his draft board at 184 Riverside Drive. I was told by the person giving this information that he is not sure whether he lives there or not. I was also told that Alex Bittelman also receives mail at that address.

Jack Stachel and Alex Bittelman are members of the National Committee of the Party.

*Good  
MCP*

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/27/00 BY SP2A/M/ER

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b7D

62

New York, N.Y.

NET:AMD  
100-18065

August 31, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: JACK STACHEL  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to JACK STACHEL.

b7D

In this report, informant points out STACHEL's connection with the Communist Party and furnishes some information on the workings of the commission to which STACHEL is connected.

This report also reflects that according to information received by informant both JACK STACHEL and ALEX BITTLEMAN receive mail at 184 Riverside Drive, Manhattan, New York City.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,



P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc. -1

cc- [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 7/27/00

[redacted]

-63

8/27/42

Report on the Protest Rally for jobs and against Police brutality held by the Communist Party and the Young Communist League.

Time: 3 P.M.

Place: Young Communist League Hall 200 West 135th Street, Room 120 N.Y.C.

Date: Sunday August 23rd 1942.

Approximate attendance: More than 100 and less than 150 at peak.

Chairman: Howard Johnson leader of the Young Communist League.

Speakers: Abner W. Berry former Secretary of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party and now "ace reporter for the Daily Worker"; Mrs. Elizabeth Barker secretary-treasurer of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party (Mrs. Barker is a tall rather heavy white woman); Mrs. Audley Moore leading Negro Communist woman in Harlem Section and director of work among Negro women; Ben Davis Jr. member of the Editorial Staff of the Daily Worker was the keynoter. In addition to the above speakers the mothers of four of the boys arrested for snatching the pocket book of a white woman and raping her also spoke. They were Mrs. Rosa Evans of 79 W. 131 Street; Mrs. Rosa Alonza of 110 W. 134th Street; Mrs. Maggie Long of 3 W. 136th St.; Mrs. Elizabeth Reid of 161 W. 133 St..

The meeting was called for the purpose of demanding the release of the 8 boys accused of "robbery and Rape"; and the shooting of a Negro "bugger" by Patrolman John M. Bon on Tuesday August 18th. This meeting was linked up with the demand for jobs, the independence of India, opening of a "Second Front" and the "reactionary policy of the Daily News".

All the speeches of the parents were an appeal to the audience to help free their boys whom they felt were innocent. They considered the beating of their children unjustified.

Abner W. Berry considered the arrest an attempted "frame-up" and asserted that he had signed affidavits attesting to the innocence of the 8 boys. He stated that the affidavits were signed by the complainants Anna and Charles Coleman. He viciously attacked the police branding them as the creators of "criminals".

Mrs. Elizabeth Barker asserted that the police like the lynchers in the South are the "storm troopers of Hitler" and that as Hitler advances "they advance". She concluded with an appeal to the trade unions to join in a crusade to "fight against the Hitler agent at home". She also linked up the "frame-up of the 8 boys" with the necessity of opening a "second front" in Europe, and an attack on the appeasers.

Mrs. Audley Moore spoke about juvenile delinquency in Harlem, giving statistics and exhorting the audience to do something about it. She blamed the government and the police were made "responsible for the situation".

Ben Davis Jr. keynoter at the meeting spoke of the anti-fascist character of the war asserting that we have Hitler agents and fascists at home and that the winning of the war depended upon treating those who "frame-up Negroes and attack Negroes" as traitors and should be convicted of treason. He said that all those who attack Negroes "should be shot". He characterized the case as another Scottsboro Case and that the people of the State of New York and of the nation should be aroused to expose this "frame-up" and to free these boys.

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Ben Davis concluded with the recommendation that a "Defense Committee or a Freedom Committee be formed in behalf of the 6 boys to include the 4 mothers who spoke at the meeting".

The chairman of the meeting, Howard Johnson read two resolutions, the first attesting to the innocence of the boys and protesting against police brutality and demanding the prosecution of those responsible to be sent to Mayor Fierella La Guardia, Police Commissioner Valentine and District Attorney Hogan. The other resolution was sent to the President of the United States calling for the opening of a "second front" now.

Audly Moore took the floor a second time to appeal to the people present to join the Communist Party and to announce that she had already recruited a new member into the Party at the meeting and that others should follow that woman's example.

Quite a bit of Party literature was on sale and was sold at the rally.

A huge postal card addressed to President Roosevelt was on display asking the President to open the "second front now" and demanding independence for India. The audience was asked to sign the card. They asserted that a thousand signatures were necessary before the card would be mailed to the President.

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

Maudie White Negro woman member of the National Committee of the Party was present but did not speak. Richard B. Moore former member of the Party was also present. T.A. Jackson President of the Dining Car Employees Union Local 370 A.F. of L. was also present.

*Good  
Moore*



b7D

New York, N.Y.

NET: AED  
100-26603

August 31, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
DISTRICT #2, New York City  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated August 27, 1942 relative to protest rally for jobs and against police brutality which was held by the Communist Party and the Young Communist League on Sunday, August 23, 1942.

It should be noted that many of the leading communist negroes appeared on this program.

There is also being transmitted herewith a circular put out by the Communist Party and the Young Communist League of Harlem advertising the above rally which reflects the purpose of the meeting and the names of some of the speakers who appeared on the program.

One copy of this circular as well as two copies of informant's report are being retained in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,



P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc.  
cc-NY [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELC  
7/27/00

b7D

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**Report on the Peoples Voice Harlem Negro Newspaper**

The first edition of the Peoples Voice was published on Thursday February 12th, 1942. Powell-Buchanan Publishing Company., Inc. It has been published regularly each week until its suspension Wednesday August 19. It evidently was suspended by the publishers prior to that time because the issue comes out on that day.

For several weeks prior to the suspension of the paper the editorial and office staff were unable to get their pay. All the persons who wrote special feature articles were unable to get their pay for nearly three weeks. The excuse was that Adam Powell JR. was away on vacation and the checks were not signed.

It is stated by Adam Powell that the paper was suspended only temporarily because of differences with certain people which he failed to mention because of the "editorial policy of the paper". It is rumored from very reliable sources that this difference revolved itself around the pro-communist editorial policy of the paper.

I was informed by Mr. Charles Buchanan that the white persons backing the paper had pledged them enough money to ~~support~~ publish the paper for at least two years at a loss if necessary and by that time they should be firmly established. He did not at that time state who the backers were. This conversation took place at the Savoy Ballroom about two or three weeks prior to the issuance of the first copy.

It is also rumored that the the paper was being published by PM, a New York Daily.

Adam Powell issued a statement that the PV will positively appear this week after re-organization but so far it is not on the news stands. A call at their office revealed that they are uncertain when the paper will be resumed.

The editorial staff of the paper consists of:

John Louis Clark City Editor  
St. Clair Bourne Managing Editor  
Ol Harrington Art Editor  
Ann Petry Womens' Editor  
Joe Bostic Sports Editor  
Nell Dodson Amusements Editor  
Morgen S. Jensen Circulation Manager  
Joseph W. Christian Advertising Manager.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/KHL

A cursory examination of the paper will clearly and unmistakably reveal a pro-communist policy. The widest and most prominent publicity is given to the activities of the Communists and their fellow travellers. The Communists state publicly that the PV "is our paper".

*Good  
MEP*



*66*

b3  
b7D

New York, N.Y.

MEM:AND  
100-26603

August 31, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
DISTRICT #2, New York  
"The People's Voice"  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated August 27, 1942 relative to "The People's Voice", a Harlem newspaper of which ADAM CLAYTON POWERS, JR. is "publisher".

In this report, informant advised that this paper was not published during the week beginning August 16, 1942 and at the time of informant's report had not appeared for the week following. He points out that it has been rumored from a very reliable source that the reason for its failure to be published revolved itself around the pro-communist editorial policy of the paper.

It is to be noted that the publication of this paper was again continued and the next issue appeared August 29, 1942. On the front of this paper, it is announced that the paper was not published as usual, and that subversive forces played an insidious part; that the story would be told later. No reason for the failure of this paper to be published appears in this issue.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York file for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 RM/AM

ON 7/27/00

*[Signature]*  
F. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc.

cc [redacted] ✓

b7D

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67

8/27/42

Negro Labor Victory Council....

The Negro Labor Victory Council of New York City is planning a huge protest Rally at the Golden Gate Ballroom 142nd street and Lenox Avenue on Monday August 31, 1942.

This meeting is to protest "against police brutality" lynching poll tax and for the prosecution of police responsible for the beating of the 8 boys arrested on a charge of robbery and rape on a Harlem rooftop on August 16th.

The meeting is supported by the Peoples Voice. Adam Powell will be the main speaker.

The Harlem Section of the Communist Party is actively engaged in rallying the people of Harlem in support of this meeting. Ben Davis announced the meeting at the Party rally Sunday August 23rd and urged all persons present to attend.

The "Defense or Freedom Committee" set up at the Party rally will be according to reliable information will be incorporated into a general committee set up by the Negro Labor Victory Council so as not to create a dual group.

*Good  
SHEP*



b3  
b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/21/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL



68

8/24/42

Negro Labor Victory Council...

The last meeting of the Negro Labor Victory Council was held on Wednesday August 13th at the Harlem Workers Club on 125th street near Lenox Avenue. There were approximately 40 persons present.

The report and the discussions centered around the program the getting the Geyer anti poll tax bill out of Committee and securing its passage. In this direction all republican and democratic members of the House of Representatives must be contacted and urged to sign the petition trade unions, churches and fraternal organizations to be rallied for the campaign. ~~Through~~ The anti-poll tax campaign to be linked up with the anti-lynching campaign and for the rights of Negroes.

A report was given on the results of the delegations visit to Congressman Gavigan relative to getting him to support the Geyer anti-Poll tax bill. Gavigan assured the delegation that he would do all within his power to get the signers of the Geyer Bill to sign his own so that the bill can be brought from the Committee on the floor. Gavigan refused to sign the Geyer Bill because he has a bill of his own.

The delegation consisted of E. J. Guinier secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, Charles Collins organizer of the Hotel and Club Employees, Local 6 A.F. of L., George B. Murphy Administrative Secretary National Negro Congress, Elmer Kahn representing the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties and James Allen head of the New York State National Association Advancement of Colored People.

The speakers at the meeting: George Murphy, Charles Collins, George Ellington Brown International Vice-President of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America A.F. of L., F.A. Jackson President of the Dining Car Employees Local 370 A.F. of L.

All the above mentioned persons are Party members except James Allen.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 AEM/EHL

**STOP THE FIFTH COLUMN!**

# **FIGHT THE NEGRO HATERS!**

The Ku Klux-minded followers of Hitler in America have launched a wave of terror in Harlem aimed at the Negro people, and at the unity of the nation.

Hitler could ask for no more. He could have no better agents than:

\* The Daily News—with its smear campaign—its damnable lie that Harlem is 'out of bounds' for white soldiers—or the Poll Tax Congressmen of the South, and traitors like Gov. Talmage of Georgia and Horace Wilkinson of Birmingham who seek to launch a 'League for White Supremacy'—or Patrolman Bou and Paduano and their out-of-hand murders.

These Hitler agents must be stopped NOW. They seek to impose on us the same terror which their master has visited upon the peoples of the occupied countries of Europe.

The people of Harlem will demand:

THE OPENING OF A SECOND FRONT IN EUROPE TO END HITLER'S  
ADVANCE AND TO WIN THE WAR IN 1942.  
END POLICE TERROR IN HARLEM  
HALT DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION  
PROSECUTE THE LYNCHERS AND MURDERS OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE  
STOP THE DAILY NEWS SMEAR CAMPAIGN  
JOBS IN WAR INDUSTRIES FOR NEGROES  
EQUALITY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION 439740

ATTEND A

**Monster Mass Meeting**  
**MONDAY, AUG. 31st - 7:30 P. M.**

**GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM**

143rd STREET and LENOX AVENUE

### **SPEAKERS**

A. CLAYTON POWELL, Jr. Councilman, of New York City, Editor, Peoples Voice  
LYNDON HENRY, Manager, Local 88, Fancy Fur Dyers  
FERDINAND SMITH, Vice President, N. Y. State C.I.O.

Auspices: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE 217 West 125th Street  
State, County and Municipal Workers of America. Local 65, Wholesale and Warehouse Union. United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America. Local 125, Fur Floor Boys and Shipping Clerks. Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers. United Shoe Workers of America and others.

New York, N. Y.

August 31, 1942

NET:AJD  
100-27339

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the reports of [redacted] dated August 24, 27, 1942 relative to the above captioned matter. b7D

In informant's report of August 24, 1942, he makes reference to the last meeting of the Negro Labor Victory Committee which was held Wednesday, August 12, 1942 at the Harlem Workers Club on 125th Street near Lexington Avenue. Approximately 40 persons were present at that meeting. The main discussion at the meeting was relative to the anti-poll tax bill and the program to be followed by this organization in an attempt to insure the passage of this bill.

The informant's report of August 27, 1942 reflects that this organization is planning a huge protest rally against police brutality, lynching and the poll tax law to be held at the Golden Gate Ball Room, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue on Monday, August 31, 1942. Information relative to this meeting was furnished to the Bureau by teletype on August 29, 1942.

There is also being transmitted herewith two circulars advertising the above mass meeting which reflect the purpose of the meeting, names of the speakers and the sponsors of the meeting.

Two copies of the circular are being retained in the New York file as well as two copies of informant's reports.

439740  
CLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
W. E. DOWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc: [redacted]

b3

[redacted] - 69



8/18/47

2 James H. Lee President of the Relief Association of the Baptist Church who gives his address as 2138 7th Avenue, New York City and his phone number Monument 2-038 has been very actively stirring up the employees of the Picattiny Arsenal located in Dover New Jersey.

The employees of the Picattiny Arsenal board busses on Lenox Ave between 123rd and 125th streets. James Lee is constantly there agitating the employees about conditions. He is not in any way connected with any labor organization. He has been using the name of the Baptist Church as a cover his activities. According to authoritative information he has used the name of the Baptist Church without authorization.

He started the agitation by urging the employees to demand a reduction in bus fare and did succeed in getting the employees to refuse to pay ~~fare~~ for their bus tickets unless a reduction was made. It is the policy of the bus company to collect the weekly fee on route to the plant once each week. The refusal of the commuters to pay delayed the busses and consequently made all the employees working on that shift nearly an hour and a half late for work.

He has also been agitating against the busses now in use. Urging the workers to refuse to ride in the busses and to demand new busses.

Some of the employees claim that he gets application blanks for them and helped them fill them out. He collects a fee from \$3 to \$5 for his services. He has called two meetings at the above address of employees of the Arsenal. He says his objective is to organize the employees in Arsenal.

Miss Esther Brown a former employee at the Arsenal and at present employed by the bus company may be contacted for additional information. She lives at 146 Woodridge Avenue, Yonkers, N.Y.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 HLD/CHL

*Hoog  
me*



New York, New York

MMT:MCH  
100-4921

September 3, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: JAMES H. LEE;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to JAMES H. LEE who, according to this report, has been very active in stirring up the employees who board buses in Harlem, New York City for the Picatinny Arsenal located near Dover, New Jersey.

The Informant previously reported that LEE has been successful in his agitation to the extent that one day a certain number of the employees refused to pay the regular fare and the buses were several hours late at the arsenal.

[redacted] has also been checking into this matter and has advised that he has additional information on which he will report to this office immediately.

Further efforts will be made to obtain additional information relative to this matter.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York City Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Encs.

cc [redacted]

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2HEM/EHL

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[redacted] 71

8/15/42

**Trade Union Committee To Elect Win-the- War Candidates.**

The Trade Union Committee To Elect Win-the- War Candidates Decided to rally every labor organization for the defeat of Attorney General Bennett and to guarantee the election of Senator Meade by the Democratic Party Convention.

Attorney General Bennett is attacked as a supporter of Franco dictator of fascist Spain and an enemy of labor. All labor organizations are being urged to adopt a resolution submitted by the Committee for the nomination of Senator Meade by both the Democratic and American Labor Party Conventions.

Every effort should be made in the remaining days to effect a split in the Brooklyn delegation which is considered the decisive factor in the Convention.

The resolution suggested by the Committee is to be sent upon adoption to the Democratic State Committee, State Committee of the American Labor Party and a copy to the press and the Trade Union Committee.

The following resolution is being circulated:

WHEREAS: A governor who is wholeheartedly behind the President's Win-the- War policies is vital to the war effort of this pivotal state, and,  
WHEREAS: Election of such a governor depends upon the nomination of a candidate around whom all progressive and labor forces can unite, and,  
Whereas: The issue of all out war effort is the prime issue of the day, and,  
WHEREAS: United States Senator James M. Mead is wholeheartedly behind the Presidents' Win-the-War policies, and,  
Whereas: Senator Mead is a candidate around whom all progressive and labor forces can unite, therefore be it,  
Resolved: that we,..... call upon the Democratic and American Labor conventions to nominate Senator Mead on their respective tickets, and be it further  
Resolved: that copies of this resolution be sent to secretaries of the Democratic and American Labor State Committees, to Senator Mead and to the Trade Union Committee to Elect Win-the- War Candidates.

The Committee is composed of Communists who hold leading positions in the trade unions. I have given a complete report on the Committee in a previous report.

The Committee is unalterably opposed to both Bennett and Dewey. In the event Bennett is elected the Committee will support any candidate put up by the American Labor Party.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/KHL

*Good  
MCP*

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b7D

[Redacted Box]

28

New York, New York

MEM:MOH  
100-31386

September 3, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: TRADE UNION COMMITTEE TO ELECT  
WIN-THE-WAR CANDIDATES;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being attached herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated August 18, 1942, relative to the above-captioned organization.

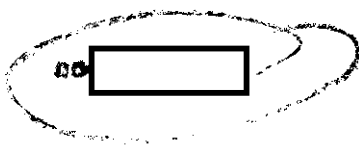
This report reflects the efforts of this organization to obtain the nomination of Senator MEAD at the recent Democratic Convention. It is to be noted that this group is opposed to both BENNETT and DEWEY and they planned that in the event BENNETT was nominated the Committee should support any candidate put up by the American Labor Party.

Two copies of this report are also being retained in the New York City Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
F. E. POWORTH  
Assistant Director

Encs.



439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH



9/1/42

Mass Meeting Monday August 31st Golden Gate Ballroom, 143rd St. and Lenox Avenue, New York City. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Negro Labor Victory Council and endorsed by the State County and Municipal Workers of America, C.I.O., Local 65 Wholesale and Warehouse Union C.I.O., United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of A., C.I.O., Local 125 Fur Floor Boys and Shipping Clerks, Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers C.I.O., United Shoe Workers of America.

Charles Collins organizer of Local 6 Hotel and Club Employees A.F. of L. Negro Communist from Trinidad, BHI preided.  
The speakers were:

Lyndon Henry Manager Local 88 Fancy Fur Dyers.  
James Lustig Organizer, District 5 United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, C.I.O.

Thomas Jasper Executive Secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Council.

Canada Lee former boxer and star in the play Native Son.

Adam Clayton Powell City Councilman and pastor of the Abyssinia Baptist Church.

Louis Weinstein Secretary, District Council 9 Painters Union A.F. of L.

All the speakers spoke generally about discrimination against Negroes and exhorted the listeners to do something about it. They were particularly vitriolic in their denunciation of the Police Department in New York City, the Governor of Alabama, the Governor of Georgia, the Daily News, World Telegram and the Journal American all of whom were branded as Hitler agents and agencies. They gave numerous examples of what their unions are doing to provide jobs for Negroes. The crime wave in Harlem was attributed to the economic conditions of the Negro which they asserted was deplorable. They all were vehement in their demand for the opening of a "Second Front" now as a solution of the all the problems of the people.

Charles Collins called for a boycott of the Amsterdam News because of its branding individuals as Reds and searching various Committees for ~~dissemination~~ Communists and branding every committee on which there is a Communist a Red Committee. The paper was called "red-baiting" sheet. He also introduced a resolution calling for a boycott of the Daily News. Also a resolution calling for the independence of India and for the opening of the "Second Front".

Adam Powell in addition to subscribing to the remarks of the other speakers explained that his paper was published by the same publishing company that publishes the Daily News and that because his paper carried an article calling for a boycott of the Daily News the publishing company refused to publish the Peoples Voice. He praised the fight of the Russians, stress the need of unity in order to create a "new world where there will not be any rich or any poor people-- a peoples world based upon justice and equity".

The mother of four of the boys accused of "robbery and rape" were asked to sit on the platform. The National Maritime Union sent a delegation of Negro seamen who served on ships that have been torpedoed. They were invited to the platform and served as color guard.

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DATE 7/27/02 BY SP2 ALM/len

Angelo Meridian young Negro Communist was invited to the platform. Thomas Astwood Vice-president of the Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302 A.F.O.F.L. was introduced. Astwood is another new member in the trade union field that the Party is building up.

Among those present at the meeting were:

Elizabeth Barker Secretary-Treasurer of the Harlem Section of the Party. Ben Davis member of the Editorial Board of the Daily Worker, and New York County Chairman of the Party and Secretary Treasurer of the Freedom of the Press Co., Audley Moore Harlem Negro woman leader, Ellis Williams, Solomon Harper, W. A. Jackson, Rose Stevens. This group was in constant consultation on matters pertaining to the meeting and served more or less as a steering committee at the meeting.

There were approximately 2,000 people present. There was a marked lack of enthusiasm except when Adam Powell spoke. The meeting was closed with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

Two stage stars "Lead Better" and another whose name I did not get render to numbers.



b7D

New York, New York

KRR:AMT  
100-27339

September 22, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: Negro Labor Victory Committee;  
Internal Security-C.


Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 1, 1942, relative to a mass meeting of the above captioned organization held August 31st at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 133rd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.

[redacted] has been requested to follow and report on further activities of this organization.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York Field Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2)  
cc NY [redacted] ✓

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RECORDED BY  
CH 7/27/00

SP-2 ALM/EHL

9/5/42

Mass Meeting On India held at Manhattan Center 20th Street and 8th Avenue, New York City, September 2nd 1942. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Council On African Affairs, Inc.

The expressed objective of the meeting was to crystallize mass support for the freedom of India now. There were approximately 2,000 persons at the rally most of whom were members of the Party and fellow travellers. In this respect I spoke to Timothy Holmes about the meeting and he said, I quote: "It is a very narrow meeting there are very few outsiders". "Outsiders" means non-Party people. During the conversation we spoke of Paul Robeson whom both admired for his ability to sing but we both agreed that the Party was using him as a "tool". Timothy Holmes stated that he is going to try to talk to Paul Robeson to acquaint him with the facts concerning the treatment of leading Negro Communists by the Party leaders. He said that Robeson should "be wised up on the situation". It was his opinion that the white Party leaders with the help of James W. Ford are politically exterminating all aggressive Negro leadership citing the examples of Richard B. Moore, Cyril Briggs, Earl Johnson, Manning Johnson, Otto Hall, James Campbell and others. He deplored the fact that the Party is building up such persons as Ben Davis and Audley Moore both of whom are considered by Negro Communists as incompetent and willing tools. Timothy Holmes was extremely bitter over the treatment he received at hands of Will Green New York State Secretary of the Party who told him that best thing for him to do was to find himself a job in a shop. Tim has been a leading Party member for a number of years, a graduate of the Lenin School, member of the New York State Committee and Section organizer in Brooklyn, Member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee. Audley Moore and Ben Davis according to reliable information are the "big shots" in the Party among the Negroes to the resentment and utter disgust of many members.

Charles Crambein, Ben Davis, Elizabeth Barker, Audley, Lucile Spence, Grace Johnson were among the leading Party members that were present at the meeting.

Tomas Harris presided. I was informed that he is the editor of the magazine Asia.

#### The speakers were:

Max Yergan Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs Inc.  
 Paul Robeson Chairman Council On African Affairs Inc.  
 Michael Quill President Transport Workers Union.  
 Channing H. Tobias Young Mens' Christian Association. National Council  
 Amar Goshal member of the Indian National Congress  
 Lui Liang Ho Chinese representative  
 Adam Clayton Powell City Councilman  
 There was also an African woman connected with the Presbyterian Church in the Union of South Africa.

The group adopted two resolutions submitted by Max Yergan. The first calling for the opening of a second front now. The second was for freedom for India now. These resolutions to be sent to the President of the United States and to the British Embassy.

All the speakers emphasized the need of freeing India now and the creation of an Indian Nationalist government elected by the people

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They contended that this step was necessary to win the confidence and support of the Indian people in the war against the Axis powers. They also called for the invoking of the principles of the Atlantic Charter respecting India, Ethiopia, Africa and all colonial people. The need of requesting that President Roosevelt immediately take up the question of freedom for India with Winston Churchill was considered paramount.

Kumar Goshal gave a long and tedious report on the rise Gandhi the affects of Gandhi policy on India, the economic conditions under British rule which he considered deplorable and was responsible for the Indians hostility toward the British. He also stated that there was a large Indian Army in India but that the troops were non to reliable because with the Indian soldier it is a question getting a little better wages in the army than he can get in industry. He further stated that the average pay of the Indian is \$5 a years. The army pay is 60 dollars a year. He also spoke of the illiteracy that was widespread and its disastrous results. He called for freedom for India now and the arming of the Indian people.

Lui Liang Mo spoke of the war against Japan and of the enthusiasm and support the government gets from the people. He attributed this to the fact that the common people have something to fight for freedom and that Britain must grant India independence now to unleash the millionfold fighting strength of the Indian people against the Axis. He said that China stood ready to help in this matter.

Paul Robeson spoke of his experiences in Africa and India and of the conferences that he had with Indian leaders in England and of his wholehearted support of the Indians demand for independence. He sang several several revolutionary songs in english, Russian ~~languages~~ and other languages.

New York, New York

KRR:AMT  
100-19377

September 22, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted], relative to a mass meeting of the above captioned organization, held September 2, 1942 at Manhattan Center, New York City.

According to Informant's report the expressed objective of the meeting was to crystallize mass support for the freedom of India.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York Field Office for information purposes.

There are also being transmitted herewith two pamphlets published by the Council on African Affairs, 1123 Broadway, New York City, and two circulars advertising the above mass meeting.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (4)  
cc - NY [redacted]

439740  
INDEXED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH  
7/27/00

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9/15/42

A clear understanding of the bitter fight that is raging within the American Labor Party may be found only in a correct understanding of the policy or program of the the two major contending groups. On the one hand you have the Socialists and on the other hand you have the Communists. Both groups are fighting to control labor and labor's political aspirations through the medium of the ALP. The ALP presents itself as an instrument through which masses of workers can be contacted and the ideologies of one or the other group disseminated. Therefore the ALP is a jewel of rare and exceeding value to which ever group gains control and is able to hold it.

What is the basis of the antagonism between the two groups:

There is one major contradiction and that is in policy which constitutes the main basis for antagonism. The Socialist believe that the transformation from our present form of government can be achieved through peaceful methods, that is, the transformation from capitalism to socialism can be realized through a series of social reforms. These social reforms are to be realized through legislative action.

The Communists on the other hand believe that the transformation from our present form of government to the socialist form can be only achieved by the revolutionary overthrow of all our existing institutions, extermination of all capitalists, rich land owners; confiscation of the property of the rich and the re-organization of society under the dictatorship of the proletariat. (worker). All reforms are a means to an end which is to raise the political level of the masses and to prepare them for the conquest of power. The course of events has caused the Communists to change their tactics but their basic strategy is the same. The Communists have not abandoned "Their aims can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all the existing social conditions. Let the ruling class tremble at a Communist revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win." (Communist International program, page 84).

Out of the major contradiction of the two contending groups flows all the other differences. With both it is a question of who shall lead the masses of American labor. Shall the Socialists along the path of social reformism or the the Communists along the path of truly revolutionary overthrow of the bourgeoisie to attain their objectives.

The American Labor Party was launched on July 17th, 1936. An Executive Committee of seventeen was elected with Potofsky at its head. This committee had as its task the organization of the Party. This was according to the instructions of Sidney Hillman. At the time the Communist Party requested of the newly formed group the right to affiliate. This was rejected. The Communists had prior to the formation of the ALP had been agitating for the creation of Farmer-Labor Parties in every state with the ultimate objective of a National Farmer Labor Party; this was in line with the new tactics proposed by the Communist International to corral the masses of new workers entering the labor movement as result of the New Deal which gave greater recognition of labor through the NRA and other legislation. The rugged individualism of the farmer was to be broken down and unity established under the leadership of the workingclass.

The offer of affiliation with the ALP by the Communists was rejected on the grounds that the ALP was to be strictly based upon trade unions. Immediately after the rejection of the offer of the Communists, the Communists gave instructions to all Party members in the trade unions to join the ALP and to work in the assembly districts, to take the initiative in

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the formation of the assembly organization thereby guaranteeing the election of county committeemen, state officers etc.. Immediately after the Communist Party failed to get the necessary votes to remain on the ballot in New York State as a recognized Party all the Party members were told to enroll in the ALP. There were many who did not enroll because of strategic reasons, that is it would have been too obvious what the Party was doing. In 1937 powerful fractions of the Party had already been organized within the ALP and their influence was greatly felt.

Among those who played a leading role in the organization of the ALP were John L. Lewis, Luigi Antonini, Alex. Rose David Dubinsky, Dorothy Ballance Elinore Merrick Louis Waldman Rose Schneiderman. Labor's Non-Partisan League formed by John L. Lewis and having the full indorsement of the Communists wholeheartedly supported the newly formed ALP. In fact at that time the Communists looked to John L. Lewis as the person to take the leadership mantle in the formation of a National Farmer-Labor Party.

In July 1936 the People's Party consisting of the conservative or right wing elements of the Socialist Party who had split with the radical or left wing Socialists joined with Labor's Non-Partisan League in the establishment of a Labor Party in New York. Louis Waldman attorney for the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers was the spokesman for the People's Party. Luigi Antonini agreed with the People's Party program. The Socialist Party as such was opposed to the plan at the outset but later after much discussion and the effective appeal of the Communists through their spokesman Charles Krumbein for support of the new Party the Socialist Party changed from opposition to support. They immediately began to rally every union under their control and others whom they could contact to join the ALP.

Almost immediately the new Party had indorsements of leaders of the most powerful trade unions in New York State. They were:

Sidney Hillman, David Dubinsky, Max Zaritsky, Alex. Rose, George Meany President of the New York State Federation of Labor, Joseph P. Ryan President of the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York City, James J. Hambrick President of the Building Service Workers Union, Fiorella La Guardia Mayor of New York City, Gustave Strebel of Schmectady now President of the State C.I.O Industrial Union Council, Luigi Antonini and many others.

The indorsement of the ALP by the above mentioned leaders of labor immediately gave the Party a mass base and the key to the penetration of every labor group. It opened the door to such groups as the Irish-American League a Communist Front organization headed by Eugene Connolly, Michael Quill, Austin Hagan, the Federation of Clubs for a Farmer-Labor Party mostly existing on paper ~~and~~ created by the Communist Party. The Knickerbocker Democrats a Communist controlled group headed by Hyman Glickstein member of the Law firm of Boudin, Cohen and Glickstein. Louis Boudin is a member of the Marx-Engels Institute of Moscow. The Communist Party was not permitted to affiliate directly but was pacified through a secret agreement to permit Communists to join the various Party clubs members and trade unions controlled by them could affiliate directly. The leaders of the new Party felt that a direct affiliation of the Party would isolate large sections of labor both in relation to the A.F. of L. and C.I.O. and kill the Party in child birth. This agreement was accepted by the Communists.

Luigi Antonini was elected State Chairman; Rose Schneiderman

Vice Chairman and Alex Rose Secretary. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, the International Ladies Garment Workers and the United Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers Union gave ten thousand dollars each to start the AIP. Every affiliate Union was to pay on a per capita basis that is ten cents per member per year. This guaranteed financial support and trade union control. Individual membership was also accepted from persons in trade unions not affiliated and from persons not connected with labor unions. This type of membership was fifty cents a year. This special membership arrangement was made in order to let Communists, Socialists and other radicals of various shades to join.

The newly elected officers and their executive Committee of seventeen officially declared the formation of the AIP. Luigi Antonini announced that Roosevelt and Lehman would be the Party's candidates. The major concern of the new Party was how to build the machinery, assembly and county organization for nominating and electing candidates. All the leaders lacked experience. They immediately appealed to the Socialist to assist by giving organizers. Potofsky was in charge of the job but he was totally inexperienced consequently creating considerable confusion. The Communists were appealed to in accordance with their secret agreement to also assist. Many of the best local organizers of the Party were assigned for this task. All the public denials of the leadership of the AIP that the Communists were not permitted to join was merely for public consumption a policy that the Communists reluctantly agreed to.

From the very inception of the American Labor Party the issue of Communism was raised. Hillman and Dubinsky and others were branded as Reds. They of course were stoutly denied. They further denied that there were any Communist in the AIP and if they were they had sneaked in and that their influence was inconsequential. The fact of the matter was that the Communists had infiltrated into every branch and in many branches outnumbered their opponents. The Communists from both right and left wing trade unions became the most active members of the clubs. Combined with them was the members of Communist Party Units that joined directly. During 1936 and 1937 there were many secret conferences with representatives of the Communist Party and representatives of the AIP on the matter of policy and the selection of candidates. These conferences were based upon the secret agreement. All Party members were instructed to follow the leadership of the AIP because all major differences had been ironed out. Deviations from this policy on the part of individual Communists was assailed by the Party and the membership warned that nothing should be done to disturb the working relation with the leaders of the AIP.

Picorella La Guardia now Mayor of New York City, formerly of the law firm of La Guardia & Marcantonio and also formerly attorney for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union carefully watching the trend of events. He saw the possibility of using the AIP to further his own political ambitions. Consequently he climbed aboard the band wagon.

The marriage between the Communists and the non-Communist element continued almost un-interrupted until the signing of the Nazi Soviet Pact in August 1939. There had been outspoken opposition by many leaders of the trade unions active in the AIP prior to this time but the right wing leaders ignored the grumblers and denounced them as disrupters and spreaders of disunity. When Louis Waldman one of the founders of the AIP charged that the Communists had a dominating role in the AIP he was jeered into silence. However the Nazi-Soviet Pact brought about a change. Alex Rose who was so

vehement in denying there were Communists in the Party prior to the Nazi-Soviet Pact came with a scathing denunciation of the Communists and call for a purge of all Reds from the ALP. During this whole struggle Mayor La Guardia remained aloof from the direct struggle. His policy was to remain on good terms with both factions leaning of course more to the left wing. By this time the Communists were firmly entrenched in the ALP and it was not at all an easy job to oust them. A powerful block of Communist trade union leaders and their fellow travellers had consolidated a potent block that gave them virtual control of the City organization.

Prior to the signing of the Nazi-Soviet Pact George Meany President of the New York State Federation of Labor and Joseph P. Ryan ordered all unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor to sever affiliation with the ALP on the grounds that it was Communist and C.I.O. dominated. All the A.F. of L. members with the exception of those from Communist controlled A.F. of L. unions severed affiliation. This order was signed by George Meany and sent to every A.F. of L. affiliate.

Originally the ALP declared itself for Independent Political Action. However their record of activities since that time are quite the contrary. In 1936 it endorsed Roosevelt and Lehman and put 6 democratic electors on its own ticket. It did not run any local candidates. This gave rise to considerable opposition from the left wing Socialists who considered this a betrayal. It polled a very high vote in 1936 but both Lehman and Roosevelt could have been elected without the Labor Party vote. In 1937 Mayor La Guardia could not have been elected without its vote. In 1938 it furnished Lehman enough votes to edge out Thomas S. Dewey and win re-election. The margin was small but it did the trick. In 1940 Roosevelt could have undoubtedly carried New York State without ALP support. In 1941 La Guardia needed the ALP vote to be re-elected for a third term.

In 1936 La Guardia publicly announced that he was going to vote ALP. Luigi Antoninetti subsequently announced that La Guardia would be the candidate of the ALP for mayor. It was during this time the La Guardia enrolled as a member of the ALP.

The record of the ALP is one of deals with both the Republicans and the Democrats in which candidates of both Parties received mutual endorsement. The ALP never nominated for public office any person belonging to its own ranks for any high governmental position. It has always avoided until 1942 a test of strength. With few exceptions candidates nominated for local offices are candidates of the major parties. In the straight contests between right and left wings of the ALP for public office the majority of places were won by the candidates of the left wing as in the recent primary contests.

The drive to purge the Communists from the ALP immediately after the announcement of the Nazi-Soviet Pact resulted in a showdown between the right and left wings. The Communists or left wing immediately called fraction meetings of all Party members in the ALP clubs and of the trade unions to gird for the fight. They formed the Progressive Committee to Rebuild the American Labor Party. This group consisted of powerful Party leaders from the trade unions and who carried considerable weight as far as the rank and file is concerned. The Communist group is better organized in New York City than the right wing. They had three years to entrench themselves for just such an emergency and have done a good job. They boldly

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proceeded to take over the AIP. They began a systematic propaganda campaign against the right wing branding them reactionaries etc. The Progressive Committee under the leadership of Eugene Connelly, Marcantonio, Quill and others were so well organized that the right wing was unable to oust them. There were two contradictions. First the Communists had a fear that the right wing and other leaders would resign from the AIP in a body and label the AIP as a Communist Party thus smashing the Party. The Communists needed the trade union leaders and the right wing to give the Party that respectability necessary to keep the mass influence and membership of the AIP. The right wing leaders despite their threats were reluctant to withdraw and turn the Party over to the Communists and too it was an admission that despite all their repeated denials the AIP was honeycombed with Communists. Consequently the right wing decided against taking a walk and for staying in and fighting for complete control through defeat of the Communists in the elections of delegates to the State Convention and Assembly and County leadership. The right wing strength exists mainly upstate and a number of districts in New York that gave them control over the State organization but the Communists controlled New York County. The main strength of the Communists is in New York City. The right wing could defeat the Communists in New York City if they were better organized. They are paying dearly for their flirtation with the Reds.

The State Convention of the AIP gave the Communists a resounding defeat electing an entire right wing State leadership headed by Professor Counts a bitter foe of the Communists; a man who assisted in the purging of Communists from the school system in New York City. He is poison to the Communists. The Communists still retain control of local organizations that is most of them in New York County.

The recent development in the State Convention of the Democratic Party is a very far reaching and harmful blow to the AIP. The refusal of the Democratic Party to accept a candidate chosen by the AIP is an indication of the trend of opposition to the AIP that is developing among the Democrats and presages a turning point in the political fortune of the AIP. The struggle between the right and left wings resulted in breaking up many AIP clubs but as long as the AIP had the backing of a number of powerful unions particularly those in garment industry etc., patronage of the La Guardia political machine and the blessing of the New Deal it could continue to function with bright prospects of the future. The patronage given to both the left and right wing members of the AIP has been a powerful inducement for many groups to remain who otherwise would have taken a walk.

The refusal of the Democratic Party to accept the candidate of the AIP has forced the AIP to take independent political action. They have selected an obscure Tammany Democrat, lawyer by profession born in Turkey of Greek parentage as the candidate for governor. This means a sharp decline in the prestige and support of the AIP by large sections of workers in New York State.

The AIP candidate has not the slightest chance to win. Many voters of the AIP are democrats and are reluctant to throw away their vote on an obscure candidate that has not the slightest possibility of winning and imperiling the election Bennett.

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers are not any longer represented

on the State Executive Committee and did not take part in the nomination of Alfange. This is tantamount to withdrawal from the ALP. This may mean also withdrawal of financial support. The I.L.W.U. has threatened on several occasions to withdraw from the ALP. The action of the Amalgamated Clothing workers may presage a similar action on the part of the ILGWU.

The situation is more complicated by the possibility the La Guardia may come out in support of Thomas E. Dewey thus splitting the ALP. LaGuardia says the aim is to beat Farley he will have to do this by supporting Dewey.

The ALP is further divided by certain groups that prefer Bennett and vice versa. It is too early to predict what will be the final result but there is one thing that is evident and that is the ALP is slipping fast and only a miracle can save it from complete destruction.

The following is a partial list of the powerful Communist forces that control key CIO and AF of L unions in New York City and who make up Progressive Committee:

Michael Quill President of the Transport Workers Union.  
Austin Logan Transport Workers Union  
Samuel Hurt Manager Furriers Joint Council  
Bella V. Dodd Legislative Representative Teachers Union.  
James Lustig Organizer District 4 United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers  
Jack Aron Organizer Local 68 Furriers Joint Board  
Lewis Merrill President United Office and Professional Workers of America.  
Arthur Osman President Local 65 United Wholesale & Warehouse Workers  
Saul Mills Secretary Treasurer Greater New York Industrial Union Council  
Ferdinand Smith Secretary National Maritime Union  
Max Perlow President United Furniture Workers of America.  
Sabina Martinez Organizer Cleaners and Dyers Union Local 238  
Joseph Curran President National Maritime Union C.I.O.  
Clifford T. Mc Avoy Legislative Representative of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council  
Joseph Winogradsky Fur and Leather Workers

The above unions are all affiliates of the C.I.O.

Michael Obernier Secretary Hotel and Club Employees Local 6  
Sam Kramber Secretary-Treasurer Cafeteria Employees Local 302.  
Louis Weinstock Secretary District Council 9 Painter Union  
Frank Butto Secretary Bakers Union Local 1  
Charles Collins Organizer Hotel and Club Employees Local 6  
William Alberston General Organizer Hotel and Restaurant Union Local 16  
Martin Cody Secretary Treasurer Hotel and Club Employees Local 6  
Conrad Kaye President Butchers District Council of N.Y. and N.J.  
Salvatore Gentili Organizer Waiters and Waitresses Union Local 1  
Ardinlio Susi President Cooks, Pastry cooks, Assistants Union Local 89  
George E. Brown International Vice President Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America.  
James Absten Business Representative Amalgamated Meat Cutters Local 623  
Jay Rubin Secretary Hotel Trades Council  
Dora Jones Organizer Domestic Workers Union

The above unions are A.F. of L. affiliates.


This group is headed by Eugene Connelley and Marcantonio. All the persons listed above are leaders of trade unions and are members of the Communist Party. This does not include all the Local unions affiliated with their respective International or National unions that have representatives. I ha



Have listed only the most influential leaders that are responsible for the strategy and tactics employed by the Progressive Committee.

All the strategy of the Progressive Committee is worked out by the representatives of the State Committee of the Communist Party in consultation with the leading Party people in the ALP.

The future of the ALP is a very gloomy one. It is a bitter fight internally and externally for existence. It is doubtful whether the ALP will be able to purge the Communists without wrecking the Party. It seems to me that the only beneficiaries of the ALP were the Communists. It gave them prestige and power they would not have had were it not for the ALP. It gave them a respectable front and placed them in contact with thousands of workers that they were unable to contact before. The ALP is being used by the Communists to further their political aims and ambitions.



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New York, New York

MEY:MOH  
100-8522

September 25, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICAN LABOR PARTY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 15, 1942 relative to the American Labor Party, in which he furnishes information concerning the history of this party and the efforts of the Communist Party to dominate the program of this organization. He also furnishes a list of the names and union affiliations of Communist Party members who control key C.I.O. and A.F. of L. unions in New York City and who make up the Progressive Committee of the American Labor Party. The Informant points out that the Progressive Committee was formed by the Communist Party to assume the initiative in carrying out Communist Party policies within the American Labor Party.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. JOHNSON  
Assistant Director

Encs.

cc-N.Y. [redacted]

DECLASSIFICATION AS OF 5/24/27

9/12/42

March On Washington Mass Meeting  
Golden Gate Ballroom Friday September 11, 1942.  
Attendance approximately 3,000 persons present.

Program

Star Spangled Banner.....Bertha Fitzhugh Baker  
Invocation .....Rev. Lloyd Ines  
Opening Address.....Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin.  
Address.....Miss Bernice Mc Millan.

Dramatic Playlet

" The Watchword Is Forward"  
Written, Staged and Produced by Dick Campbell

Appeal .....Golden Brown.  
Address .....A. Phillip Randolph.

Negro National Anthem  
Miss Edith Ingram

All the Executive officers were invited to the platform. Most of them were present. I have already submitted a list therefor it is not necessary to ~~use~~ you with repetition.

Dr. Ervin spoke of the ills of democracy. The need of unity of the Negroes to fight for their rights now. He appealed to the audience to join the March On Washington Movement to protect the boy at the front by fighting for Negro rights at home.

Bertha Mc Millan spoke of the role of the youth in the March On Washington Movement and the attempts of the Communists to mislead the Negro Youth. She scathingly denounced the Communists as insincere. She stated that she appreciated what Russia was doing in the war but that Russia was merely saving herself. She further stated the Russia is an ally not because she believes in our way of life but because her very existence depends upon the defeat of Hitler. Negro parents were accused of political immaturity because of their faith in Communism as a way out of the Negroes ills. The program offered by her to be against Nazism, Fascism and Communism, rejection of Negroes that pull punches with regard to Negro rights; desertion of the old two party system and the formation of an independent movement among voters that is to vote for the Party that offers and does the most for the Negroes.

A. Phillip Randolph gave an analysis of the war and the fight of the United Nations for the preservation of democracy. He outlined the role of the Negro and the gross injustices against the Negro. He was particularly bitter against those who gave the leaders of the March On Washington Movement the run around in Washington when they went there to present the grievances of the Negroes. He had high praise for the Fair Employment Practices Committee formed by President Roosevelt. He stated that the March to Washington was not called off but suspended temporarily on request of President Roosevelt and that all the critics who accused him of a sell-out because he did not defy the request of President Roosevelt were insincere regarding Negro rights. He said that it may be necessary to march and when that time came they would be ~~in~~ informed.

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9/13/42

There will be a National Conference of the March On Washington Movement in Detroit Michigan on September 26 and 27 to outline the future work of the movement and to plan the march to Washington. A huge mass meeting will be held in conjunction with the conference and a local chapter of the March On Washington Movement set up.



b7D

New York, New York

W. F. RICH  
100-26792

September 25, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: MARCH-ON-WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 15, 1942 relative to a mass meeting of the above-captioned organization on September 11, 1942 at the Golden Gate Ballroom.

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It will be noted in Informant's report that MERTHA McWILLIAM gave a talk at this meeting in which she denounced the Communists as being insincere and spoke of the attempts of the Communists to mislead the Negro Youth. According to the Informant, the outline for this speech was planned by A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH and other members of the Executive Board to make known their stand in regard to Communism and to advise their members against Communists.

It will also be noted that A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH in his talk advised the audience that the proposed March to Washington had been temporarily suspended. However, he said it may be necessary to march and when that time comes they will be advised.

It is further noted, however, that the National Conference of the March on Washington will be held in Detroit, Michigan on September 26 and 27 to outline the future work of the movement and to plan the March to Washington.

Two copies of this report are also being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ABM/EMK  
ON 7/27/00

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
P. R. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Encs.

cc-NY [redacted]

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[redacted] 81

Re. Agitation Among Negroes in New York.

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9/7/42

The American Negro fundamentally is patriotic and loyal. With the exception of a small minority that have accepted Communism as a way out of those conditions that are obnoxious it can be safely stated that the majority of the Negroes in the United States have a profound spiritual feeling of loyalty and devotion to American democratic ideals and principles and a sincere conviction that all their problems can and will be solved within the existing frame work of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

However there are certain conditions under which the Negro lives that tends to create grave dissatisfaction with the way democracy works. It is this dissatisfaction that the Communist are using in order to spread the seeds of lack of confidence in and disloyalty to American Democracy among Negroes.

True there is a great degree of dissatisfaction among the Negroes. Nine out of ten of every negro that speaks sincerely about the war feels that he has very little if anything to fight for. He feels that democracy does not work for him that is that there is sharp line of demarcation between what are the rights of Negroes and what are the rights of white people. It is often heard that why should we fight for freedom for every race and nationality in the world when we ourselves are not free.

The basic cause of this growing conviction among Negroes may be found in a careful study of the record of our elected representatives in all branches of county, city, state and federal government. This study will reveal a gross indifference, lack of concern and in numerous instances open and brazen hostility in relation to the Negro problem. This is not true of all elected representatives of the people. There have been and there are many who have the vision and foresight and understanding relating to the Negro problem and have sought to solve it but they are only a small minority. This minority have made some serious beginnings that attest to the efficacy and veracity of democracy.

Let us examine impartially and without emotion the plight of the Negro in order that a clear and succinct picture can be drawn as a necessary prerequisite to a understanding of the problem and how it is being used by the enemies of our country in order to obtain their objectives.

We are engaged in a great conflict for human freedom the end of which will determine the course of history for many years to come. It is life or death struggle for democracy. Yet the 12,000,000 or more Negroes in our country and the darker races of the world with the exception of China are not included in this program from the point of view of a clear definition of what their status is going to be now or after the war. The Atlantic Charter neither mentions nor infers that ~~which~~ anything in its context or purpose affects these millions who love freedom and democracy as much as any other people.

The sincerity of the Churchill government is seriously challenged because of its treatment of India. The arrest and imprisonment of India's 1 leaders, shooting of patriots and the invoking of the old flogging law ~~in~~ in reply to the request for independence has created grave doubts and hesitations in the minds Negroes as to the sincerity of purpose of the leaders of the United Nations. The belief is widespread that India will move toward collaboration with Japan. The basis for this growing belief is lack of confidence in and deep rooted dislike of British rule

Goodman

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evinced in the cooperation of the natives with Japanese in their conquest of Asia. All these developments are exploited by the pro-Japanese elements to crystallize sentiment among the Negroes for Japan and consequently the Axis. Likewise these developments are exploited by the Communists to win support for and membership in the Party by presenting the Party as the only sincere fighter for the liberation of the Negroes and the colonial peoples.

Failure and reluctance to clarify the stand of our government in particular and the United Nations in general as to our stand on the Negro and colonial questions does not help the situation but tends to create greater confusion and distrust.

Let us link up the international situation with the one at home. We permitted racial lines to be drawn in our armed services. The Negroes are placed in separate units of the Army. There is practically no possibility for advancement in the Navy to say nothing of the Marines. We have sanctioned the creation of a jim-crow section of our air force. All of this is a sort of capitulation to those prejudiced Americans who feel that the Negro must be kept separate from the white armed forces of our nation in conformity with the old established domestic policy jim-crow. The sentiment among the majority of Negroes is for the integration of the Negro into every branch of the armed services with their white brothers in arms with same rights and privileges. Their training and fighting together will create a better understanding, overcome distrust and lack of confidence and create the basis for a healthy and constructive relation upon which to build in the post war period.

The infamous Jim-Crow law that exists in many states the product of slavery and the bitterness that followed the Proclamation of Emancipation completely nullifies the Bill of Rights. It places the Negro in a position of inferiority. It denies him the very rights for which he is asked to die that other races may enjoy. Many soldiers on furlough speak of the insults, abuses and disgusting treatment they receive at the hands of prejudiced white people in the South. Everywhere they go on the street cars, on the busses in the public places and on the streets they are made to feel that regardless of their uniform they are still "niggers" and have to stay in a "niggers place". Such a state of affairs is not at all conducive to sound faith in the avowed aims of the democracies in the war. The Jim-Crow law divides the American people through the drawing of artificial distinctions on the basis of color of skin, engenders and perpetuates prejudices that ought not to exist and therefore should be abolished. The Communists are constantly exploiting this law in order to rally the Negro under their banner.

Moreover the poll-tax is considered a law that tends to disfranchise millions of Negroes and poor white person in the South and that through it a minority of persons are able to perpetuate themselves in power. In recent months there has been a great demand among Negroes for the abolition of the poll-tax as a necessary prerequisite to restoring the right to vote to millions of persons in the South who are now disfranchised because of their inability to pay the poll-tax. The poll-tax is considered the main obstacle to Negro representation in the government in those areas where they constitute the majority and a deterring influence in those sections where they hold the balance of power. The Communists are utilizing this to stir up the Negroes. They are linking-up the demand for the abolition of the poll-tax with the "right of the Negro of the land" and the establishment of an autonomous Negro Government in the Black Belt.

Lynching of Negroes has been cause of bitterness and unrest among the Negroes for many years. Every effort by them to get Congress to pass the anti-lynch bill was in vain. The recent lynching of Negroes both of civilians and soldiers, have added fuel to the fire which is as always being fanned by the Communists and other anti-American elements. The passage of the anti-lynch bill has been effectively blocked by the powerful block of Southern Congressmen. Depriving a Negro of life without the due process of law is considered a mockery of the Bill of rights. The failure of the local governments and the Federal government to protect the life and limb of Negroes accused of committing a crime; the failure to punish those that take the law into their hands shows a pronounced weakness of democracy and creates a danger. XXXX Objectively all this tends to give support and encouragement to the Axis on the one hand and material to be used by the Communists in order to rally the Negroes around their program by promising them that the Communist Program is the only way out.

The complete integration of the Negro into every branch of the war effort finds as its main barrier racial discrimination. Millions of manpower are lost as a result of the policy of discrimination in the hiring of Negroes in those industries that manufacture the essential for war. In New York the Negro constitutes 6.1 % of the population; 26% are on relief and only 1% in defense industries or industries vital to defense, according to statistics given by John A. Davis Executive Secretary, State of New York Committee on Discrimination in Employment.

According to Elmer Carter member of the New York State War Council 80% of the Negroes in New York are domestics. This is due primarily to the refusal of the heads of industry to give employment to Negroes in the skilled and semi-skilled jobs in industry. Thus the majority of Negroes are placed in the lowest pay categories. Young Negro boys and girls graduating from high school and college find very little opportunity apply their talents and ability. Many leading Negroes feel that this situation can be remedied by the government providing industrial training for Negroes, removing the barriers in industry and guaranteeing them the same rights and privileges to work in all industries. The result would be the full utilization of our country's manpower. The question of jobs for the Negro is one of the main slogans of the Communists because they know that this is a burning issue among the Negroes.

The devastating effects of lack of employment in New York City, the small income of the Negro family the fact that they pay 25% more rent than white people and live in inferior apartments and homes creates a fertile field for agitation. The low income of the Negro makes it necessary for husband, wife and children to live in one kitchenette room and four and five families in one apartment. The affect of this condition is almost seen almost immediately. Prostitution and juvenile delinquency are born and rear in such surroundings. They grow to such enormous proportions that they crowd and choke those things that are essential to building good citizens. The Communists agitate for lower rents, right of the Negro to live in sections of the other than Harlem, more schools because the present ones are overcrowded, better hospitalization because of its present inadequacy, more play grounds, recreation centers and above jobs in the higher pay brackets to provide a more of necessities of life for the Negro.



The law enforcement agencies have sought to stamp out prostitution and robbery that is growing on a sweeping scale in Harlem but without success. Nearly every crime committed is the work of youngsters between the ages of 17 and 25. Most of them the product of conditions, lack of employment, inability of parents give them the things that others enjoy, lack of proper care and training in youth. In the effort of the law enforcement agencies to stamp out crime many grave injustices are committed such as beating persons when arrested and doing irreparable harm to innocent persons. This situation is further aggravated by the Daily News and the Journal American who smear the whole community as a cesspool of crime. This has created considerable resentment among Negroes who feel that there is no attempt to understand the situation, the causes of it and the failure to give any remedial measures other than slander, shootings and arrests. Here again the Communists react to this situation attack the city administration ~~and urge the people to protest and fight against police brutality and to fight against discrimination and for jobs.~~

The Communists are always alert and react quickly to each and every grievance of the Negroes. forms some sort of committee to rally the people struggle to eliminate the grievance. Their methods are devious. They form various front organizations making use of prominent persons to attain their objectives, the Daily Worker, the Negro papers and leaflets.

How to recapitulate. The Negro is a loyal good American. His future is woven into the very fibre of America and cannot be separated without the destruction of the whole. It is primarily a problem of whether we are going to permit an alien group whose program is diametrically opposed in principle to our form of government and whose avowed purpose despite its professed patriotism is overthrow of our government to utilize the grievances of the Negroes in order to serve their ultimate objective.

Farsighted intelligent leadership is necessary. All these grievance can be eliminated if a sincere and constructive study is made to the end that a constructive program of giving full citizen rights to the Negro. Integration of the Negro into the armed forces, into the war industries abolition of the poll tax, passage of the anti lunch bill, abolition of the Jim-Crow law, broad education on better race relations would take away the issues that are now being utilized by the Communists and other elements.

To combat the dangerous pro-Japanese sentiment engendered by the British policy ~~which~~ our government should take the leadership in the world of race relations as we have in everything else and set forth a program in the interest of the darker races so that the United Nations can rally the millions of people of Asia and Africa to fight for the extermination of the Axis. Such a program worked out with the representatives ~~of India, Africa, the West Indies~~ of India, Africa, the West Indies etc., would rally the darker races on the side of the democracies.

The war has raise basic questions that are complex of solution but nevertheless have to be solved. Statesmanship and a willingness to reconstruct basic ideas or concepts of race are essential to guarantee victory for democracy which means freedom for all peoples regardless of race.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

KRM:FCM  
100-33761

October 3, 1942.

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP2 Mm/EHL*  
ON *7/27/00*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

Re: AGITATION AMONG NEGROES IN THE  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and copy of a report of [redacted]  
[redacted], dated September 7, 1942.

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This report was requested of [redacted] under the pretext that it was being requested in order that the conditions of the negroes might be considered in relation to the effects such might have as to the success of the Communistic agitation in this area.

This report has been set out verbatim in the report of Special Agent Kenneth E. Pouton of this office on the above captioned matter, under date of September 18, 1942.

[redacted] points out in his report that a great deal of dissatisfaction among the negroes is the result of gross indifference and lack of concern in instances in relation to the negro problem, particularly as to international satisfaction. Race discrimination is pointed out as the principal cause, particularly in employment and in the armed forces of our country. Informant comments on the low economical condition of the negroes in this locality and advises that all these things make the negroes a fertile field for the work of the Communists and subversive organizations.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

cc-NY file [redacted] ✓

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10/8/41

Service Flag ceremonies held under the auspices of the National Negro Congress and the Citizens of 119th Street, Sunday October 4th, 1942.  
Representing the National Negro Congress :

Hope R. Stevens President  
Naomi Kornacker Executive Secretary  
Ethel Bainford Administrative Secretary  
Theo Lewis Treasurer.

Representing 119th Street on "Flag Service Committee":

Mrs. Priscilla Bixell  
Mrs. Jennie Fraser  
Mrs. M. Watkins  
Mrs. Beatrice Cox  
Mrs. Mary Wilkins  
Mr. Phillips ( H.)  
Mrs. Grace White  
Mrs. Massie Patterson  
Mr. G.W. Brown  
Mrs. Louise Singleton  
Mrs. Bessie Lane  
Mrs. Ida Smith  
Mrs. E.A. Brown  
Mrs. Sarah Wmley  
Mrs. Lillian Thorne  
Mr. H.C. Gibbs  
Mr. David Black

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Participating Organizations:

372 Infantry Band United States Army. (A.)  
Colonel Charles Young Post American Legion ( Charles Glover Commandant)  
Womens' Auxiliary, American Legion (Mrs. Lottie Stewart President)  
Ambulance Corp Civilian Defense  
Harlem Labor Union  
West Indian World War Veterans  
Air Raid Wardens 24th and 28th Precincts  
Womens' Volunteer Service  
Uptown Fur Center  
Negro Labor Victory Committee  
Veterans of Abraham Lincoln Brigade  
Harlem Co-ordinating Committee  
Russian War Relief- Harlem Branch  
International Workers Order branch # 4792 (Latin-American)  
Ethiopian World Federation

Speakers:

William T. Andrews Member New York State Assembly  
Daniel Burrows " " " " "  
Hulan Jack " " " " "  
W.E. Lewin Executive Secretary of Ethiopian World Federation  
Charles Collins Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Committee  
Hope R. Stevens President National Negro Congress  
Irving Schwartz Member Grand Lodge Independent Order Of Odd Fellows  
Rev. O.C. Maxwell Jr. Mt Olivet Baptist Church  
Roger Straughn President Harlem Labor Union

Samuel Patterson of 123 W. 129th Street was master of ceremonies. He has been a member of the Communist Party according to my knowledge since 1935. He is active in the International Workers Order serving as a member of their General Executive Board. He is a member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Party. He is also a member of the Upper Harlem Section of the Party. He has been actively campaigning for the Party among the West Indians in Harlem.

The invocation was given by the RT. Rev. Msgr. H. Wilkie Rector St. Mary's Church. He is also Army Chaplain. He also delivered a short patriotic address on the support of the boys on the other side and the need of putting everything we have in the win the war effort.

The audience was entertained by Mrs. Massie Patterson, and Sam Gery and Josh White from Cafe Society. They sang Freedom Road, Dorie Miller; National Negro Anthem.

Charles A. Glover conducted the dedication ceremonies with Msgr. H. Wilkie blessing the flag, which was later raised across 119th Street.

Assemblyman Daniel Burrows spoke briefly on the raising of the flag and that it was tied up with the opening of a "second Front" to aid Russia. He further stated that the opening of the military front should be left to those who are conducting the war. He stated that a "second front" should be opened in America against Jim-crow, discrimination and lynching and for the rights of the Negro people.

Ludlow Werner paid tribute to Hope Stevens because he withdrew from the state senatorial race in the 19th senatorial District in order to unite all Negroes in the District to oust the present incumbent who is white. He spoke of the discrimination at home and asserted that the "second Front" should be started here to win Negro rights.

Charles Collins spoke primarily on the "Second Front" and the imperative need of opening it now contending that delay would mean the loss of millions of lives of Negro boys. He accused the leaders of the government of being "blunderers" and "stupid" for delaying the opening of a "second Front". He accused high persons in the government and the armed forces without specifically mentioning anyone, as being "appeasers" and "pro-fascists". He was particularly vitriolic in his denunciation of the heads of our Government and the United Nations for failure to declare war on Finland and urged the audience to demand that we declare war on Finland. He concluded with an attack on the Governments in Exile stating that the people would not permit Britain to reestablish Queen Wilhelmina and other royalty in power in Europe that the opening of a "second Front Now" would guarantee a peoples victory.

William T. Andrews, Assemblyman, spoke of the high spirit of patriotism manifest in the occasion, took a shot at discrimination and pledged to do all within his power as a legislator to get justice for the Negro.

Rev. O.C. Maxwell stressed the need of unity behind our boys at the front as a necessary pre-requisite for victory.

Hope Stevens called for the election Ludlow Turner to the State Senate and for the defeat of the present incumbent, outlined the program of the National Negro Congress which was a persistent struggle for Negro rights, and the imperative need of opening of a "second Front".

There were approximately 250 people in the parade .



b7D

New York, New York

RECEIVED  
100-3633

October 12, 1942  
CONFIDENTIAL

439740

DECLASSIFIED

7/27/00

SP2ALM/LEHL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 8, 1942, relative to the Service Flag ceremonies held under the auspices of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the CITIZENS OF 119th STREET, Manhattan, New York, City, on Sunday, October 4, 1942.

b7D

It will be noted that the speakers who are reported by the informant to be members of the Communist Party used this opportunity to urge the opening of a second front. The report also reflects that according to HOPE STEVENS, President of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, of New York City, the program of this organization at the present time is for a persistent struggle for Negro rights and the imperative need for the opening of a second front. [redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Copies of the report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

ENC 2  
c. c. [redacted]

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85

Negro Labor Victory Committee.  
217 West 125th Street, Room 108  
New York City  
Phone Monument 3,3541.

10/12/42  
439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/24/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHC

List of officers all of whom are members of the Communist Party:

Charles A. Collins Chairman. Occupation: Business Agent. Hotel & Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.

Ferdinand Smith Co Chairman Occupation: Secretary National Maritime Union. C.I.O.

George Ellington Brown Vice Chairman. Occupation: International Vice President Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Alliance and Bartenders International League of America, A.F. of L.

Amy White Vice Chairman. Delegate Greater New York C.I.O. Industrial Union Council.

Ewart G. Guinier Secretary. President New York District State, County and Municipal Workers of America, C.I.O.

Arthur Garvin Organizer Hotel and Front Service Employees Union Local 144 A.F. of L member of the Finance Committee, Negro Labor Victory Committee.

James Alston member Finance Committee. Business Agent Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, A.F.L. Local 623.

Dorothy Fann member Finance Committee. Executive Board Teachers Union (This Union was expelled last year from the A.F. of L. for Communist activities.)

Thomas Jasper member Finance Committee. Assistant Manager., Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks Union Local 125 C.I.O.

Sabina Martinez Member Finance Committee. Organizer Cleaners and Dyers Union Local 125 Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, C.I.O.

Active supporters and sponsors of the N.L.V.C.

Dora Jones Organizer Domestic Workers Union Local 149 A.F. of L.

Solomon Harper Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians C.I.O.

Lyndon Henry Manager Fur Dressers and Dyers Union Local 88 C.I.O.

Carl Hill Business Representative Negro Publication Society.

James Alston Business Agent Amalgamated Meat Cutters, Local 623 A.F. of L.

Alice Citron Harlem Committee, Teachers Union.

Dr. Bella V. Dodd Legislative Representative Teachers Union.

Abram Flaxer President State, County and Municipal Workers, C.I.O.

Thomas Astwood Vice President Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302 A.F. of L.

Jennie Allen Executive Board Local 70 State, County & Municipal Workers C.I.O.

William Bassette Vice President Cooks and Kitchen Employees Union Local 89 A.F.L.

Helen Blanchard Vice President Womens Trade Union League.

Edna Glasgow Executive Board Wholesale & Warehouse Workers Local 65 C.I.O.

Al Benknopf Secretary Wholesale Warehouse Workers Local 65 C.I.O.

Al Bland Fur Floor & Shipping Clerks Union Local 125 C.I.O.

Ruth Bushong Legislative Committee United Office & Professional Workers Local 16 C.I.O.

**Negro Labor Victory Committee Continued....**

Adele Glasgow Secretary Amsterdam Star News Unit Newspaper Guild C.I.O.  
Sylvester L. Corrothers General Organizer United Transportation Service  
Employees Union of America.  
Fitzgerald Brownell Chairman Anti-Discrimination Committee, Federation  
Architect, Engineers, Plumbers and Technicians C.I.O.  
Leon M. Butts Business Agent Amalgamated Meat Cutters Local Brooklyn,  
Queens and Long Island.  
Carl Lawrence Executive Board Newspape Guild, C.I.O.  
Martin Cody Secretary-Treasurer Hotel & Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Carl Dennis Hotel & Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.  
H.V. Friedman New York College Teachers Union.  
Thomas Jordan Executive Board State County Municipal Workers Local 70 C.I.O.  
James H. Holbrook Technical Guild.  
Nathan Witt Labor Attorney  
Hope R. Stevens Labor Attorney.  
A. Clayton Powell, City Councilman. --  
John Durocher, Business Agent Bakers Union Local 3 A.F. of L.  
William H. Dover Executive Board State County Municipal Workers Local 40 C.I.O.  
Viola Jones Organizer Domestic Workers Union Local 1 C.I.O.  
Theodore A. Jackson President Dining Car Employees Local 370 A.F. of L.  
Elizabeth Ross Haynes  
Andrew Hannibal Secretary-Treasurer Building Service Employees Local 32A AFL  
Rosalie Henderson Transport Worker Union Unit, United Office and Professional  
Workers Union Local 16 C.I.O.  
Roger Straughn President Harlem Labor Union.  
Horace Small Business Agent United Furniture Workers Local 91 C.I.O.  
Gene Helbig President State, County Municipal Workers Local 70 C.I.O.  
Samuel Sorkin Manager State, County, Municipal Workers Local 1 C.I.O.  
Leila Gauden Executive Board Nurses Union, C.I.O.  
Alex Serota Manager United Furniture Workers Local 140 C.I.O.  
Harry Reich President Cooks & Kitchen Employees Local 89 A.F. of L.  
Eleanor Goding Educational Director State County Municipal Workers Local 1 C.I.O.  
Conrad Kaye Secretary-Manager Amalgamated Meat Cutters Local 823 A.F. of L.  
Claude H. Mason Secretary Dining Car Employees Local 370 A.F. of L.  
Sam Kramber Secretary-Treasurer Cafeteria Employees Union 302 A.F. of L.  
Enil Ramirez Executive Board Cooks & Kitchen Employees Local 89 A.F. of L.  
Ann Petry Chairman Peoples' Voice Unit Newspaper Guild C.I.O.  
Michael Obermier President Hotel and Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Albert Spivey Executive Board Hotel & Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Winifred Norman National Chairman National Conference Negro Youth  
Oliver Leeds President United Furniture Workers Local 45B C.I.O.  
Leon Straus Manager Fur Floor & Shipping Clerks Local 125 C.I.O.  
John Goodman Secretary-Treasurer Hotel Front Service Employees Local 144 AFL  
William Pease Vice President Hotel Front Service Employees Local 144 A.F. of L.  
Judy E. Griffiths United Office & Professional Workers Local 16 C.I.O.  
Daisy George Hotel & Club Employees Union Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Fred Lark Organizer Cleaners & Dyers Union Amalgamated Clothing Workers of A.  
Essie Williams Executive Board Harlem Chapter Nurses Union C.I.O.  
J. Caswell Reid Organizer United Transportation Service Employees of America C.I.O.  
Ricardo D'Oyen Retail Wine & Liquor Clerks Local 906A A.F. of L.



**Negro Labor Victory Committee Continued.....**

Curtis Lee Executive Board Bakers Union Local 3 A.F. of L.  
Helen D. Logan International Ladies Garment Workers Union.  
Clifford T. McAvoy Legislative Representative Greater New York C.I.O.  
Industrial Union Council.  
Cressie Roberts Executive Board Bakers Union Local 3 A.F. Of L.  
Sidney Steinberg Executive Board Amalgamated Meat Cutters Local 623 A.F. of L.  
Richard Le Monier Bank & Brokerage Employees Union, United Office & Professional Workers, C.I.O.  
Walter Wiprecht Executive Board Bakers Union Local 3 A.F. of L.  
Virginia Sydnor State, County and Municipal Workers, Chapter 41 Local 125 CIO  
William August Le Monier  
Ernest Thompson President American Radiator Workers Lo. 446, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, C.I.O.  
H. B. Warner, Patrolman, National Maritime Union, C.I.O.  
Lewis Manning Transport Workers Union Local 100, C.I.O.  
Larry Washington Fur Dresser & Dyers Union Local 88 C.I.O.  
Malcom Martin, State County Municipal Workers, C.I.O.  
Henry Mc Gregor, Executive Board Red Carriers Union Local 147 A.F. of L.  
Fred Mann President Bakers Union Local 3 A.F. of L.  
Peter Ottley, Vice President, ~~Building Service Employees International Union Local 32A A.F. of L.~~ Building Service Employees International Union Local 32A A.F. of L.  
Willis Williams, Secretary, State, County & Municipal Workers Local 119 C.I.O.  
Charlotte Stern Welfare Division Hotel & Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Samuel Patterson Executive Secretary Harlem Community Council, International Workers Order.  
Adolph Rosenbaum Secreter-Treasure Barbers Union Local 1 C.I.O.

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The Negro Labor Victory Committee has not been functioning properly despite the big array of leaders in the trade unions. This is due to lack of definite organization int the Local Unions and insufficient funds. The Committee plans to overcome this situation by asking all groups to do the following:

1. Each Local Union to designate a member of the Union Executive Board to set up an anti-discrimination committee within the Local Union that will work in conjunction with the NLVC.
2. Each Local Union affiliate to the NLVC whether there are or are not any Negro members.
3. Designate a member of the Committee to represent the Local Union on the Council of the NLVC.
4. ~~Authorize a regular monthly affiliation fee in proportion to membership:~~  
~~and to be paid to the NLVC by the Local Union on the 1st of each month.~~
5. Representation of Local Unions:
  - a. Locals Unions with membership of less than 1,000 none delegate.
  - b. " " " " " 1,000 up to 5,000 two delegates.
  - c. " " " " " above 5,000, three delegates.
6. Affiliation Fees of Local Unions:
  - a. Local Unions with less than a 1,000 members \$2 monthly.
  - b. " " " 1,000 to 5,000 members \$5 monthly
  - c. Locals with over 5,000 members \$10 monthly

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MEF:CD  
100-27339

October 15, 1943.

~~Confidential~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to the above-captioned organization.

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In this report Informant sets out a list of the officers of this organization and their affiliations with the various unions. He also reports that these individuals are members of the Communist Party.

Informant also sets out a list of the names of the active sponsors and supporters of this organization and the union with which each is affiliated.

In the last paragraph of this report Informant advises that the Negro Labor Victory Committee has not been functioning properly, despite the big array of leaders in the trade unions. He advises that this is due to lack of organization in the local unions and insufficient funds. The plans of this organization for overcoming this situation are set out.

Copies of this report are being retained in the New York City Field Office for information purposes.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/CHL  
ON 7/27/00

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures.

CC for File [redacted]

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439940 10/12/42  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/JHL

Act Now Or Starve Mass Meeting.  
Golden Gate Auditorium 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue.  
Friday October 9th, 1942  
Auspices Adam Powell and the Peoples Voice.

The meeting was called in relation to the freezing of wages and ~~prices~~ prices according to Congressional and Presidential order for the duration. The contention is that what ever wages Negro people receive at the present time will be frozen at that level and that the exorbitant prices that they pay now for food and rent etc., will be frozen at the present level. This they state, will prove disastrously for the Negro. In essence the argument is that the present freezing order is detrimental to the underpaid and the over charged Negro people.

In this connection the Peoples' Voice contends that the freezing order will be followed by the freezing of Negroes on their present jobs and that this will mean that no one will be able to leave their present employment, even for a better job without consent of the government.

This state of affairs the sponsors contend means starvation, hardships for the Negro unless they immediately seek employment within the next few day for jobs in the defense industries. These jobs are attainable if Negroes will apply especially in the war industries.

The Chairman of the meeting was Donnellan Phillips of the Consolidated Tenants League. Mr. Phillips is not a Communist. He spoke briefly about the high rents in Harlem and the affect of the freezing order on rents contending that the underpaid Negroes will be the sufferers. He also spoke about the recent rent strikes in Harlem and called upon the audience to support all such actions to reduce rents and prevent rent differentials between Negroes and whites.

Manning Johnson was called upon to speak as a result of the failure of certain politicians to put in their appearance, namely, Daniel Burrows Tammany District leader and also assemblyman in the 19th Assembly District, Julian Jak Assemblyman in the 17th Assembly District, James Pimberton Tammany District leader in the 17th Assembly District, Vito Marcantonio Congressman and Indlow Werner Republican candidate for State Senator in the 19th Senatorial District. He was asked to speak by Adam Powell's secretary Joseph Ford on the aims and purposes of the meeting. He spoke generally about discrimination, Jim Crowism and lynching calling for unity of the Negroes to combat it. He also spoke of the need of applying the Four Freedoms to the Negro and that if the Negroes supported the President of the United States who he characterized as a friend of the Negro they would strengthen his hand and thus enable him to successfully combat those Southern Congressmen who put their prejudices above their patriotism. Touching upon the freezing of wages and prices, he stated that the majority of Negroes are in the low paid categories and they pay higher prices than other racial groups for inferior things and that this would prove disastrous for the Negro and that they should bring these facts before the President in order that the Negro problem can be given due consideration and proper adjustment which he felt would be the result of such action.

Assemblyman William T. Andrews spoke briefly about his campaign for re-election and pledged to continue to fight for those things that are in the interests of Negroes. He touched upon the integration of Negroes into the defense industries as essential to successful national defense and winning the war.

The meeting was strictly a one man show show. Adam Powell conducted it like a church gathering where the principle and only speaker is the past pastor. He invited Charles Collins and Ben Davis Jr. to the platform but neither permitted them to speak or to introduce them to the audience. He definitely snubbed them. This is the second time that this attitude has been shown. The other occasion was the Burial of Talmadge former governor of Georgia. The explanation of Adam Powell's actions may be found in the fact, that he is, above all an opportunist; his desire to dominate the picture; his machinations with Tammany Hall; his lust for power and his unwillingness to work with any group unless he is the undisputed leader. He has used the Communists to attain considerable importance. He now has a newspaper and mass contact, both of which has convinced him that he can build a national movement without the aid of the Communists. However he is reluctant to make a sudden break. The tendency is toward gradual severance with them for immediate strategic considerations and gains. He feels that they need him more than they need them and that they will not dare come out openly and attack him. He is not without precedent on this point. ~~xxxxxx~~ He had a similar experience in the National Negro Congress. He withdrew because he was not made President of the National body. The Communists at that time favored A. Phillip Randolph because their policy was to have the National Negro Congress based upon the trade unions which could be corralled better with an outstanding labor man at the head. After Powell's withdrawal the Communists constantly pleaded with him to work with the local and national bodies of the Congress. Powell refused to go along and in fact openly attacked the National Negro Congress in the Negro papers. Powell was criticized in the inner circles of the Party but there was no public pronouncement against him. James W. Ford at that time said that while Powell had certain political weaknesses he could be used and that every effort should be made to avoid an open break; that while we criticized his political weaknesses we should keep in mind his influence among the people and the need of working with such element which are essential to the building of the Peoples' Front.

Moreover Powell has ambitions to become a Congressman which he feels can be attained by playing ball with all groups and at the same time building his own independent movement among the people using his prestige as City Councilman and the prestige of his church.

The "Burial of Eugene Talmadge" mass meeting was the first step in this direction and the "Act Now Or Starve" mass meeting was the second. In connection with the latter he has organized the beginnings of what he characterized as "the starting of a national movement among Negroes" for jobs in the defense industries. At present the movement embraces only New York and New Jersey which according to his statement will spread to other communities.

The following are the headquarters for information on how to get training and jobs in defense industries opened recently by PV which are called "Act Now" headquarters:

Peoples' Voice 210 West 125th Street, New York City.

Golden Gate 142nd street and Lenox Avenue, N.Y.C.

Abyssinian Baptist Church 122 West 138th St. N.Y.C.

Ivonne Beauty College, 1960 7th Ave., N.Y.C.

Peoples' Voice, Brooklyn Office, 1232 Fulton Street.

Holy Trinity Baptist Church, 432 Franklin Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Carleton Avenue Y.M.C.A. 405 Carlton Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Ashland Y.M.C.A. 221 Ashland Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Harlem Branch Y.W.C.A., 179 West 137th Street, N.Y.C.

New York Urban League, 202 West 136th Street, N.Y.C.

New York Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Office 69 Fifth Avenue, N.Y.C.

St. Augustine Presbyterian Church, Prospect Ave and East 165th Street, Bronx

Peoples' Voice Jersey City office, 765 Ocean Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey

Peoples' Voice office, 58 West Market Street, Newark, New Jersey.

United Mutual, Jamaica office, 109-57 New York Blvd., Jamaica, Long Island.

Harlem Labor Victory Committee, 217 West 125th Street, N.Y.C.

National Urban League, 1133 Broadway, New York City.

Negroes were urged to visit anyone of these offices for information and help to secure jobs.

Before beginning his lengthy and prepared speech Adam Powell read off the list of politicians which he according to his statement invited to the meeting to speak on the subject of the meeting. The "only one that had the courtesy to appear was William T. Andrews Assemblyman" the others did not even offer an excuse and for that reason the voters were asked to support Andrews at the polls on election day and to vote against the others because "they are not interested in the welfare of the Negroes". This denunciation included Vito Marcantonio. The inclusion of Marcantonio in the denunciation caused considerable consternation and indignation among the Communists who under the leadership of Solomon Harper openly challenged Powell's statement accusing him of being untruthful when he stated that a telegram was sent Vito Marcantonio. Adam Powell was very incensed over the statement of Solomon Harper. "Do you mean to call me a liar Mr. Harper? I did send Marcantonio a telegram written invitation to speak," was Adam Powell's reply. This happened on the platform immediately after the adjournment of the meeting causing about 30 people to gather. The Communists embarrassed left the platform in a huff. I have already listed in the report the names of the politicians invited.

The actions of Powell in putting these politicians on the spot and the subsequent denunciation of their election district workers is the first step in the direction of breaking the influence of the two major political Parties over the Negro people. His objective is to build up a powerful block of independent voters that "will have allegiance to no political Party". "Negroes must think and vote independently of all political Parties" shouted Powell.

He called a small group of tenants from one of the apartment houses where the Consolidated Tenants' League recently won a reduction in rent, introduced them to the audience, praising the action taken and called for many more such actions in Harlem to lower rents. He also call upon

his secretary Joseph Ford to tell the audience about the number and kinds of jobs the Coordinating Committee had gotten for Negroes. The Coordinating Committee is controlled and directed by Adam Powell as an adjunct of his church. Ford explained that several hundred jobs were gotten for Negroes in the defense industries and also in non-defense industries at good salaries. Two workers who were recipients of jobs also testified that they had been benefited through the efforts of Adam Powell.

Speaking of the wage and price freezing legislation he characterized it as "spelling economic ruin to the Negroes, the majority of whom are in the low pay brackets" and that unless they immediately seek employment in the defense industries they would not be able to leave their present poorly paid jobs after December 1st, 1942. He linked job freezing with wage and price freezing which he stated would remain for the duration. He stated that the reason he set up the "Act Now" offices which I have already listed was because of the need of acting now before "it is too late". "after December 1st if you are working as a poorly paid domestic worker you will be frozen on that job" shouted Powell.

Touching upon the war he stated that the War could have been won this year" if the United Nations had opened a Second Front! "The Russians are putting up a splendid fight but the United Nations are not supporting them" he said. He heaped praise upon China for holding the Japs and heaped scorn on Britain for its inability to hold Singapore and other alleged "fortified centers". He also called for the release of the leaders of the Indian National Party and immediate freedom for India stating that he attended an important conference in Washington at which it was ~~agreed~~ stated that President Roosevelt is sending a delegation to India to arrange for the release of Indian leaders and for the setting up of an independent government there. He stated that there were somethings relating to this conference that he could not now divulge.

Concluding his speech was an appeal for unity to end the polltax, discrimination, jim crowism, lynching and for the creation of a peoples world.

My impression of Powells speech was that he was appeasing the Communists through the support of certain aspects of their program and at the same time building his own independent movement. He undoubtedly will not denounce them openly, neither will he make any move that will give them sufficient grounds to attack him at the present time. His policy seems to be to keep their good will and cooperation, permitting them to be active in movements sponsored by himself but definitely limiting their power and subordinating their activities. Communist will not now break with Powell they need him. Powell knows it and is using it to the utmost.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MET:CD  
100-22864

October 15, 1942.  
Confidential

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2A2m/EHL  
ON 7/67/00

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 12, 1942. The report is relative to a mass meeting entitled "Act Now Or Starve", which was held at the Golden Gate Auditorium, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City on Friday, October 9, 1942. According to Informant this meeting was called by ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. and was held under the auspices of the Peoples' Voice, a Negro newspaper of which POWELL is co-publisher.

According to Informant this meeting was an attempt by POWELL to distort the facts in regard to the Federal legislation being contemplated in regard to the freezing of wages. POWELL contends that the freezing order will be followed by the freezing of negroes on their present jobs and that this will mean that no one will be able to leave his present employment even for a better job, without the consent of the Government. Consequently, negroes will be required to remain in poorly paid jobs.

This report also points out that POWELL at this meeting denounced VITO MARCANTONIO, along with certain State Assemblymen whom he had invited to speak at this meeting. His denouncement amounted to pointing out to the audience that these individuals had been invited to speak at this meeting and their failure to appear reflected that they were not interested in the welfare of the negroes and that the voters should remember them at the polls. Informant further pointed out that after the meeting the Communists took exception to POWELL'S attack on MARCANTONIO. It is noted, however, that POWELL'S speech as reported by Informant follows closely the Communist Party policy in that he demands a second

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MET:CD  
100-22864

October 15, 1942.

RE: ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.

front, the freedom of India, and an appeal to end the poll tax and discrimination against negroes.

Copies of this report are being retained in the New York City Field Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

CC for File

b3



The crime wave in Harlem has aroused the populace to such an extent that the majority of the Negro people are axious that something be done about it. The wave of muggings, robbery and murder that have blighted this section that was once garden spot for business, tourists and pleasure seekers has resulted in businesses moving out, tourist shunning it like a plague and pleasure seekers going to other sections.

What are the underlying factors:

They are basically economic. Many of the crimes are perpetrated by youths between the ages of seventeen and twenty three. Many of them are the products of depression, the demoralization that accompanies widespread unemployment, discrimination in employment, etc.. Widespread juvinile delinquency to a large extent is responsible. To this may be added over-crowded homes, over-crowded schools, lack of sufficient recreational centers and the inability of parents to give their children the things that other children enjoy. All these conditions constitute more or less the basis of the situation in Harlem, However there is also a number of element that have migrated to New York City in recent years that have brought with them element alien to Harlem who seek an easy way to make a dollar lured by the bright lights and tales of money to be made if a "guy is smart".

The majority of Negroes are law abiding and patriotic citizens and deplore the present situation. They understand the basic reasons for the present situation but at the same time they understand that all the present crimes do not flow from economic conditions. They also understand that crime regardless of the causes must be punished and in this respect they are wholeheartedly with the law enforcement agencies.

Numerous groups such as the March on Washington Movement, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Urban League and many churches and fraternal organizations have agitated for remedial measures to destroy the conditions that breed juvenile delinquency and crime. A few steps have been taken but they are far insufficient. The problem still remains to be solved.

The situation is such that decent citizens are constantly in fear of being robbed, mu ged, cut or killed by roving groups of youths "gaged" with wine and "tea". "Tea" can be had for twenty fives cents a "stick" and wine at twenty five cents a pint. Prostitution is rife. On many of the streets decent people have to run the gauntlet of prostitutes who are every where ready to approach persons leaving the subways, getting off busses and walking down the streets. Boys and girls witness this sort of thing everyday in the streets. "King Kong" or "juicepoints" still flourish through the sale of bootleg liquor. The recent arrests made by the Police Department has forced the prostitutes and pimps to devise new methods of operation. They exercise more care to avoid arrest. Many of them are now operating in those sections that are not considered "hot" until things cool off.

125th street was for years a busy shopping district. People of all races and nationalities came to it to do their shopping but since the riot in March 1935 there has been a steady decline in the shoppers. Conditions have progressively grown worse since that unfortunate day. Quite a number of businesses have been removed to other sections of the city.

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7/27/00  
SP 2A-M-ETHC

Harlem night life attracted hundreds of tourists and pleasure seekers and was a source of considerable income to the bars and grills and cabarets and theatres. Both employer and employee enjoyed the benefits of this flourishing business. All these spots gave employment to quite a substantial number of waiters, waitresses, cooks, entertainers and numerous other persons. The loss of this business has hit business man and employee alike to the complete chagrin of both.

The Amsterdam News is beginning now to reflect the sentiment of a the decent and law abiding people of Harlem who have long deplored the situation and are anxious that something be done about it. The series of article which are being run in this paper is aimed at crystallizing public sentiment into a campaign for the cleaning up of Harlem and ridding it of certain criminal element.

These articles also reflect the sentiment of business men and particularly the sentiment of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce. They like the law abiding people in Harlem are alarmed by the unfavorable publicity this great and once flourishing community is getting in the local papers as a result of a minority of undesirable people, whose actions were alien to Harlem prior to 1935.

During the last few months there have been arrests of persons in some of the bars and grills. The result was police officers were placed in each establishment for a number of days. These arrests are reported to the A.B.C. Board the result of a number of licenses have been revoked or suspended and the others must show cause why their licences should not be suspended. Some of the actions taken by the A.B.C. Board are justified and some are not. It is a case of the good suffering on account of the bad. The injustices that are done to some of the owners has been made the concern of the Amsterdam News. Mr. Sullivan member of the editorial staff is in charge of the campaign to organize them and to present their problems before the A.B.C. Board. Two or three meetings of the bar and grill owners has been called in the Amsterdam News building. I have been reliably informed that Mr. Sullivan has appeared before the A.B.C. Board and has also held conferences with Mathew J. Edar head of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce.

The change of the Amsterdam Star News policy may be then attributed to two reasons: 1. the need of advertisements for the financial support of the paper and the affect of the competition created by the Peoples Voice. 2. Regain circulation lost to the Peoples Voice.

The change in editorial policy of the Amsterdam Star News (same as Amsterdam News the word Star was recently added) has had a healthy reaction among its readers. While the motivating force is one of economics in the main it at the same time reflects the opinion of the majority of Harlemites.

People's Voice has gone over completely to the Communist Party line of twisting and distorting the facts in order to garner mass support and circulation. The law enforcement agencies are hampered in their work by Communist groups who characterize the actions of the Police Department as attacks on the Negro people when Negroes are arrested for commission of crimes. P.V., the Daily Worker and numerous Party pamphlets condemn the newspaper accounts

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of crime in Harlem as a smearing campaign and call upon the Negroes to protest to the Mayor to the Commissioner of Police, District Attorney's office etc.. In the majority of instances arrests and rough handling are justified in a few instances they are not. The Communists cease upon every instance to accuse the Police Department of brutality and frame-ups. In cases of "muggers" and other criminals who have been shot or killed by the Police the Communists arouse sentiment against the Police by accusing them of murder and being "quick triggered" when it comes to Negroes. The Communists are quick to cease every issue and where there is no issue to make one in order to get an audience that they agitate in the interests of the Communist Party and its objectives.

It is interesting to note that the Communists have never called a meeting about the crime wave in Harlem. Their line is to justify it by blaming every governmental agency and the "vicious system that breeds crime." It is true that in their meetings they bring out the economic factors but for the purpose of attacking all constituted authority and to show that the Communists are the only friends and champions of Negro rights.

Immediately after the riot on March 19th 1935 there was an unprecedented number of Policemen stationed in Harlem. The Communists at that time called protest meetings against the "unwarranted presence of Policemen in Harlem whose objective was not to protect property and maintain order but to intimidate the people". Telegrams and letters and resolutions were sent to the Mayor, police Department etc. Gradually the number was brought down to normal. From time to time since then they have accused the Police of insufficient Police protection when it served their best purposes.

Communist Party agitation has given comfort to the law breakers in 1935 as they do now. At that time they justified the unwarranted destruction of property as they now justify "mugging" prostitution and all manner of crimes by linking them up with the economic plight of the Negro.

The situation is further aggravated by the Negro nationalists who preach racialism and urge the people to "drive all white people out of Harlem". Speakers on "soap boxes" have been heard agitating the audience to "get baseball bats and drive white men out of Harlem".

The leaders of this agitation are of course pro-Japanese. The most brazen of these were arrested recently by the F.B.I.

The Amsterdam Star News is taking a constructive and objective view editorially of the situation to the dislike of the Communists. The result is that Abner W. Berry speaking for the Communist Party warned the Amsterdam Star News that a boycott campaign would be organized against it if it did not change its present policy. The Amsterdam News is taking a decidedly anti-Communist policy.

The Peoples Voice is considered a Communist paper and indeed gives prominence to every Communist campaign and effort. The Party line prevails in practically every article. While Adam Powell is not a member of the Party he supports everything they initiate and participates in all their campaigns and fronts for them in initiating Party campaigns.

Funeral" to Celebrate the Last of Talmadge.

Mass meeting Held Sunday September 20th at 5pm

Golden Gate Auditorium.

Meeting preceeded by a parade through Harlem consisting of about forty people including musicians, and persons riding in private cars and a truck. There one funeral car two or three private cars and a truck led by the Col. Charles Young Post of the American Legion Band, a small youth group and a few women dressed in white. Some groups dropped out before the parade was half over. At no time did they have more than a hundred participants.

Attendance at mass meeting 2,800.

Chairman Adam Powell

Speakers:

Reverend William Lloyd Imes Pastor Saint James Church

Rev. B. C. Robinson African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev. R. C. Lawson Refuge Church of Christ

Roy Wright One of the Scottsboro Boys.

Ben Davis Jr. Communist Party

Vito Marcantonio Congressman

Rev. Thomas S. Harten Holy Trinity Baptist Church Brooklyn

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Peoples Voice supported by the Communist Party, Negro Victory Council and a group of leading Negro undertakers.

The Undertakers are:

Leroy Butler 177 West 126th Street,

Rodney Dade Inc. 2332 7th Avenue

Clinton Brooks 149 West 128th Street

Mickey Funeral Parlor 228 Lenox Avenue

Anna E. Small 210 West 15th Street.

Levy and Delany 2250 7th Avenue

Lafayette W. Rogers 2148 7th Avenue

Clinton Brooks 149 West 128th Street

John E. Braithewaite 112 West 145th Street

A.Q. Martin 392 Carlton Avenue Brooklyn

Marian Daniels 164 West 136th Street

FOI # 439740

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The original plans called for each of the undertakers to supply a hearse that would carry a coffin symbolizing the burial of the evils or enemies of democracy such as lynching, segregation, race hatred, poll-tax white supremacy, jim-crow, ignorance, injustice and bigotry. The Police Department refused a permit for the use of hearse for any other purpose than for which it was designed therefore the plans could not be carried out. However a coffin symbolizing the death of ex-governor Talmadge was on display in front of the platform.

The meeting was opened with "taps". After which Rev. Imes spoke of his pleasure at attending such "funerals" and asserting that there should be more of them. He outlined all the injustices against Negroes which he stated that Talmadge symbolized called for boldness and willingness to sacrifice even life if necessary to win democracy for the Negro.

Reverend Robinson spoke along similar lines and urged the listeners to fight for democracy. He further stated that we must make democracy work for the Negro.

Reverend R. C. Lawson spoke of his admiration of Rev. Powell and the work he is doing. He apologized for the fact that he is not a politician and pledge support in the fight for democracy for the Negro. He further stated that the Negroes should be like a bull dog in the respect that nobody loves a bull dog but everybody respects him. This analogy he made in connection with a plea for action on the part of the Negro for democracy.

Roy Wright merely greeted the audience.

Ben Davis Jr. spoke of his activities in the case of Angelo Herndon and how mass pressure resulted in the freedom of Herndon and urged the people resort to more and more so that the leaders of the government would not get any rest until satisfactory action is taken. He concluded with an appeal to demand the opening of a "Second Front Now".

Vito Marcantonio gave a report on his activities in Congress laying stress on the passage of a law that all the soldiers in the armed forces have the right to vote without paying the poll-tax. He considered this tremendous step forward. He told of the efforts of Congressman Bankin trying to prevent passage of the Bill through the use of a technicality and how he defeated him. He urged the people to write to Secretary of War Stimson protesting against his attempt to nullify the law by offering the excuse that the space required to send these ballots to troops abroad could be used to carry munitions. He characterized this as a part of the whole plot of the domestic and foreign fascists to stifle the will of the people. These are the same people who today are opposed to the opening of a Second Front now he asserted, they are the same ones who supported Munich, they are the appeasers of fascism who refuse give Russia assistance now. By inference he questioned the sincerity of the leaders of the United Nations because of the failure to open a Second Front now before Russia is knocked out of the war. "The present war will be followed by another war a peoples war for freedom that will sweep away the imperialism of Britain and exploitation of the people". He characterized this war as a civil war, a war of the people that will establish a free world. He attacked the all newspapers except the Daily Worker and the Peoples Voice for which he had considerable praise. My reaction to his remarks are that the Communist Party is now paving the way for justification of a truce with Hitler. His line was also reflected in the article of A. Kish from London published Sunday September 20th, in the Sunday worker. Concluding he viciously attacked the local press for building up what he termed a false crime wave in Harlem for the purpose of smearing a loyal and patriotic people.

Reverend Thomas Harten attacked Negro politicians as enemies of the Negro; characterizing them as "Uncle Toms", and "tools of the white people". He asked for a breaking away from the established Parties that is the Democratic and Republican Parties and for independent political action. In a speech filled with spleen and invective he attacked those who are responsible for lynching, jim-crow etc., and called upon the audience to die rather than permit this condition to continue. He concluded his speech with a proposal that Adam Powell be drafted for Congress so that he can work with Marcantonio thus giving the people two fighting Congressmen.

Adam Powell made the concluding remarks. He outlined all the evils

and ills of democracy all of which he stated Talmadge symbolized. He asked the audience to bury them like they are burying Talmadge. He deplored the actions of the Police Department in refusing a permit to have hearses in the parade. Speaking of Talmadge he stated that "I am not content with the burying of Talmadge politically I would like to see him buried in the flesh". He also stated that this is the first time that Negroes had the opportunity to bury a "cracker" and he hoped it would not be the last. Continuing he launched into an attack against the F.B.I. relative to the arrest of the pro-Japanese Negroes in Harlem. "These Negroes did not represent many people, a few hundred at most instead of investigating them the F.B.I. should investigate Martin Dies, Congressman Blanton and Dixon of Alabama". His attack was received with an insignificant favorable reaction. There was a little scattered applause. Concluding he called for an end to the poll-tax, quarantine of prejudice in the South by keeping Southern white soldiers out of the North, burying all "crackers in the bottom of hell" and willingness to sacrifice anything to achieve victory.

A motion was made to send a telegram to President Roosevelt demanding Negro Rights Now. This motion was amended to state that if Negroes were good enough to fight for democracy for Englishmen and Australians then they are good enough to enjoy democracy here now. The motion and the amendment were carried unanimously.

Adam Powell is planning to call a conference of representatives of all the darker races sometime in October for the purpose of working out a world program of struggle for the rights of the darker races. This conference to include representatives from India, China, Africa, West Indies America etc..

The program will consist of a plank for freedom for India the West Indies, China, and Negroes in America. Whether the program will include any of the Latin races is not now known.

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The first National Conference of the March on Washington Movement was held in Detroit Michigan September 26th and 27th. The purpose of this Conference was to organize a provisional structure for the National organization and to work out a program of activities. The present set-up agreed upon in Detroit will operate until the National Convention of the M.O.W.M. which will be held in Chicago in May 1943. The Chicago Convention will set-up the permanent organization and adopt the Constitution that shall govern the National body and its local chapters. A provisional Constitution was adopted to govern the organization until the Convention.

There were approximately 60 delegates present representing local chapters and organizations in New York, Chicago, Washington, D.C., St. Louis, Detroit, Flint, New Orleans and Tampa. I have not been able to get the list of the various groups but will attempt to do so as soon as possible.

It was clearly understood that every action taken by the Detroit Conference was tentative and subject to the approval of the Convention, however, it was understood that the program was to become immediately operative. The setting up of a provisional national structure grew out of a desire of a larger and more representative group which could be achieved on the basis of intensive activity between now and the National Convention.

The Conference concurred in the recommendation of the National Director A. Phillip Randolph to use the intervening period to agitate and arouse the people for a march to Washington but with the understanding that the actual time should be decided by the Chicago Convention which they hope will be a broad and all inclusive growing out of the mass actions on a local scale in each and every community. All the local actions shall be coordinated and directed toward the central objective a mass and representative march on Washington, when ever the Convention decides.

The policy of the M.O.W.M. was set forth in the resolutions adopted. These resolutions covered all or almost all the "ills of democracy". They called for an unrelenting fight against discrimination in every form in the government, in the armed forces, in industry, public places etc.. Passage of the anti-lynch bill and the anti-poll tax bill was on the "must" list of tasks.

Moreover, the Conference went on record wholeheartedly and unanimously for support of the War and the aims of the United States to wipe out the Axis.

The Confab went on record expressing opposition to the Communist Party, barring Communists from participation in the M.O.W.M.

The local chapters are to concentrate on local grievances, call mass meetings, protest gatherings, street meetings, parades to stir up the people for action to wipe out local and national grievances. All these activities must be aimed at reaching the goal of 6,000,000 members. Nationally and local chapters in every principle city must be built.

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Mass marches on city, county and state governmental bodies on specific issues of discrimination and unfair treatment of Negroes. Local and national boycott campaigns will be used as means of dealing with industries that pursue a policy inimical to the interests of the Negroes. Each local chapter is asked to make test cases out of places of business and public places and to organize resistance to attempts to discriminate, segregate or jim-crow Negroes. The N.A.A.C.P. legal staff will cooperate and give every assistance necessary for the successful prosecution of each case in conjunction with the M.O.W.M.

A resolution was also adopted condemning pro-Japanese activity among Negroes and for the rooting out of such influences among the Negroes and combatting those who say that the Japs are friends of the "darker races". Approval was given to the actions of the F.B.I. in arresting pro-Japanese agitators in New York and Chicago. Dr. Ervin stated to me that a group came to him asking for assistance for the pro-Japanese agitators but their request was turned down. He also said that he had repeatedly warned them against disseminating such propaganda but they refused to heed his warning.

The Conference went on record for the release of the imprisoned Indian Leaders and for immediate granting of Indian Independence.

A National Executive Board was elected to direct the work until the National Convention.

The Conference was held in the Y.W.C.A. in Detroit Michigan.

A report on the National Conference will be given to the New York Chapter of the M.O.W.M. next Wednesday October 7th at the 135th Street branch of the Y.M.C.A.



Negro Labor Victory Committee  
217 West 125th Street, Room 105  
New York City.  
Mass meeting Held Friday October 2nd, 8 P.M.  
Little Theatre, Y.M.C.A. 180 W. 135th Street.

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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 HEM/ELC

Charles Collins gave the report for the Committee. He outlined 9 points which he characterized as work accomplished by the Committee since June 27th, 1942. He also outlined a 6 point program for future activity.

#### Nine (9) Points

1. Placed 1,000 Negro men and women in both skilled and unskilled jobs in places where hitherto they have been barred. This was done in co-operation with Warehouse Employees Union Local 65 and several other unions.
2. Organized a Second Front Meeting in Harlem on August 21st attended 1,500 Negroes and 500 whites. (This figure is greatly exaggerated)
3. Placed Captain Mulzac as Captain of the 10,000 ton Liberty Ship in co-operation with the National Maritime Union.
4. Secured the release of 4 Negro boys who were falsely accused of rape and robbery due to the Daily News smear campaign.
5. Conferred with Marvin Mc Intyre Secretary to President Roosevelt for one hour where a full program for a peoples' victory, especially as it applies to Negro freedom was outlined.
6. Published and advertised in all Negro communities those unions who are doing something for the freedom of the Negro people.
7. Supplied Negro speakers for upwards of 200 rallies during the last five months.
8. Went to Washington on the Poll Tax and the Soldiers Vote Bills.
9. Organized the sub-committee on railroad employment to wipe out Jim-Crow in this key defense industry. The last meeting of this group held in Chicago, Ill was attended by 200 railroad workers.

#### Six (6) Points

1. A peoples' rally and drama on the Four Freedoms to be held on Nov. 15. The President of the United States will be invited to speak.
2. Raising of the All Harlem Service Flag on October 15th in cooperation with the Uptown Chamber of Commerce and the Association of Trade and Commerce.
3. Patriotic parade for the armed forces, Negro and white together, with the American Legion and similar societies to precede the Flag Raising ceremony.

4. Calling of a National Conference on Negro Rights in the immediate future.

5. Inaugurate new headquarters to more adequately fill our duties to labor and to the Negro people.

6. To establish an organ for the spreading of the true role of the trade union movement in the fight for Negro rights. This is to be done in cooperation with the Negro Publication Society of New York, INC.

The projected program was unanimously adopted



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New York, New York

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October 12, 1942  
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7/27/00 SP2 ALM/CHL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 8, 1942, relative to a mass-meeting of the above captioned organization held on October 2, 1942 at the Y.M.C.A., 130 West 135th Street, New York City.

This report reflects the work which this organization claims to have accomplished since June, 1942. The report also points out a six-point program for future activity.

It is noted that according to their future program, a peoples' rally is planned for November 15, 1942 and President Roosevelt will be invited to speak at this meeting.

The confidential informant has been advised to follow and report all future activities of this organization.

Copies of this report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. J. FOXLOTH  
Assistant Director

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New York, N.Y.

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October 26, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: [REDACTED]  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [REDACTED]. The informant advises that he has received information from a very reliable source that this individual is the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

A case is being opened on this individual, and appropriate investigation will be conducted to verify the information furnished by the informant. Informant has advised that he will attempt to obtain additional information concerning this matter.

A check of the indices in this office reveals that [REDACTED] name appears on the list of contacts of the LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS, 1941.

Copies of this report are being retained in the New York Field Office files for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/27/00

*[Signature]*  
P. D. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures

cc: N.Y. File [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - 96

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10/26/42

**Protest Meeting Against Lynching.**

Salem Church, 129th Street and 7th Ave., New York City

1,200 persons attending

Held under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee to Stop Lynching  
National Negro Congress and Salem Lyceum.

Sunday October 25th, 1942.

Rev. Charles Young Trigg Pastor of Salem Methodist Church presided. He was  
presented by Frank Johnson President, Salem Lyceum.

The theme of the meeting was: "Three Negroes Lynched in Mississippi in 4 Days  
"Lynchers Must Be Executed as Traitors to the Nation". "Victory Demands-  
"A Federal Anti-Lynching Law; Abolition of the Poll Tax."

On the platform were: Hulan Jack, Assemblyman, George Murphy Executive Secre-  
tary, National Negro Congress; Ferdinand Smith Secretary National Maritime Union;  
Charles Collins, Organizer Hotel and Club Employees, chairman Negro Labor Victory  
Max Yergan President of the National Negro Congress; Theodore A. Jackson,  
Member of the National Emergency Committee to Stop Lynching; Benjamin Davis Jr.  
County Secretary Communist Party and candidate for the House of Representatives  
on the C.P. ticket; Mrs. Ina Wood; Rev. Adam C. Powell, Councilman; Daniel Burrows  
Assemblyman; Herbert L. Bruce, Tammany District Leader 21 Assembly District;  
Charles Pelletti Lt. Governor State of New York; Joseph Cavagan Congressman.

Speakers at the meeting were:

Max Yergan praised the church for "bringing together a great force into  
what we are fighting for". He characterized the gathering as truly represen-  
tative. Stressing the need of unity to fight successfully against lynching,  
for jobs, better housing and health. Heatedly, he spoke of the three lynchings  
in Mississippi and the "attempted lynching in Tennessee" and asked the audience  
to find a way to "further this whole fight against opposition" which he spoke  
of as enemies of the Negro. He stated that the meaning of the lynchings is  
"continuation of the same evil powers; the same Poll-tax forces have exercised  
in America". The Poll-Taxers were called the "successors of the slave owners".

Rev. Charles Young Trigg attempted to draw a comparison between Hitler  
and Americans. He stated "Hitler tells you what he is going to do, but the  
American white does not tell you; they go ahead and do it". This was drawn in  
reference to lynching. He sharply criticized the A.F. of L. for practicing a  
policy of discrimination. The "A.F. of L. never was interested in the Negro" -  
but was compelled to take Negroes in as a result of the activities of the  
C.I.O.. He cited the Kaiser ship yards as an example of wanton discrimination.  
"Discrimination, lynching is Hitlerism" he asserted, "we have got to put down  
Hitlerism in America."

Mrs. Ina Woods spoke generally against jim-crowism, separatism and lynching.  
Telling of seeing this condition so widespread which was due primarily to  
poverty and ignorance that she sought to do something about it. She opened a  
a book store, sold books "that carried a message". The store was opened in  
1936 and remained open until it was closed by the authorities in 1940. "Four  
years later the affect upon the people was so great the authorities raided  
our homes, arrested us and a number of people", she stated. "We were not told  
what we were arrested for until we were finally arraigned on a charge of  
Criminal Syndicalism". "Our bail was \$400,000. The International Labor Defense  
came to their aid. They were according to her statement sentenced to jail

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for ten years and fined \$5,000. The case is being appealed. The audience was asked to aid in the fight for the release of all those "victims of Oklahoma lynch justice". She concluded with an appeal for independence for India, and China and the opening of a "second Front" to win the war.

Congressman Joseph Gavanagan characterized lynching as a continuation of "by gone days"; "the instinct to lynch is ever present-vicious-like a snake ever ready to strike". Criticized Negro leaders who allegedly stated to him that they were not interested in an anti-lynch bill because it did not affect the Negro in the North, it was needed legislation for the South. He asserted that his reply was that he was out to help everybody and that is why he introduced the Anti-Lynching Bill in the House. He asserted that the failure to get the passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill was due to the fact that so many people were not interested. He said that a Pearl Harbor is necessary to stir up the people. Some Negro leaders "need a few lynchings to wake them up" Gavanagan asserted. "Lynching went stop until the strong arm of the Federal Government reaches out in the states and viciously prosecute lynchers". "The Federal Government has Constitutional power to stop it. This power he asserted is given Congress under the 14th Amendment and that the Supreme Court of the United States has so ruled. He concluded with the statement that he would retire from office when he had succeeded in passing the Anti-Lynching Bill; that his life's ambition was to leave this as a monument to his son.

Charles Collins bitterly assailed lynchings as bitterness of the Poll Taxers who fear that Negroes are on the march "to end exploitation"; fear of the churches, fear of the trade unions; fear of the defeat of Hitler; fear of Negro leaders and their activities. He appealed for funds to send a delegation to visit Governor Johnson of Mississippi and President Roosevelt. The delegation to President Roosevelt will demand a public statement on lynching. A little over 234 dollars was collected. He announced that on November 15th there will be a dramatization of the Four Freedoms. There will be speakers and entertainers from Africa, India, China, West Indies and America.

Adam Powell took the occasion to welcome Rev. Trigg to "our Community" stating that if we had "more men like him we would be better off". He asserted that "Americans' number one problem is lynching"--"a lyncher is a Nazi"; "There is no difference". Continuing along this line he stated that lynchers are saboteurs just the same as those who landed on the New Jersey Coast. "A lyncher is a fascist whether they belong to the Sons or the Daughters of the American Revolution and can trace their ancestry back to the Mayflower. A Government that refuses to stop lynching or punish those who are guilty is bordering onto fascism. Speaking of Georgia he shouted that "a Negro in Georgia suffers more indignities walking down the streets than a Jew in Germany". He asserted that those who are indifferent toward lynching or condone it are equally as bad as the lynchers. Any church that fails to speak out against lynching "is not Christ-like". "Abolition of lynching is a war measure" and is essential to victory of the United Nations. He concluded with an appeal for a "peoples lobby" in Washington composed of Negro and white people to fight for the passage of the anti lynching Bill.

Ferdinand Smith said that "something is rotten in America when human life can be taken without impunity". Criticized Negro leaders who refused to take part on a delegation to Mississippi. Sent invitations to twenty five and received response from only two persons. He called for the weeding out of those Negro leaders that failed to take a stand on such important matters.

Ferdinand Smith continued;

Lynching was branded as an American brand of Hitler fascism which he stated "Hitler fascism is avenged by a mighty armed force while the American brand is held in check only by public opinion. He painted a graphic picture of what "we can expect if Hitler is victorious". Drifting into the question of the "second Front" he stated in answer considerable opposition to the "second Front" slogan of the Communists "the "second Front" is not to save Russia; it is not to save the Red Army but to save civilization". He criticized the March on Washington Movement for its inactivity branded it a "speech making group" that had the name of March to Washington but did not have any intentions of doing so. He called for adequate preparations for a mass march to Washington.

Benjamin Davis Jr. stated that "if the poll tax was abolished long ago we would have been nearer victory in this war." The recent lynchings show desperation of the poll taxers who "knew that their doom is at hand". To emphasize this point he cited the change of opinion and attitude by the people of Georgia in unseating Talmadge. He claimed that the war is rapidly bringing things to a head which revealed the progressive nature of this war. He concluded with an appeal for the opening of a "second Front to doom Hitler now" and making "lynchers account for their actions".

Ed. Governor Polletti was not an invited speaker. He was informed of the meeting to which he made surprise appearance. His objective to get a few more votes. He merely stated "amen" to every thing that Adam Powell stated and urged the people to get together and fight for jobs, eliminate the poll tax and stop lynching.

George Murphy Executive Secretary National Negro Congress was asked to read the telegrams that were sent. The first telegram was to be sent to States Attorney General Mc Hugh Williams of Oklahoma requesting that he plead error in the case of Mrs. Ina Woods in the name of national unity and for victory in our war effort. This telegram was signed by Dr Max Yergan, Vito Marcantonio, Rev. C.Y. Trigg. The second telegram; Senator Van Hye chairman Senate Judiciary Committee urging him to take every step necessary for passage of Ceyer Anti-Poll Tax Bill. 3rd to; Governor Paul Johnson of Mississippi. Commending him upon his stand against lynching and his intention of prosecuting the lynchers and also for his support of Attorney General Biddle. 4th. President Roosevelt Supporting prompt action in ordering investigation of recent lynchings and that he (President Roosevelt) speak out now on lynching. All the above telegrams were signed by the three persons mention previously.

Congressman Vito Marcantonio stated that lynching can not be dealt with in the abstract but only through direct action. He stated that he wired Governor Johnson of Mississippi regard the lynchings in his state the Governor immediately pledged action. Shortly after this pledge arrests were made and the Attorney General was appealed to for aid. This action he characterized as good step forward but far insufficient. "We must demand not only arrests, but convictions and capital punishment". The Federal Government should step into every State where lynchings occur he stated arrest and prosecute lynchers in the Federal Courts and if unable to get a jury to try these cases to transfer them to other localities. The fight for such action should be taken to the White House. We must refuse to accept statements. War can not be won until white men recognize Negroes as equal. Jim-crowism, lynching and discrimination is equal to "200 divisions of Hitler storm troopers"

Vito Marcantonio continued....

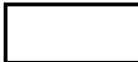
Lynching he stated was aimed at "terrorizing the Negroes because of the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill". "It is no accident, it is no coincidence that these crimes happened at this time. It is the answer of the domestic fascists". Citing the arguments of those who opposed passage of the Bill in the House: that it would enfranchise the Negroes; violate "State's Rights; create dis-unity" which he characterized as domestic fascist ravings. "The dis-unity of which they speak is created by the poll-tax, Jim Crow, discrimination lynching"-and that unless the Government acts now the the whole war effort is endangered. He called for action by the Department of Justice against lynchings asserting that unless the D. of J. act in these cases the Federal Government will lose respect throughout the nation and among the United Nations.

The American people are interested he said not only in winning the victory but also "winning the peace and winning the world".

Lynchers, poll-taxers belong to the same gang that are against the second front, "they are the Red baiters, the same gang that raped Ethiopia, that was behind "Munich settlement". "Scratch a "red baiter" and you find a Negro hater. "We must destroy those who drape themselves in the American flag and have Hitler's hatred in their hearts.

Edwin H. Coolins Bishop General, Coptic Church spoke about the entrance of Ethiopia into the United Nations and the efforts of the Coptic Church to bring this about.

The meeting adopted a telegram to be sent to all the candidates for Governor of New York State asking them if elected will he immediately convene a National Conference of Governors to act on the evil of lynching, passage of Anti-Lynching Legislation and Anti-Poll Tax Legislation.





New York, N. Y.

MET:MFL

439740

October 29, 1942

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/ELH  
ON 7/27/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO  
STOP LYNCHING  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to a protest mass meeting sponsored by the NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO STOP LYNCHING, the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the SALEM METHODIST CHURCH LYCEUM. This meeting was held at the Salem Church, 129th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City, on Sunday, October 25, 1942.

A circular used to advertise this meeting, on which the names of the speakers are listed, was obtained and is also being transmitted herewith.

In this connection, information was received on October 26, 1942, from [redacted] indicating that MAX YERGAN, in a conversation with BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., mentioned the above protest meeting. In commenting on his election campaign, DAVIS is reported to have stated that the best thing happened yesterday in New York City, where he spoke not as a candidate but as a Communist, from the same platform with Lieutenant Governor POLETTI, before 1,800 Negroes, in a Negro church in New York. He related that he had extraordinary reception and that his speech was on the lynching program by the MARGANTONIO Committee, which also included MAX YERGAN, Representative JOSEPH GAVAGAN, Reverend ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Reverend CHARLES YOUNG TRIGG and FERDINAND SMITH.

DAVIS stated that he knew POLETTI personally as he had gone to school with him; that POLETTI came over and shook hands with him. He went ahead to remark that all these fellows spoke from the same platform with him, and that he told them he was a Communist.

The tenor of this conversation seemed to indicate that these individuals were rather proud of the fact that even though they held themselves out as Communists, they were able to appear on the same program with recognized politicians of other parties and have a good reception.

[redacted] - 98

b7D

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NET:MFL  
Letter - Director

October 29, 1942

[redacted] has been advised to follow and  
report further activities of this Committee.

Copies of Informant's report are being retained in the New York  
files of this case for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (3)

CC-NY File [redacted]

October 20th, 1942

**National Emergency Conference Against Lynching.**

Held Sunday October 18th 1942 4 P.M.

Hotel Roosevelt

Auspices; National Negro Congress and Congressman Vito Marcantonio President of the International Labor Defense.

The meeting was called in protest against the three lynchings that occurred in Mississippi recently. The Conference decided to form the National Emergency Committee against Lynching. Because of the calling of the conference on such short notice it was agreed that persons from all parts of the country will be asked to participate.

The group decided that two delegations should be organized, representative of all sections of the country and diverse groups, one delegation to visit Governor Johnson of Mississippi and President Roosevelt. The delegation visiting President Roosevelt to demand that a state of national emergency exists in relation to lynching and that speak out against lynching and prosecute lynchers as traitors to America. The Communist contend that lynching creates national disunity and there for anyone who participates in anything that creates disunity sabotages the war effort and for that reason should be treated the same as a saboteur. On this assumption they proceed to demand that the Federal Bureau of Investigation be used to track down all persons taking part in a lynching. Marcantonio read a ~~letter~~ from Governor Paul B. Johnson of Mississippi pledging support and cooperation. A nationwide movement has been launched. Organizations and individuals are asked to send letters and wires to President Roosevelt and the Governor of Mississippi. The Conference passed unanimously the proposed wire that was later sent to President Roosevelt.

The following officers were elected:

Vito Marcantonio President  
Ferdinand Smith Secretary  
Dr. Mac Trogan Treasurer

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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

The following persons are members of the Committee:

Rev. A. Clayton Powell Councilman  
James Waterman Wise  
Charles Collins  
Dorothy E. Fonn  
Theodore Jackson Eastern Regional Director Dining Car Employees AP of L.  
Hope H. Stevens  
Sabina Martinez  
James Pennington Temporary District Leader 17th Assembly District  
George Murphy  
Eugene Connelley  
Assemblyman Helen Jack  
Assemblyman Leticia L. Burrows  
Saint Clair Bourne Editor of Peoples' Voice  
James Egert Allen  
Wilfred W. Lewis  
~~Assemblyman Dan Hurley~~ Managing Editor Amsterdam Star News  
J. Insorner  
Attorney Sara Felham Speaks  
Rev. William H. Jernagin President, National Baptist Sunday School Union.  
Dr. F. Douglas Speaks  
Rev. C.Y. Trigg pastor Salem Church

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MET

Evelyn Adler, United Office and Professional Workers  
Irving Sherman, Painters District Council No. 9 AF of L  
Donellan J. Phillips  
Herman Rosenfeld  
Samuel Heuberger  
Ida E. Guggenheimer  
Bishop James A. Bray, President Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in A.  
Earl B. Dickerson FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Com)  
C.E. Powell Publisher Amsterdam Star News  
Bishop David H. Sims African Method Episcopal Church

The National Emergency Committee against to Stop Lynching is calling a huge mass meeting jointly with the National Negro Congress and the Salem Church Lyceum. The meeting will be held Sunday October 24th 4 PM at Salem Church 129th Street and 7th Avenue.



b7D

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MET:DH

439740

RECEIVED BY SP2 ALM/ELC  
ON 11/27/00

November 4, 1942  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE  
AGAINST LYNCHING

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 20, 1942 relative to the National Emergency Committee Against Lynching, which is reported to have held its first meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt on October 18, 1942.

b7D

According to this Informant, the National Emergency Conference Against Lynching was held under the auspices of the National Negro Congress and VITO MARCANTONIO, President of the International Labor Defense and United States Congressman. The meeting was called in protest against the three lynchings that occurred in Mississippi. However, it was decided at this Conference to form the National Emergency Committee Against Lynching, in which persons from all parts of the country will be asked to participate.

The Informant's report sets out the program presently to be followed by this committee and the names of the officers as well as the present members of the Committee.

It should also be noted that the National Emergency Committee Against Lynching is calling a huge mass meeting jointly with the National Negro Congress and the Salem Church Lyceum, to be held Sunday, October 24, 1942 at 4:00 PM at the Salem Church, 129th Street and Seventh Avenue. The Informant has been requested to attend this meeting and to follow closely any other activities of this organization.

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MST:BN

Letter to Director

11/4/42

A new case has been opened on the National Emergency Committee Against Lynching and a copy of this report is being retained in the file of this case in the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOX CATH.  
Assistant Director

Enc.

cc: ☐

b3

10/30/42

March On Washington Movement  
New York Division meeting Held Wednesday October 28th, 1942.  
135th Street Branch of the Y.M.C.A.  
Golden Brown presiding.

The meeting was converted into a political symposium which Golden Brown explained would be the first of a series on current topics that will be held on the 2nd and fourth Wednesday instead of the regular business meetings. (u)

Candidates of all political parties were invited. Each speaker was allowed 15 minutes to present the program the Party he or she represented. After all Party representatives had spoken questions were asked from the floor. (u)

The speakers were: William T. Andrews representing the Democratic Party; Ludlow Werner, Republican Party; Layle Lane, Socialist Party; Maida Springer, American Labor Party; Benjamin Davis, Communist Party. (u)

William T. Andrews candidate on the Democratic Ticket for the Assembly cited his record as a legislator in behalf of minority groups asserting that he is always consulted on this type of legislature. He informed the audience of his indorsement by the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. despite the fact that he was defeated by the right wing faction in the American Labor Party primaries. He did, however, receive the indorsement of the left wing faction of the American Labor Party. He appealed for support on his record. (u)

Ludlow Werner, Republican candidate for State Senator in the 19th Senatorial District spoke on the imperative need of Negro representation in the 19th Senatorial District. Citing the record of the incumbent Charles Perry which he characterized as not of the best he called for his defeat. He was confident that Dewey would be elected. (u)

Layle Lane candidate for Congressman At Large on the Socialist Party Ticket praised Wendle Wilkie for his "splendid" speech delivered recently. She saw in this speech the need of a constructive opposition to President Roosevelt not only on questions relating to the war effort but also on domestic problems such as job freezing, price control. The "Socialists stand for a constructive opposition to the President". Today she asserted anyone who disagrees with the President publicly is considered a "traitor". She said that it is "treason to constructively criticize" The latter part of her speech was devoted to a philosophical discussion of the aims and objectives of the Socialist through reform, more equitable distribution of wealth. (u)

Maida Springer candidate for Assemblyman on the American Labor Party Ticket appealed to the audience as "workers" to support the candidates of the ALP. Speaking of high rents, discrimination etc as evils that she hoped to remedy if elected to the Assembly. (u)

Benjamin Davis Candidate for Congressman At Large on the Communist Party Ticket spoke about the war and the need of crushing Hitler heaping praise on the Red Army at Stalingrad and the imperative need of a

SP/104 7/1/90

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7/1/90



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DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 MUM/CH  
ON 7/27/00

Ben Davis continued...

"second front". Winning the war is the first and foremost task and that the Communists have put their program for "socialism" away until Hitler is destroyed. However the question of Negro rights is of such grave importance that "we Communists say it must be solved now". He gave the CP the credit of being the "only Party that has clearly stated its policy in relation to the Negro" and have come before them all the year around with this program. He accused Dewey and Bennett of insincerity on the Negro problem and that a vote for them was a "throwing away of your vote". "We Communists wont be elected but we ask you to vote for our candidates in order to express a large political opposition to winner which be only Dewey or Bennett". Such opposition he felt would enable the people to wring concessions from the winner. Dewey and Bennett were labeled "stooges" and appeasers who failed to speak out on lynching the poll tax and the second front. He criticized Alfange the candidate of the ALP for Governor because he has not stated clearly his stand on the second front issue. He asked the audience to vote for Anter but there were any who were against voting for a Communist for governor then they should vote for Alfange. (u)

The meeting was covered by A.W. Berry "crack reporter" for the Daily and Sunday Worker. (u)

There will be a huge mass protest meeting against lynching on November 9th. This meeting will be held on the steps of City Hall. Prominent members will be asked to speak. This will be a "mass prayer meeting". All participants will be asked to wear black arm bands in mourning for the Negroes that were recently lynched. The meeting will begin at 12 noon. (u)

Golden Brown announced that 2 new Divisions of the March On Washington Movement have been created as a result of the work of Benjamin F. Mac Lauren. These branches were set up in Mobile and Montgomery, Alabama. (u)

[ ] (u)



New York, N.Y.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:LGC  
100-26792

November 3, 1942

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELC  
ON 7/27/80

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 30, 1942, relative to the above-captioned case. (u)

This report reflects information concerning the program of this organization at a meeting of the New York division held Wednesday, October 28, 1942 at the Y.M.C.A., 180 West 135th Street, New York City. (u)

It should be noted that according to an announcement made by GOLDEN BROWN at this meeting, two new divisions of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT have been created as a result of the work of BENJAMIN P. MacLAUREN. The new branches were set up in Mobile and Montgomery, Ala.

Copies of this report are being retained in the New York Field Office files on this case for information purposes.

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-104 7/1/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FOIA SECTION 2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/1/90

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. B. FOXNORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures

✓cc: N.Y. File [redacted] (Enc)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



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10/24/42

Peoples' Voice

In a conversation with John Louis Clarke City Editor of the Peoples Voice I was informed that Marshal Fields withdrew financial support from PV and in order to resume publication after its temporary suspension the publishers had to get "new money".

This "new money" came from Dr. Max Yergan. He stated the "new money" was between \$35,000 and \$40,000. He stated that he could not understand where Yergan could possibly get that much money except that he was backed by the Communists. Dr. Yergan has worked for a salary and his earnings were never so large as to enable him to acquire that much money. There is no knowledge of him inheriting any money.

He stated to me that he visited a plumbing establishment on Broadway owned A. W. Stern where he received the first \$1,500 of the "new money".

He expressed sharp disagreement with the publishers. He said that the partisan policy of the paper is cutting down circulation. He felt that had paper continued its original policy it would have been the largest circulated and most widely read Negro papers in America. He further stated that Adam Powell refuses to be advised by his editorial staff and insists on things going into the paper against the experienced judgement of his staff writers. There is no enthusiasm among the staff such as was the case when the paper was first published. Today everything is routine following A.C. Powell's dictates.

Mr. Clarke's disagreements according to his statement started more than 3 months ago. His open expression of disagreement to the publishers has been in vain. He now feels that should leave. At the present time he is planning a trip to Ohio to help organize a couple of papers after which he will return to New York City. He contemplates resigning from the PV and starting a newspaper with a non-partisan policy.



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103

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MEF:DH  
100-22864

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON

SP 2 ALM/EHL

7/27/00

November 4, 1942  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.;  
INTERNAL SECURITY,  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith an original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 24, 1942 relative to information pertaining to the "People's Voice" a New York newspaper of which ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. is Editor.

In this report the Informant points out that MAX YERGAN agreed to furnish between \$35,000 and \$40,000 for the continuance of this newspaper after Marshal Fields had withdrawn financial support. Further, he points out that the first instalment of this money amounting to \$1,500 was obtained from one A. W. STERN who operates a plumbing establishment on Broadway, New York City.

In this connection the Bureau's attention is directed to Page 6 of the October 10th issue of the "People's Voice" which has been previously furnished the Bureau, where a statement of the ownership and management is set out. It is noted that MAX YERGAN is listed as one of the owners along with A. C. POWELL, Jr. and CHARLES BUCHANAN.

An investigation will be conducted to ascertain whether or not there is an A. W. STERN who operates a plumbing establishment on Broadway. In the event this information proves to be correct, a new case will be opened on A. W. STERN and appropriate investigation conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the background and activities of this individual as well as to ascertain the source of the money furnished by this individual for the continuance of this newspaper.



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100-22864  
Letter to Director

11/4/42

The Bureau's attention is also directed to the report of [redacted] dated October 22, 1942 in which this informant furnishes information indicating a possibility of Communist participation in the "People's Voice".

Both [redacted] and MD 66 have been requested to try to obtain further information concerning the backing of this newspaper by the Communist Party.

Yours very truly,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enc.  
cc: NYFile [redacted] ✓

10/16/42

March On Washington Movement...

Meeting of the New York Chapter held Wednesday October 13th, 1942.  
Young Mens' Christian Association 135th Street near 7th Ave..

Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin presiding.

Richard Thomas Recording Secretary

The meeting was opened with the singing of Negro Spirituals. Immediately there after Dr Ervin announced the Order of Business. The Order of Business Reading of Minutes; Report on Detroit Convention.

The report on the Detroit Convention was given by Dr. Ervin. He stated that he was reporting for the entire New York Delegation that consisted of Richard Thomas, Perry Ferguson, Hardlie Johns, Layle Lane, Benjamin F. Mc Laurin and himself.

According to Dr. Ervin it was an enthusiastic gathering of delegates that adopted a National Constitution for the March On Washington Movement, fixed a date for the National Convention and worked out a clear policy to guide and discipline the rapidly growing movement. Briefly he summarized the Resolutions adopted by the Conference which will be published in pamphlet form in a few days. In a previous report I gave the essence of these Resolutions.

The only feature of the Conference action not reported was the "Message to the World" adopted by the Conference. This manifesto will included in the above mentioned pamphlet. Dr Ervin was very incensed over the fact that the newspapers did not given any publicity to the "Message to the World".

He stated that the National Conference did not elect any National Executive Committee that the power to appoint a National Executive Committee was given to A. Phillip Randolph, National Director. He is appoint them from the most active people in the local chapters taking all those cities where the MOWM is functioning. The National Director also has the authority to appoint all committees necessary to carry on the work of the National movement.

The meeting nearly split the organization when the minutes were read after Dr. Ervin speech. The minutes of the Executive Board of the New York Division read; "Motion by Golden Brown that all Committtees be abolished and that Dr. Ervin (President of New York Division) be given power to appoint all persons on all committees that he deemed necessary." Opposition to the giving of such power to Dr. Ervin and the use of such drastic measures by the Executive Committee was lead by Layle Lane member of the Executive Board. Golden Brown speaking for the recommendation of the Executive stated that this action was necessary because of "clash of personalities" and "failure of Committees to function". However Hardlie Johns who was accused of failing to function as head of Finance and Fair Employment Practice Committee replied by stating that some of the leaders had misappropriated monies of the organization and that the differences arose over this. "I asked for a strict accounting which Richard Thomas (Secretary) opposed." The recommendation was carried by a vote of 21 for and 16 against. Several people, the most active left the meeting in disgust during the heat of discussion.

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DATE 7/24/00 BY SP 2111/1071

Dr. Ervin asked for additional power in a separate motion that would authorize him to remove from the Executive Board and member that was absent from three or more meetings. The request was granted.

The body approved the recommendation for regular meetings every Wednesday night at the YMCA.

Also approved was the plan to hold a series of Educational Forums this Winter. The first will be on October 28th. Representatives of all political Parties will be invited to speak. Colden Brown is in charge of this work. Colden Brown is Secretary Speakers Bureau



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New York, N.Y.

NET:LGC  
100-26792

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November 2, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 7/27/00 BY SP2 ALM/ehc

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 16, 1942, relative to a meeting of the New York branch of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT held Wednesday, October 13, 1942.

b7D

Attention is called to the last paragraph of this report in which Informant points out that this organization has planned to hold a series of educational forums this winter, the first to be held October 28th. In this connection Informant further advised that this organization was formulating a plan for the setup of a Workers School in opposition to the COMMUNIST WORKERS SCHOOL. At this school they will discuss organizational policy, current events, and Negro history.


Informant further advised this office that the present membership of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT in New York City is 5,465. Forty-six block captains have been appointed for the purpose of recruiting new members. They claim to have recruited 500 new members during the month of August. The membership fee is ten cents.

[redacted] will follow and report further activities of this organization.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York Field Division files for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures

  
P. B. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc: N.Y. File [redacted] (Enc)

b3

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New York, New York

100-26803  
MST:FK

October 30, 1942.

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: Communist Party of the USA,  
District No. 2, New York  
Field Division;  
Internal Security - R

439740  
RECEIVED BY SP-2 ALM JHV  
7/28/00  
Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 18, 1942, relative to a mass meeting against lynching held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City on October 18, 1942.

b7D

This meeting was held under the auspices of the New York State Campaign Committee of the Communist Party. About approximately 2800 persons attended representing about 80% negroes and 40% white people. Informant's report reflects that EARL BROWDER was the main speaker at this meeting and that a number of other leading white and negro Communists also spoke.

The last page of informant's report reflects the remarks made by EARL BROWDER concerning his visit to Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles and that he informed the audience that the United States Government was keenly interested in the Communist Party in China uniting with the Kowmentang Party and that the menace of Communism was Axis propaganda and that it was the wish of the State Department that the Communist Party would join with the governments of every country. BROWDER advised that according to Mr. Welles any persons in the State Department speaking anything to the contrary were not expressing the policy of the State Department. He further advised the audience that upon hearing this statement from Mr. Welles he was more than satisfied with the answer of Mr. Welles and respectfully withdrew his charges. He further stated that this statement will go a long way to liquidate the Red Bogy and that as soon as he was given a written statement by Sumner Welles he cabled it to Chungking, China, India and all over Latin America. He concluded with the assurance that the people would have no fear of voting or becoming Communists.

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100-26603  
MET:FK

October 30, 1942.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] (u) will follow and report on any further Communist mass meetings in the Harlem territory.

b7D

There is also being transmitted herewith two circulars advertising the above mass meeting which were furnished by Confidential Informant along with copies of this report.

Copies of this report are also being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. PENWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Encs.  
cc - [redacted] ✓

b3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 19th, 42.

Received  
10/20/42

**Protest Mass Meeting Against Lynching.**

Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, N.Y.C.

Auspices: New York State Campaign Committee of the Communist Party.

Chairman: Audley Moore

Attendance: approximately 2,500

Composition of audience: 60% Negro and 40% white.

The meeting was called in protest against the three lynchings that occurred in Mississippi during the last five days. However, the meeting was converted into a campaign rally for the Communist Candidates in New York State namely: Ireal Amter for Governor, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn for Representative at-Large and Benjamin Davis Jr. for Representative at-Large. This occasion was also used to appeal to the audience to join the Party and to subscribe to the Daily Worker.

Those sitting on the platform were: James W. Ford, Gil Green, Howard Johnson, Elizabeth Barker, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Benjamin Davis Jr., Rev. Ethelred Brown, Angelo Herndon, Charles Collins, Dr. Arnold Bonomi, Earl Browder, Audley Moore and another person that I was unable to identify.

The speakers were: Howard "Stretch" Johnson, Mrs. James Thomas, Rev. Ethelred Brown, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Ireal Amter, James W. Ford, Benjamin Davis and Earl Browder.

Howard "Stretch" Johnson, President of the Harlem Section of the Young Communist League spoke about the recent lynchings of three Negro boys in Mississippi and linked it up with the imprisonment of three Negro soldiers in Claiborne, Louisiana. He demanded the unconditional release of the soldiers and punishment for the lynchers. He also protested the discrimination in the armed forces and called for mixed units. He also accused the Women's Auxiliary corp of the Navy of refusing to accept Negroes and called for an end of such discrimination.

Mrs. James Thomas speaking for the striking tenants at 22 Convent Ave. appealed for support of their strike for lower rents and urged similar action all over Harlem to drive down rents.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn protested against the lynching of the Negro boys in Mississippi, characterizing it as another brutal example of lawlessness in which Negroes are lynched on the trumped up charges of "rape". She stated that the charge of rape is used to justify attacks against the Negro people and that it was a cover to keep Negroes in an inferior position. Extolling the fighting spirit and understanding of events by the Negro people and their support of the fight for release of Earl Browder from prison.

Reverend Ethelred Brown, Chairman of the Non-Partisan Committee for the Election of Ben Davis supported the candidacy of Ben Davis and the other candidates without reservation. He deplored those who feared to declare themselves for the Communists and asserted that he was fully cognizant of what stand he was now taking. "America is unique" he stated, "unique in the respect that it is the only country that indulges in the practice of lynching". "The due process of law" is suspended in relation to the Negro he continued. Speaking about police brutality in Harlem he cited the incident where a white couple was lured into an apartment by a group of muggers for the purpose of

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DATE 11/28/85 BY SP2ALM/OK

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of robbing them during the course of which one of the "muggers" was killed. This he characterized as "cold blooded murder" for which the "police should be held responsible" and prosecuted as "murders". He characterized those ~~and~~ police officers who in the course of their duty shoot criminals as "public executioners". He urged the audience to take action against "quick trigger" policemen. What form and direction this action was to take he did not specify. However he did say that he was called in by the District Attorney in relation to some of his utterances and actions but he was not concerned about and that he would not step down from anything that he said or did. In conclusion he called for the formation of a delegation that would go to Washington to demand that the Department of Justice act to prosecute lynchers and law enforcement agents that are lax in their duty.

Isreal Amter spoke for the election of the entire Communist ticket as the only win the war ticket in the State. He characterized Dewey and Bennett of being stooges of Hoover and Farley respectfully both of whom were aligned with appeasers. He accused them of insincerity in relation to the Negro in that they speak about the Negro to Negro audiences but fail to mention the Negro before white audiences in those sections of the State where Negroes do not reside. He asserted that Ben Davis election to Congress would mean the placing a win the war fighter in Congress who is pledged to fight against the "white supremacy" of the South, mob violence and for the defeat of Hitler in Europe. The Communist Party was presented as the only Party fighting sincerely and honestly for Negro rights and as an expression of this sincerity they placed a Negro for a Statewide office and for this reason coupled with record of activities of the Communist Party every Negro and white workers should vote Communist in the coming elections.

James W. Ford made the speech introducing Earl Browder. In his opening remarks he drew a parallel between the depressing days that Lincoln had during the Civil war with the present situation in Stalingrad. He praised the heroic defense that the Red Army is putting up against the Naz is under the leadership of Joseph Stalin. He cited great conflicts in history that were decisive all of which "paled before the epochal struggle at Staligrad". "A second front" is needed now to aid Stalingrad. A second front now he said would determine how long the war will last, how many lives will be lost, "ten, a hundred or a million"; how much wealth will be expended. He asserted that this is a war for "national liberation" that will liberate the oppressed people. Drifting into the question of the poll tax he asserted that the Communist Party was mainly responsible for the passage of the Bill in the house and called for a intensification of the campaign to force passage by the Senate. He praised Ben Davis; claimed credit for the election of Adam Powell to the City Council in the City of New York, claimed credit for the defeat of Governor Talmadge in Georgia. He stated that the need of the hour was to put Communists in the halls of legislature to guarantee victory for the people. Praising the leadership of Earl Browder, his scientific, clear and farsighted understanding of events that has enabled the Party work in the interest of the people; citing as examples that "immediately upon Browder release from penitentiary he gave the Party a clear perspective on the Negro question", "he gave a clear perspective for the Negr". He was, declared Ford, the first to raise the issue of independence for Puerto Rico and also to speak in behalf of the Chinese people.

Ben Davis stated that the three lynchings in Mississippi was a victory for Hitler; that "Hitler won a victory in which he did not fire a shot". ~~Continuing he asserted that Hitler also won a victory in~~

ing he characterized the lynchers "fascists child murders". "Nothing that Hitler has done is worse than this outrageous action" shouted Davis. "It is equivalent to ten divisions of Hitler storm troopers". "It proves that democracy is decadent". "It is high time to put lynchers to death". We should say "you shall die as a traitor to this nation" to every lyncher cried Davis. He stated that he had sent a telegram to President Roosevelt demanding that a state of emergency be declared with regard to lynching; that lynchers should be treated as traitors; urging that lynchers be put to death and that police who are lax in their duty should be dealt with. He also called for the passage of the poll-tax. Heaping scorn upon Talmadge of Georgia, Dixon of Alabama, "Cotton Ed Smith, Rankin and others he asserted that they put their prejudices and hate of the Negro above their interest of the nation. He followed this through with an attack on those industrialists who hamper production through discriminatory practices and that they should be dealt with "according to law". High rents in Harlem he cited as an evil that must go stating that he had participated in one of the recent rent strikes and had secured a reduction in rent for the striking tenants. He asserted that large quantities of "rotten food is dumped in Harlem". Spoke of the need of jobs in defense industries as essential to the satisfying of the economic needs of the Negro. He accused the Daily News of slandering the Negro people and that it suffered from the "disease of too much circulation" and that something ought to be done about. He proposed the reading of the Daily and Sunday Worker. He concluded his speech with an appeal to the audience to vote Communist.

Earl Browder opened his remarks with an appeal for support of the Communist candidates. He asserted that Democrats, Republicans, American Laborites all were going to vote for the Communist Candidates. These candidates are "not going to be elected" he boldly asserted. The purpose of asking the people to vote for them is that a large Communist vote will influence the policy of government. "The more votes you give Dewey the more influence you give Hoover" and the "more votes you give Bennett the more influence you give Farley" asserted Browder. A vote for Bennett or Dewey is "throwing away your vote". The more votes rolled up for Communist candidates will make the winner think twice before he refuses to hear the demands of the people.

"If you do not want to vote for Amter then vote for Alfange. (Alfange is the candidate of the American Labor Party for Governor of New York State.) "Amter speak much more clearly than Alfange on the second front and other issues before the people" so that a vote for Alfange will also be a vote in protest.

The passage of the "Anti-Poll Tax Bill in the House was the result of fear of losing the elections" asserted Browder. "We must create more such atmospheres". The lynchings in Mississippi he characterized as acts of desperation "by elements that are on their way out". He called attention to the fact that Vito Marcantonio is calling an emergency conference that will deal with the urgent problems that confront the Negro and wanted as many organizations as possible to take part in it.

He stated that there was but one major task before the American people and that was winning the war. "Everything must be subordinated to the war effort with the exception of the war on the poll tax. He stated that "the sure way to lose the war is not to wage war on poll taxes and white supremacy in the South. "We need China, China needs us" but the Chinese lack confidence in the United States because of its inferior treatment of the Negro. The Chinese feel that since Negroes are kept in an inferior position what guarantee have

they (the Chinese) will not be kept in an inferior position after the war. The best way to create confidence he said was to enforce the Constitution equally for Negroes as for whites. The war, he asserted is bringing all these issues to the front and that they must be solved. Speaking on the question of "Socialism", Browder stated that the Party has postponed this question until the end of the war but that the question of Negro rights can not be postponed.

Reporting on his visit to Sumner Welles Under-Secretary of State on last Monday Browder stated that Mr. Welles informed him that the United States Government was keenly interested in the unity of the Communist Party in China with the Kuomintang Party ~~and the Kuomintang Party~~ "that the menace of Communism was Axis propaganda" and that "it was the wish of the State Department that the Communist Party would join with the governments of every country".

Moreover, Browder stated that Mr. Welles stated to him emphatically that any "persons in the State Department speaking anything to the contrary were not expressing the policy of the State Department". Upon hearing this statement Browder said that he was more than satisfied with the answer of Mr. Welles and respectfully withdrew "his charges". This statement "will go a long way to liquidate the Red Bogy" said Browder. He asserted that as soon as he was given the written statement by Sumner Welles he cabled it to Chungking, China, India and all over Latin-America. He concluded with an assurance that the people should have no fear of voting or becoming Communists.

The following Resolutions were adopted:

1. Anti-Poll Tax Bill. This resolution to be sent to President Roosevelt and to members of the Senate.
2. Condemning Lynching. The resolution called for the sending of a mass delegation to Washington to demand Federal action.
3. Second Front.

A telegram from Max Yergan was read endorsing the program of the meeting

The people were entertained by Laura Duncan and Al Moss. Josh White also rendered two numbers "Open Up That Second Front" and "Doris Miller". One selection was rendered by the Young Communist League Vhoras composed of Negro and white youth.



11/6/42

Communist Party Street meeting.  
Held at 126th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City.  
Friday October, 30th, 1942.

Speakers were: Larry Washington and Howard "Stretch" Johnson, Audley Moore.  
Attendance at peak about 100 people.

The meeting was in the main an election campaign rally for the Communist Party candidates. They had the services of a loud speaker mounted on a sedan License #2 M 1297. This car is used by the upper Harlem Section of the C.P. for Party work. It is driven by a heavy set but attractive young Jewess.

All the speakers called upon the audience to vote Communists citing the program of the Communist Party to stop lynching, do away with the Poll Tax, wiping out of discrimination etc. They praise the Red Army and the fight at Staligrad, called for the opening of a "second Front" now in order to win the war. They lashed into the so-called "appeasers" who sought to make a deal with Hitler. Bennett and Dewey were branded as stooges and reactionaries.

Daily Workers were sold and Communist Election literature given out.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

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2164

New York, New York

MET:VOD  
100-26603

November 8th, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.,  
DISTRICT No. 2, NEW YORK CITY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated November 6th, 1942. This report is relative to a Communist Party street meeting held Friday, October 30th, 1942 at 126th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City.

b7D

Informant has been advised to follow and report to this office on further activities of the Communist Party in the Harlem section of New York City.

Copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETHC  
ON 7/28/00

  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director

Enclosures - 2

CC: NY [redacted]

b3

[redacted]

-109

March On Washington Movement, New York Chapter.  
Meeting Held Wednesday November 4th, 1942.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street Branch.  
Presiding Dr. Lawrence M. Ervin

CONFIDENTIAL

The meeting was opened with the singing of patriotic and religious songs. All of these songs are to be sung at the mass protest prayer meeting that will be held on the steps of the City Hall on November 9th at 12 noon until 1 p.m. (u)

Miss Layle Lane chairman of the Mass Action Committee reported on the action suggested by her committee on the job freezing in agriculture. She stated that job freezing in agriculture would result in "serfdom" for the Negro. That we should organize powerful protest against any attempt to freeze labor in agriculture. The gathering was asked to fill out penny Postal Cards with the following words dictated by Miss Lane: "I oppose the draft of labor because it will mean serfdom for Negro agricultural workers". This card was sent to Mr. Paul McNutt ~~Chairman~~ of the War Relocation Authority, Washington, D.C. The audience was urged to send telegrams, letters and postal cards and to get as many persons as possible to do likewise. Miss Lane also suggested that the March On Washington Movement send a telegram to Mr. McNutt asking that he receive a delegation before any action is taken with regard to freezing wages of agricultural workers. The suggestion was approved. (u)

Dr. Ervin called upon Miss Settle, Secretary to Mr. A. Phillip Randolph requesting that she report on the meeting of a group of persons in the office of Mr. Randolph at which time it was decided to hold a Public Prayer Meeting to invoke "Divine Help" against Lynching". This meeting is to be held on the steps of City Hall. Miss Settle explained that the arrangements have been made for the New York Clergy conduct the entire affair. The Baptist Ministers Conference and the Inter-denominational Ministers Alliance have been contacted and support promised. In order to establish better race relations a number of outstanding white ministers, Rabbis were invited. The majority of the white ministers declined for various reasons the invitation. The others are not yet certain. The request for the use of the Municipal Owned Radio Station has been made in order to broadcast the ceremonies. The availability of this radio station for this purpose was not stated. (u)

Dr. Ervin was subjected to considerable criticism by certain members with regard to the relation of the Publicity Committee headed by Theopolis Lewis and the Mass Action Committee headed by Layle Lane. There was opposition to the draft of the leaflet, led by Miss Iona Morris. There was dissatisfaction with the explanation given by Dr. Ervin in the course of discussion regarding responsibility for the success of the Nov. 9th meeting. Quite a few of the members are opposed to a "prayer meeting" and while they are reluctant to openly state this opposition they are using excuses of inability to get off from work, shifting of responsibility, subtle insinuations and wise cracks to express it. (u)

There seems to be growing an opposition to Dr. Ervin leadership led by Miss Layle Lane. This opposition, is yet, very subtle and startling for its friendliness and diplomacy. Miss Lane is ably supported by Miss Iona Morris and Mr. Blake. Miss Lane is a Socialist. Miss Morris a former Communist. (u)

CONFIDENTIAL

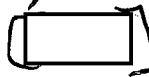
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March On Washington Movement Continued....

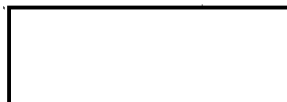
It seems to me that the opposition gathering is for more drastic and more radical policy in relation to daily issues. They feel that direct mass action should be taken with regard to discrimination, lynching and other evils that beset the Negro. They are consequently opposed to the November 8th action and are reluctant to take part. They are very clever in their opposition in that they carry out every assignment given them with regard to the meeting but very conveniently explain that they can not leave their jobs to attend. X (u)

I spoke to Colden Brown after the meeting and he was thoroughly disgusted with the way Dr. Ervin conducts the meeting. Dr. Ervin does all the talking, speaks at length on every question, becomes provoked when criticized, very sensitive and thin skinned. All these weaknesses are used by the opposition to make him appear like a child when he is presiding. Brown is for stern and pugnacious leadership. The trend is for a change it is only a matter of time. Ervin will either have to change which is doubtful or quit. X (u)



X (u)

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New York, New York

MET:VCD  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 9th, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT,  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated November 8th, 1942.

b7D

In this report informant furnishes information relative to a meeting of the New York branch of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, which was held at the Y.M.C.A., 180 West 135th Street, New York City, on November 4th, 1942.

Informant has been advised to follow and report on future activities of this organization.

Copies of this report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
RECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 7/28/00

P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director

CC: NY [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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CLASSIFIED AND  
INDEXED

[redacted]

11/6/42

Peoples Rally and Drama on The Four Freedoms.  
67 West 125th Street, New York City. Room 401 Phone: Sacramento 2-8650  
Sponsored by the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the Negro Quarterly.  
To be Held Sunday November 15th at 3 P.M.  
Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Ave.

The following persons are in charge of the arrangements: Charles Collins  
Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council; Ferdinand Smith Co-chairman N.L.V.C.  
Dorothy Funn Administrative Secretary N.L.V.C. Angelo Herndon Editor,  
The Negro Quarterly.

The program will attempt to link the struggle for Negro liberation  
with that of the Indian, African, Chinese, Latin-American and other colonial  
peoples. All these different nationalities will be present and participate  
presenting in a dramatic way their own problems and aspirations. They will  
present in their own way and interpretation of the revolutionary songs  
of their respective countries.

Earl Robinson, composer of the Ballad For Americans will dramatically  
present the story about Abraham Lincoln.

The admission to this affair will be 55 cents....



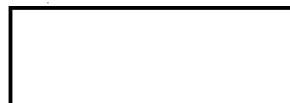
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETC



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-112

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MEG

New York, New York

NET:VCD  
100-27339

November 9th, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE,  
INTERNAL SECURITY (u)

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated November 6th, 1942. In this report informant furnishes information relative to a meeting being advertised as the People's Rally and Drama on the Four Freedoms, which is to be held at the Golden Gate Auditorium, 143rd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, on November 15th, 1942 at 3:00 P.M. This meeting is sponsored by the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE and the Negro Quarterly.

The informant will obtain information and report on this meeting.

Copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/LEHL  
ON 7/28/00

  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director

enclosures (2)

CC: NY [redacted]

10/23/42

New York State Conference Of Negro Youth.  
405 Carlton Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
New York Office: 132 West 138th Street.

Planning Committee.

Officers:

Attorney Charles L. Keller, Chairman  
Ruth Jett, Vice-Chairman  
Martha Alexander, Secretary  
J. Burke Horne, Treasurer  
Winifred Norman Director of Publicity

Executive Committee:

Attorney Norman B. Johnson, Chairman Executive Board  
Martha Alexander  
Ira B. Gibbons  
J. Burke Horne  
Ruth Jett  
Attorney Charles L. Keller  
Herbert T. Miller  
Winifred Norman

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/28/00 BY SP-2 ALM/EHL

The Planning Committee is endeavoring to bring together approximately 500 young people from all parts of the State of New York discuss and act upon vital issues in relation to Negro youth and the war. The Conference will be held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, November 20, 21, 22, 1942.

The State Conference will consider and act upon the following program:

1. The Morale of Negro Youth and the War.
2. Negro Youth and the Armed Forces.
3. Civil Liberties and the Franchise.
4. Jobs and Job Training.
5. Crime and Juvenile Delinquency.

The slogan of the NYSCNY is "Organizing Negro Youth for Victory and Full Citizenship Rights."

Sponsors:

Young Men's Christian Association (Carlton Ave., Branch, Brooklyn)  
Urban League, Brooklyn  
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Brooklyn Branch  
Bus, Floor Boys and Shipping Clerks Union  
New York Public Library Employees  
National Council of Negro Youth  
American Women's Voluntary Services  
Harlem Graduate Nurses Association  
Abyssinian Baptist Church —

According to Herbert T. Miller more than a hundred adult and youth leaders have agreed to sponsor the Conference.



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NEW YORK, N. Y.

NET:LM

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/28/00 BY SP 2 AM/LEH

November 4, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH;  
INTERNAL SECURITY-C  
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr.;  
INTERNAL SECURITY, CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and  
one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 23,  
1942 relative to the above-captioned matter.


b7D

According to Informant's report this Conference will be  
held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church of which ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr.  
is the Pastor, November 20, 21, 22, 1942. The names of the officers and  
sponsors as well as the matters to be considered at this Conference, are  
set out in Informant's report.

[redacted] has been advised to attend  
this Conference.

A new case has been opened on this matter and a copy of  
this report will be retained in the file of this case in the New York Office  
for information purposes.

Yours very truly,

  
F. E. NOAN  
Assistant Director

Enc.

cc: NYfile [redacted] ✓

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10/14/42

Dramatization of the Four Freedoms Sunday November 15th, 3 P.M.  
Golden Gate Ballroom, Lenox Avenue near 142nd Street, New York City.  
Sponsors: Negro Labor Victory Council; The Negro Quarterly

Representatives of the following countries will participate according to a statement issued by the sponsors:

**America:**

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. City Councilman  
Angelo Herndon Editor, The Negro Quarterly  
Earl Robinson  
Josh White  
Sam Gary

**India:**

Wasantha Wana Singh  
Kumar Gopal  
Rama Ghattapothay  
Nitinshi

**China:**

Lin Liang-Mo

**West Indies:**

Belle Roquette

**Latin America:**

Juan Antonio Carretjer  
Daniel Santos

**Africa:**

C.E. Okak

Admission to the affair is 55 cents; 83 cents, \$1.10 and \$1.65

It has since been announced that Orson Wells is also one of the sponsors.

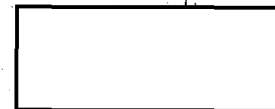
The entire Party membership and other organizations are mobilized to make this affair a success.



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11/16/43

Peoples Rally and Drama on The Four Freedoms  
Sunday November 15th, 1943, Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street, E Lenox Ave. N.Y.C.  
Attendance approximately 7,000 .  
Earl Robinson presiding.  
Meeting opened with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.  
Musical numbers rendered by the International Workers Order Band.  
Poem on freedom recited by Dr. Carter

Brief introductory remarks by chairman explaining the purpose of the meeting to dramatize the Four Freedoms and to make them a living reality.

#### Latin America

A group of Puerto Ricans in native garb a "Declaration for Independence" in Spanish and sang a native song interpreted "Land of the Brave".  
Juan Antonio Corretjer, Secretary Puerto Rican Nationalist Party, that is fighting for the independence of Puerto Rico spoke. He stated that he was here to defend the Four Freedoms; that they do not apply to any one geographical area that is for England and America but for all areas of the world and all nations, for happiness in the world. 150,000 persons have died from starvation in P.R. because the Government of the U.S. has not properly attended to the P.R. people. The P.R. people are without food. The Government in Washington is responsible. There is only one economy in P.R. and that is sugar. The P.R. people can not live off sugar. This one-sided economy is the responsibility of the American people. I am guilty of fighting against the U.S. and for the independence of P.R. P.R. can not fight the armed forces of the U.S. American policy in P.R. is imperialistic. We can not win against the armed forces of the U.S. but we can win the moral support of the American people for the independence of the P.R. people. Many P.R. people have been killed because they fought for freedom for P.R. The P.R. Nationalist Party aims to set up a democratic Republic in P.R. and is taking full responsibility for it. The musical numbers were conducted by Daniel Santos.

#### African

Introduction and interpretation of African songs and poems was made by Barbara Watson daughter of Municipal Court Judge Watson. Songs and poems expressed the aspirations of Africans for freedom. Praise of the military order to American soldiers in Africa to respect the dignity and chastity of African women. The other numbers were African Love Song, African Drums, Song of Inspiration, Unity and application of the Four Freedoms to Africa.

#### China

Lai Liang-Mo and Chinese Chorus, Mr. Mo said that the Chinese are resisting the Japanese and would keep on fighting until victory is won. They started out single handed in this fight and now have the support of the whole world. He praises the United States, Britain and Russia. Stressed the importance of unity of the nation. He condemned American isolationist before Pearl Harbor and those who sold scrap to the Japs and also gasoline. They thought it would only be used against Chinese but now it is being used to kill American boys. The U.S. has agreed to surrender all territorial rights in China. This is a fine gesture but it is giving back something which is already lost to the Japanese. All this territory is now in the hands of the Japs. Chinese ask for equality with all people during and after the war. China is worried about the situation in India in order to win the war the question of India must be settled satisfactorily and now. Songs rendered by the Chinese chorus were, "Arise Ye Who Refuse to Be Bended Slaves", "How To Win the war" the Burma Road Song and the song of the Manchurian People.

#### India

Indian orchestral group rendered several numbers and a young Indian girl did on of their native dances. The group was lead by Rama Chattapedhyay. Kumar Goshal spoke. He said that this is a peoples war that people all over the





## Peoples Rally and Drama On The Four Freedoms Continued.

world are recognizing this fact more and even Lord Halifax. The India people are not pro-Japanese; that all people are fundamentally anti-fascist and should be treated. There are American and British troops in India. They should not be there instead the Indian people should be mobilized and armed to defend their own country. This situation is due to widespread illiteracy. The average life an Indian is 23 years. These are war problems. The people are disarmed. It is illegal to carry a knife with a blade longer than 6 inches or a stick. The Indians want to do what the Chinese are doing. Millions of Chinese have realized their democratic rights, literacy is widespread, free schools, China like India lacks industries for the production of war materials. The Indian people must be armed. Guerrilla armies created; assistance in industrializing industry, developing of the agricultural system, free schools; end of discrimination. The Indians do not want "dominion" status they want a government of their own. Sir Stafford Cripps came to India but could offer the nothing but "love". The British government does not intend to free India that is why a Provisional Indian Government is necessary to win the war. The granting of rights to all people will win the war. Lynching, jim-crow, discrimination and poll tax must be done away with now during the war this would be laying the foundation now for the peace that will follow the war. All these things should be put into effect now. He called for arming the Africans and for a genuine peoples peace.

### West Indies

Belle Resette led group consisting of native West Indians in native dress in a series of native songs and dances.

### America

Congressman Vito Marcantonio spoke on the situation in Puerto Rico and the poll tax filibuster in the Senate. On P.R. he said there are 325,000 unemployed affecting 166,000 families in P.R. Prices are sky high. People can not buy staple foods. such as cod fish, beans etc. Rice goes up to 12 and 14 cents a pound. We are told there are no ships to carry food to the island. He referred to his speech made last Thursday in Congress in which he demanded lend lease to P.R. President Roosevelt must act. P.R. is Gibraltar of the this part of the world. Lend lease should be made a war measure by the President. Letters should be sent the President asking for lend lease to P.R. now. Situation in P.R. due to colonialism. Four large sugar companies in America are responsible for P.R. plight. Speaking on the poll tax he said that the Atlantic Charter must be applied now. There are men in America who hate democracy more than they hate Hitler. They are against the will of the people. He denounced such persons as Senator Bilbo and those who are responsible for the filibuster in the Senate. The leaders of the Republican and Democratic Parties should be held responsible and made to live up to their campaign promises and give all support to Senator Norris who is leading the fight for the passage of the bill. The people should insist that Senator Barkley and Senator McNary invoke the cloture rule to limit debate so that immediate action can be had on the Bill. He called for delegations from the churches and trade unions to go to Washington Tuesday. Letters to Senators as necessary and urgent action to guarantee passage of the Bill. Touching on the war he said we are going win the war and take the world.

Charles Collins appeal for the collection during which he spoke against lynching, jim-crow for the application of the Four Freedoms.

Angele Herndon introduced the American People Chorus led by Horace Grenell and the other participants in a dramatization of the assassination and funeral of Abraham Lincoln. The other participants in this drama were Josh White, Earl Robinson, Leadbetter, Dick Burnett and two others. The dramatization consisted of expressions and reactions of various people throughout the country with regard to Lincoln's death and recitation of excerpts of Lincoln's speeches and sayings. This drama will be presented down on the air

New York, New York

MET:HEM  
100-27339

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/CHL  
ON 7/28/05

November 19, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE;  
NEGRO QUARTERLY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the reports of [redacted] dated November 14, 1942 and November 16, 1942 relative to the captioned matter.

b7D

The Informant's report of November 14, 1942, advised that the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE and the NEGRO QUARTERLY were to hold a dramatization of the Four Freedoms at the Golden Gate Ballroom, Lenox Avenue and 142d Street, New York City, on November 15, 1942. The names of the speakers for this dramatization are set out in this report.

Informant's report of November 16, 1942 reflects the program carried out on the dramatization of the Four Freedoms, and the names of the individuals who participated in this program.

At the time of the above meeting, Informant obtained three one-page mimeographed advertisements issued by the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE, 67 West 125th Street, New York City, which reflect some of the accomplishments of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE, and set out the names of the officers. Informant also obtained three copies of a pamphlet entitled, THE NEGRO QUARTERLY, setting out their address as 67 West 125th Street, New York City. Two copies of the NEGRO QUARTERLY and two copies of the advertisement mentioned above are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures with this letter, and one copy of each is being retained in the files of the New York City Field Office.

Two copies of Informant's reports are also being retained in the files of the New York City Field Office.

Very truly yours

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (8)  
cc NY File [redacted] ✓

[redacted] -117

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March On Washington Movement.

[November 10, 42.] (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Today I had a long conversation with Mr. B.F. Mc Lauren, National Chairman, N.O.W.M. He expressed grave dissatisfaction with the way the affairs of the New York Division was being conducted. The constant wrangling at every meeting arising from a growing opposition to the leadership of Dr. Ervin, Local Chairman, has caused a steady decline in attendance and a pronounced lack of enthusiasm. (u)

He informed me that Dr. Ervin has already spoken to him about resigning because he feels that he is not able to handle the chair. The group lead by Miss Layle Lane very subtly oppose every thing coming from the Doctor to his anger and pronounced disgust. Whatever is said by the opposition is taken personally by Dr. Ervin consequently he is unable to view the issues objectively. Mr. Mc Lauren feels that a change is vital to the life of the organization and for that reason the orientation must be in the direction of getting active trade unionists like Frank Cross-waithe, Noah Walters and Manning Johnson to take direct responsibility for the movement. (u)

He was very concerned about the composition of the present leadership which is not of the stable and reliable element. He called them persons who take part only when they can get some publicity and to be in the lime light. Expressing fear of the government cracking down on the organization when it begins its mass marches and parades and protests before governmental agencies; it was necessary to change the composition of the leadership guarantee that there would be persons with heart and courage to stand up under persecution. He cited the case of persons that were put on Committees and when criticism was leveled against the movement they disappeared. (u)

The goal of the movement is to organize one million Negroes between now and the National Convention in Chicago. The objective situation according to him is very favorable. This is indicated by the rapidity to which Negroes are responding all over the country. He stress the importance of the growing sentiment for organization in the South. The Convention is to be a delegated and representative body that will plan the march to Washington, D.C. and to set the date and issue the National Call. (u)

The shake up in leadership is necessary to plan and execute local actions such as marches and demonstrations before governmental bodies between now and the Convention. In this connection he stressed the need of immediate reaction to injustices against the Negro. (u)

A plan is now being worked out to raise funds for a world-wide propaganda campaign which will consist of paid ads in Daily and weekly Newspapers, national radio broadcasts and short wave connections to India and China. It is not clear yet whether this is to be done prior to or after the National Convention. This is at present only in the discussion stage. (u)

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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SP-2 ALM/KHL

7/28/00

November 19, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED  
SHOWS NO EVIDENCE

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy  
of the report of [redacted] dated November 10, 1942,  
relative to the captioned matter. (u)

Attention is called to the last paragraph in the Informant's  
report, in which he points out that this organization is presently working  
out a plan to raise funds for a world-wide propaganda campaign, which will  
consist of paid ads in daily and weekly newspapers, national radio broad-  
casts and short-wave connections to India and China. This program, however,  
is only in the discussion stage. (u)

Informant further advises in this report that the goal of the  
MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT is to organize one million Negroes between  
now and the time of the national convention, which is to be held in Chicago  
in May, 1943.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report  
all further activities of this organization. (u)

Copies of this report are being retained in the files of this  
case in the New York City Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2)

cc NY File [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SP-104 7/2/90

SECTION 2

FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/2/90

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Service Flag Raising and Parade.  
Sunday November 1, 1942. 3 P.M.  
136th Street and 7th Ave., New York City.

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The flag raising ceremony was preceded by a parade. Those participating were: Henry Lincoln Johnson Lodge I.B.P.O.E. of W. band; Charles Young Post American Legion Band; girl scouts and drum corp and a detachment of 15th Infantry of the New York State Guard and the Beauticians Volunteer Corps of New York and New Jersey. The parade assembled on 120th Street proceeding north on Seventh Avenue to 135th Street, East to Lenox Avenue, north to 145 street, west to 8th Avenue and south to 136th street. The beauticians were dressed in smart blue uniforms. The parade was directed by Sergeant Alexie Kinney and Lieutenant John Kinney. There were approximately 200 marchers, a sound truck that asked for the purchase of war stamps and bonds with Solomon Harper speaking. There were about 25 cars.

The purpose of the affair was to raise a Service Flag on 136th st. and to sell war stamps and bonds. It was however converted into an election campaign rally for Negro candidates on both the Democratic and Republican Parties.

The Flag Raising Ceremony was opened by Bonita Williams member of the Beauticians Volunteer Corps. Bonita Williams is a member of the Communist Party and has held various leading positions for more than ten years. She later introduced Hape Stevens who presided.

The Service Flag Raising was sponsored by the Beauticians Volunteer Corps, an organization formed by the New York State Beauticians Association consisting of those who are will to work for National Defense.

On the Flag was Joe Louis in Army Uniform; Deric Miller in Naval Uniform, a Negro Red Cross Nurse and General Davis. On the Flag was the inscription "On Land Sea and in the Air-God Bless Them All".

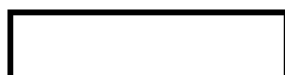
The invocation was made by the Rev. B.C. Brown. Miss Daisy Hardin led the singing of the Star Spangled Banner after which there was a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Speakers were: Miss Cordelin Green Johnson, President, National Beauty Culturist League; Adam Powell, City Councilman; Assemblyman Milan Jack, William Andrews; Ludlow Werner candidate for New York State Senate in the 19th Senatorial District; Miss Maude Gadsen, President, New York State Beauticians Volunteer Corps; Colonel Fairchild, representing the Junior Police of America.

Miss Cordelin Johnson praised the patriotic spirit of the Beauticians Volunteer Corps, the role of women in National Defense, characterizing them as "angels of mercy". She urged her listeners to take a more aggressive part not only in National Defense but also to make America a better place for our boys when they return.

Adam Powell was the keynoter. He painted a vivid picture of the lynching of the Negro boys in Mississippi, job discrimination, Jim Crow, high rents, slum dwellings as ills that beset the Negro that must be ended. "Our boys are making a supreme sacrifice let them not return to these conditions". He praised the women and told them that if these conditions are to be wiped out they must do it. "We must destroy Hitlerism here while

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Service Flag Raising Continued....

our boys are destroying it abroad". He invisioned the birth of a "new Negro" that would fight for democracy at home so that our boys returning will leave in New York as well as in Dixie in harmony and peace. He concluded with an appeal for the creation of a new world without discrimination, Jim-Crow, lynshing and exploitation of man by man. He coined a new phrase that provoked considerable comment "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition". This expression was used in connection with the fight for fighting against Hitler at home as well as abroad.

The other speakers spoke about the significance of the occasion; equal rights for the Negroes; unity and action necessary to winning full democracy. The politicians cited their records and urged the voters to remember them on election day

Beer was served by the Park View Block Association 256 W.136th St.



New York, New York

MEY:EMD  
NY-100-26603

November 16, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2 ALM/KHC

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY  
U.S.A. District #2, New York  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated November 7, 1942, relative to a Service Flag Raising and Parade held on Sunday, November 1, 1942, at 136th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City.

Informant attended this Flag Raising because of information recently received to the effect that the Communists were going to take an active part in such activities.

Copies of this report are being retained in the captioned files in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*Jan*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

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CC

NY [redacted]

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11/10/42

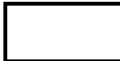
New York State Conference Of Negro Youth.

The Executive Committee has formed recently a "Trade Union Committee for State Conference Of Negro Youth. Mr. Thomas Jasper was elected Secretary. The objective of this Committee is to contact the trade unions for the purpose getting their support of the Conference. Their objective is to give the Conference a trade union base. The unions are to be asked to send delegates from their Executive Boards and shops, in order that the State Conference will express all the things for which organized labor has been fighting.

The members of the Trade Union Committee Are:

James Alston, Business Agent Amalgamated Meat Cutters. A.F. of L.  
Chas Collins, Negro Labor Victory Council  
James King, State County and Municipal Workers of America.  
Max Perlow United Furniture workers. C.I.O.  
Ferdinand Smith, National Maritime Union.  
Leon Strauss, Fur, Floor and Shipping Clerks Union, C.I.O.  
Josephine Timms, American Communications Association  
Amy White Warehouse Workers Union Local 65.

The Conference will be held on Nov. 20, 21, 22, 1942.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church.

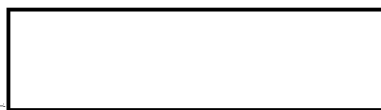


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DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH



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# NEGRO YOUTH UNITE

TO WORK FOR VICTORY AND FULL CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS



NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE of NEGRO YOUTH  
ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, N. Y. C. NOV. 20, 21, 22, 1942

# THE CALL TO ACTION

Negro Youth moves toward its future in the midst of a world at war. The outcome of all youth's hopes, ambitions and goals is being determined by the conflict which affects the lives of every individual in our nation.

Common aims and a common faith in Democracy unite us with the countries of the world who fight to establish freedom from tyranny. The cries of the refugees and the oppressed minorities resound throughout the world. The valiant defense of Bataan—the continued struggle in China—the fierce stand in the smoking ruins of Stalingrad are symbols of Democracy's determination that this world shall be free. Negro Youth has its responsibility in this common duty to establish for every people and nation the right to liberty and opportunity, and for the Negro in America—FULL CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS.

To best fulfill its share of the Nation's pledge to uphold and advance the cause of Democracy there must be a clear understanding of the problems that lie along the way.

Young people of the State are invited to participate in a Conference to consider these issues:

- a. What is the meaning of the war for Negro Youth? What is our stake?
- b. How may Negro Youth best contribute to the growth of American Democracy through the extension of civil liberties and the franchise?
- c. How may Negro Youth find wider opportunities for service in the armed forces?
- d. How can Negro Youth become an integral part of the varied industrial life of our country—playing their full part on the industrial front as well as the fighting front?
- e. What can Negro Youth do to meet such problems as crime, juvenile delinquency, poor health and housing, limited educational facilities which blunt morale and hamper our fighting efficiency?

THIS IS THE HOUR OF CRISIS. The forces of destruction and oppression teem in Europe and Asia. At home the unenlightened, prejudiced and fascist-minded increase their persecution of Negroes and other minorities. Out of this Conference must come plans for CONCRETE ACTION to attain our goal, a FREE world, a FREE India, a FREE Africa, and an America of EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL. Today's events show that these can be won only through activity at home and fighting abroad.

Negro Youth of New York State—let us recognize our responsibility and determine the action to be taken to insure freedom of our Nation and our People. Action was never more necessary nor the time more propitious. LET US ACT NOW!!

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## INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

*Organizations Interested in Problems of Negroes Are Invited to Send Delegates.*

The Registration Fee for each delegate is 50 cents—including entertainment \$1.25. Sponsoring agencies may send five delegates without paying the registration fee. The names of delegates and their fees should be forwarded to:

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

#### NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH

Brooklyn Office: 405 Carlton Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. Tel.: NEvins 8-4368.

Harlem Office: ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, 132 West 138th Street, New York City (from November 16th to 22nd only). Tel.: AUdubon 3-7549.

NOTE: All persons who wish housing accommodation please write the Committee and indicate preference for dormitory or private home facility.

# PROGRAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

8:00 P. M. OPENING SESSION

*Theme: ORGANIZING NEGRO YOUTH TO WORK  
FOR VICTORY AND FULL CITIZENSHIP  
RIGHTS.*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

MORNING SESSION

9:00 A. M. CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION AND ELECTION OF  
COMMITTEES.

11:00-1:00 P. M. DISCUSSION GROUPS:

1. *Civil Liberties and the Franchise.*
2. *Crime and Delinquency.*

AFTERNOON SESSION

2:30-5:00 P. M. DISCUSSION GROUPS (Panels):

1. *Negro Youth in the Armed Forces.*
2. *Jobs and Job Training.*

EVENING SESSION

8:00-10:00 P. M. FORUM.

*Theme: THE MORALE OF NEGRO YOUTH AND  
THE WAR.*

10:00 P. M. EVENING OF RELAXATION.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

10:45 A. M. RELIGIOUS YOUTH CONVOCATION.

CLOSING SESSION

2:00 P. M. REPORT OF COMMITTEES.  
ADOPTION OF PROGRAM FOR ENSUING YEAR.  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS.  
ADJOURNMENT.

*(Speakers to be announced later.)*



CHARLES L. KELLAR, *Chairman*

## OFFICERS

Atty. CHAS. L. KELLAR, *Chairman*

RUTH JETT, *Vice-Chairman*

MARTHA ALEXANDER, *Secretary*

J. BURKE HORNE, *Treasurer*

ALEXANDRINE JOHNSTONE, *Executive Director*

## CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

Atty. NORMAN B. JOHNSON, *Executive*

WINIFRED NORMAN, *Publicity*

IRA L. GIBBONS, *Program*

HERBERT T. MILLER, *Sponsors*

QUENTIN H. VAUGHAN, *Budget and Arrangements*

## PARTIAL LIST OF SPONSORS

Julius J. Adams	Atty. Stanley M. Douglas	Wilfred Kerr	Morris Salz
Martha Alexander	Parnell Drayton	Herbert King	Dr. & Mrs. P. M. H. Savory
Sylvia Ashby	Raphael Dubard	Cornelius Knight	Corinne Scott
Edward Ayash	Barrington Dunbar	Mrs. Eloise Kong	Eugene Field Scott
Constance Baker	Elaine Durant	Mrs. Lillie H. Lacy	Jessie Scott
Lillian Baker	Dickie Edwards	Mrs. Ethlyn Hurd Lamos	Cleon Service
Joseph Banks	Archbishop William Ernest	Dr. Clarence Lashley	Mrs. Edna E. Shervington
Mrs. Gwendolyn Barclay	Arnold Faggins	Mrs. Llewellyn Lawrence	John Silvera
Mrs. Nell O. Becker	Charles Florney	Wilfred Lewin	Dr. Everett Simmons
Howard Bennett	Mrs. Helen Freeman	Richard Lewis	Lillian Simmons
Charles C. Berkley	Roberta Freeman	Clan Linton	Mrs. Evelyn Sinclair
Dr. Judson E. Best	Rev. Charles Frye	Cynthia Linton	Albert Smith
Mrs. Ethel Blackwell	Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn	Dr. Myra Logan	Private Clarence A. Smith Jr
Al Bland	Arthur L. Funn	Mrs. Alroy Long	Ferdinand C. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Bonds	Arthur Garvin	A. J. Loring	Mrs. Mildred Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Bostic	Janette Gaul	William McClammy	Mrs. Constance Spence
St. Clair Bourne	Mr. & Mrs. Ira L. Gibbons	Mrs. Hyacinth McLean	Thomas Barrett Stanley
Mrs. Jessie Bowser	Kenneth Gibbons	Rev. J. M. McMillan	Mrs. M. K. Staupers, R. N.
Daisy M. Brooks	Winston Gibbons	Beatrice Martin	Atty. William H. Staves
Dr. Philip Brooks	Harry B. Giles	Marguerite Martin	Nathan Stillman
Mrs. Christine Brown	George Gilmer	Mae Masterman	J. D. Strachan
Cora Brown	Melineze Godbee	Mrs. Lucy Meadows	Edward Strong
Barbara Bryant	William Godding	Mildred Meyer	Donald K. Taylor, Ph. G.
Chester Bryant	Eleanor Godding	Mr. & Mrs. H. T. Miller	Dr. Rupert Taylor
Lewis C. Bruce	Mrs. Elizabeth A. Granger	Mrs. Lademia E. Miller	Eugene Terrell
Eileen C. Callender	Nell Greenfield	Mrs. Dorothy Mitchell	Mrs. Alice Thompson
Mrs. Gwendolyn Campbell	Ellsworth Groce	Ester Mitchell	Mrs. Henrietta Tredwell
Dr. Ulysses Campbell	Robert Hannum	Mrs. Marjorie Montero	James Tucker
Mrs. Lillian Canaz	Rev. Thomas S. Harten	Persephine Morgan	Fred H. M. Turner
Glen Carrington	Mrs. Delolah Harris	Neville B. Mowatt	Dorothy Valdez
Clifford Carpenter	Prof. Clarence E. Hatcher	George B. Murphy, Jr.	Quentin H. Vaughan
Marshall Cardwell	Charles Hedges	Allan A. Nelson	Charles Vaughn
Dr. Fred Carter	Thomas A. Hodge	Henry R. Newbie	John H. Watkins
Othello Cave	James Holbrook	Mrs. Gwendolyn Nichols	Tommy Watkins
Bill Chase	J. Burke Horne	Gerald L. Norman	Louis J. Warner
Dr. A. Basil Charles	Louis D. Horowitz	Winifred Norman	Mrs. Rosa B. Weatherless
Mrs. Inez B. Charles	Mrs. Lillian Sharpe Hunter	Mrs. Alice S. Onque	Morris Weiss
Mrs. Marie Clunie	Mrs. Addie Hunton	Judge Myles A. Paige	Herbert Wheeler
Charles A. Collins	Herbert H. Hurdle	Mrs. Helen G. Peal	Irene Wheeler
Arthur L. Comither	Richard L. Hutchins	Margaret E. Peal	Herbert L. White
Henry K. Craft	Wilbur Hutchins	Mrs. Evelyn Pearce	Mrs. Helen J. Wilkins
Edna Craig	Henry Jackson	Donelan J. Phillips	James Williams
Ernest Crichlow	Elsie Jackson	Mrs. Elmeta H. Phillips	Atty. Oliver D. Williams
Lillian Cross	Tom Jasper	Reginald Pierrepont	Tally Williams
Mrs. James L. Curtis	Ruth Jett	Mrs. Sue Powell	Vera Williams
Father Dalrymple	Mrs. Alice Johnson	Rev. Adam C. Powell, Jr.	Wesley Williams
Louis J. Delsarte	Howard Johnson	Llewellyn Ransome	Courteney E. Wiltshire
Mrs. Ollie Dent	Mrs. Maude G. Johnson	Melvina Rauk	Mrs. Violet Wiltshire
Mrs. Letitia DePugh	Atty. Norman B. Johnson	Dr. Lionel L. Richardson	Irving Winters
Mme. Amy Desaulniers	Mrs. Olive Johnson	Mrs. Maude B. Richardson	Mrs. Eunace Woodson
Mrs. Grace L. Dodd	Alexandrine Johnstone	Samuel Risk	John T. Yancey
Dr. Arnold Donowa	Mrs. Dorothy Jones	Frances Roberts	Donald N. Yearwood
Morris Doswell	Atty. & Mrs. Chas. L. Kellar	Norman W. Robinson	

## PARTIAL LIST OF ORGANIZATIONAL SPONSORS

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Lambda Chapter	Manhattan Council of Negro Youth
Albany Branch NAACP	National Council of Negro Youth
Albany Interracial Council	National Maritime Union
Brooklyn Branch NAACP	Paragon Progressive Community Assn., Inc.
Brooklyn Urban League	Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Kappa Beta Sigma Chapter
Brooklyn Lodge No. 32, I.B.P.O.E.W.	Provident Clinical Society of Brooklyn
Carlton Avenue YMCA	Retail, Wholesale Food & Chain Store Employees Union
Cooks, Pastry Cooks & Assistants Union	The Frederick Douglas Historical & Research Society
Fur Floor & Shipping Clerks Union, Local 125	Utility Club, Inc.
Graduate Nurses Assn. of Harlem	Young People's Society, Church of the Master
Hotel Front Service Employees Union	Brooklyn Branch Victory Mutual Life Insurance Co. Inc.
Hudson Avenue Boys' Club	Brooklyn Branch National Alliance of Postal Employees
Junior Utility Club, Inc.	

New York, New York

MBT:RMD  
NY-100-

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

November 16, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE  
OF NEGRO YOUTH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [REDACTED], dated November 10, 1942, relative to the captioned matter.

In this report the informant advises that this organization has recently formed a Trade Union Committee. The names of the members of the Trade Union Committee are also set out, as previously reported. The conference of the New York State Conference of Negro Youth will be held on November 20, 21, 22, 1942, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, in New York City. Informant will attend and report on the activities at this conference. There is also being transmitted herewith the program for the conference, which reflects the names of the officers and a partial list of individual sponsors and organizational sponsors.

One copy of this program, as well as copies of this report, are being retained in the files of this case in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

LNC

CC NY- [REDACTED]

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November 12th, 42.

I was informed by Richard B. Moore (recently expelled from the Party) that there is a growing opposition in the Party among the Negro Party members against James W. Ford. This has grown out of his politically incorrect handling of the Negro question. The position of Ford was that the struggle for Negro rights was to be put aside for the duration and the question was one of winning the war. When Earl Browder was released from prison he disagreed with this policy and immediately changed the line. Browder's position was that we lay aside the slogan for Socialism, but under no conditions shall the Party abandon the struggle for Negro rights that the struggle for Negro rights is an integral part of the win the war program.

A Manifesto was issued to the Party on the clarification of the line of the Party on the Negro question. Negro Party members prior to this statement were accusing the Party leaders of deserting the Negroes and abandoning their struggle for equal rights. Leading Negroes at the same time openly criticized the Communists along the same line.

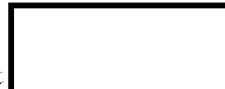
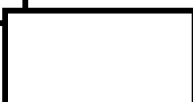
We asserted that there is shake up taking place. The change of A.W. Berry to the Daily Worker staff and the shifting of Ben Davis to Harlem. There is a pronounced lack of any mention of James W. Ford in the Daily Worker and Sunday Worker. This is always a prelude to the scrap heap or some mediocre position. The responsibility for the lack of capable and able Negroes in the Party is placed at the door of Ford. He is gradually losing position and power; the rapidity of which can be determined only by the ability of the Party to groom another Negro to replace Ford. Benjamin Davis Jr. at first seems the most logical person and the Party is building him considerably of late. The results of his election for campaign for Representative at-Large has made him the strongest Negro Communist in the State of New York. The Party would prefer a proletarian element but they can not afford to take a Charles Collins or a Ferdinand Smith out of their strategic positions in the trade unions.

Richard B. Moore still follows the meetings of the Communists and keeps on good terms with them. He states that he still believes fundamentally in their principles but that they were misrepresented by certain leaders. In these critical times he feels that it is unwise to fight against the Communist or to be antagonistic to their program because of the trend of world events. In this regard he expressed a fear that the Communist may come into power after this war and he wanted to be at least numbered among those who even though expelled was not not an enemy or counter-revolutionist.

He explained that his whole differences with the Party began with the organization of the Pathway Press which was his brain child. He organized the group. During this time he had differences with Angelo Herndon relating to finances. The result was that Herndon organized a faction within the group and through the help of the Party was laying the foundation for giving him the aids. When Angelo Herndon had every thing under control he brought Richard Moore up on charges of "petty-bourgeois nationalism". Moore then brought Herndon up on charges of mis-appropriation of funds. The charges against Herndon were dropped, Moore was expelled "without even a hearing on the charges".

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/22/00 BY SP 2 HEM/CH

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Pathway Press..

This was idea of Richard B. Moore. He work untiringly to get it in operation. along with him in this venture were:

Dr. Alain Locke.  
Dr. Lawrence D. Reddick  
Paul Robeson  
Lillian Lustig  
Angelo Herndon  
George B. Murphy Jr.  
Joe Levine  
Cyril Phillips  
Henry Hart  
Aaron Douglas  
Ruth Reddick  
William Fitzgerald  
Minna F. Kastner  
Nellie M. Friend  
Carl G. Hill  
Clifford R. Stephenson  
Edith Roberts

All these persons are either Communists or fellow travellers. They contribute services and money to disseminate literature relating to Negroes the line of which is that of the Communist Party. It job is to interpret history relating to the Negro that will give him a revolutionary perspective or outlook. Only the life and times of those persons rich in revolutionary traditions will be given publication.

Their printing is done by the Alain Printing Co., Inc. This is a Communist Party controlled printing establishment located at 8th Avenue and 126th Street, New York City.



b7D

New York, New York

NET:HEM  
100-4931

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/CHL  
ON 7/28/00

November 21, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated November 12, 1942 reflecting information obtained by him from RICHARD B. MOORE, a Negro, recently expelled from the Communist Party.

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Informant points out that the information furnished by MOORE seems to indicate that there is a shake-up about ready to take place concerning the Negro Communist leaders; that JAMES W. FORD is gradually losing position and power, and that trends seem to indicate that BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR. is being groomed to take his place as the leading Negro Party member.

On page two of his report, Informant has set out the names of individuals who assisted RICHARD B. MOORE with the Pathway Press. In addition to this information, however, informant advised that a number of these individuals who formerly worked with RICHARD B. MOORE on the Pathway Press, are presently with AMERICO HERRINGTON in the publication of the NEGRO QUARTERLY. He advised that in spite of MOORE'S dismissal from the Communist Party, he has continued with his work in connection with the Negro press.

[redacted] has advised that he will endeavor to further contact RICHARD MOORE for additional information concerning the activities of the Communist Party in regard to the Negroes.

Copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York City Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2)  
cc NY File [redacted] ✓

b3

[redacted] - 125



**March On Washington Movement**

Meeting held Wednesday November 25, 42. 8:30 P.M.

Young Mens Christian Association, 135th Street near 7th Ave., N.Y.C.  
Attendance approximately 80 persons.

Debate: Should Labor Be Drafted?

Affirmative:

Equity Congress Forum represented by:

Edith N. Baker — Vincent Greene

Negative represented by:

Calden Brown — Iona Morris

The musical and light features were rendered by the Centennial Chorus Group. This group is composed of young Negro boys and girls dressed in orange and blue outfits. Edith Baker Conductor.

The affirmative side presented the question from the point of view of national defense contending that the major consideration was the production of the essentials to win the war and that drafting of labor was necessary for this reason.

The negative side pointed out the discrimination against Negroes and job freezing is inseparably tied up with the drafting of labor and that all this would militate against the Negro who is in the lowest paid categories and the victim of discrimination by employers and labor unions. Drafting of labor was considered anti-democratic and that the same ends could be achieved through democratic processes.

The negative side won the debate by an overwhelming majority.

Comments on the debate were made by:

Hazel Coley (Coley) Regional Director Household Guild

A. Merral Willis, President of C.Y.M.F.

Dr. Laurence M. Ervin

A. Phillip Randolph

In addition commenting on the debate Mr. Randolph spoke against the action of the Senate of the United States relating to the anti-Poll Tax Bill branding said action as a blow to democracy and called for intensified activity to fight for its passage. Discussing the present war and war aims he stated that we must insist upon Negroes participating in all the peace talks. That Negro technicians should be on all committees to guarantee that British imperialism would not decide things entirely in its favor without consideration of the darker races. We are planning an international Conference of representatives of the darker races one week prior to the Peace Conference to set forth a charter of liberation or a Bill of Rights for the darker races that may take place in England. The National Conference in Chicago in May will decide these issues. We will insist and fight for Negroes on all Committees arranging peace terms. On the Fair Employment Practices Committee he said this is the product of our work we are its mother we must guarantee that it does not lose its power. Combining it with the War Man Power Commission has taken away its independent function because it may have to investigate the WMPC relating to discrimination. The Committee should be an autonomous body. He concluded with an appeal for greater and stronger organization among Negroes to achieve their objectives.

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

December 4, 1942

MBT:JH  
100-26792

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated November 28, 1942 relative to a meeting of the March on Washington Movement held November 25, 1942 at the Young Men's Christian Association, 135th Street, New York City. (u)

Informant has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization. (u)

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*RB*  
F. B. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Encls. - 2  
CC NY file [redacted]

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 on 7/2/90  
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2  
FCIM, 11, 1.2.4  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 7/2/90

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/28/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] - 127

11/30/42

New York State Conference Of Negro Youth held November 20, 21 and 22, 1942.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church, 138th Street between Lenox and 7th Ave. N.Y.C.  
Opening Session: Miss Ruth Jett presiding.  
Approximately 1000 people attending. My estimate of delegates approximately 250 from different parts of New York State.

*Ruth*  
Miss Jett in her introductory remarks praised the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations for their support of the Conference of Negro Youth. Briefly she sketched the problem of Negro youth and the significance of the fight for the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill and urged the Conference to send a delegation to Washington.

Mr. Charles Kellar, prominent Brooklyn Attorney and Chairman outlined the program of the Conference. He stated that two generations of Negroes will be behind the eight ball if we do not rally to this cause. We can not sit idly by when such great and profound changes are taking place in the world. The platform of the the Conference group is full citizen rights for the Negro. We must never permit the welfare of the masses to be used by selfish persons who for monetary or other considerations are willing to surrender the rights of the Negro. We must beg when necessary. Ask when Necessary. Demand when necessary. But above all we shall work for full citizenship rights. We can not blame our leaders for failure to achieve our rights. We have our own responsibility to see that we get them. We must overcome jealousy and fear. It is easy to criticize. The question is still what it was before. What are you going to do about it. Work is the question.

We can change course of American History. Opportunities now are ~~xxx~~ great. The present war is a blessing to Negroes. The Chinese, Indians and darker races are raising pertinent questions of race. Unite behind our leaders for our economic, political and social opinions whether they democrats, Republicans or Communists to win our rights. We are not interested in a Communist State but in making America democratic. The question of class we must consider separate and apart from class approach. Integration, freedom of India, Africa, China. Public opinion is vital and when aroused will result in the abolition of imperialism and win rights for Negro Americans. Public opinion can be rallied for the independence of India and China. It can be rallied for Negro rights in America.

Negro must take the initiative. He can not wait for the initiative of white men and women. We have friends but we must take the initiative. Race pride will command respect. Pride in our community means not strewn paper on the streets; behaving ourselves in public places and on the transportation systems. There is police brutality in the handling of Negroes but we must educate the youth that their conduct is important. There should be humane methods applied in arrests but we shall not protect criminals. Negroes must become better citizens.

We must suppress the race question and stress the class question. Fight for freedom for India, Africa. Fight discrimination in the armed forces. Fight segregation in the air and against separate units of the armed forces. Negroes must and should support the churches. Our task is to make the world better for those who follow. He concluded with the following quotation from Longfellow: "

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DATE 7/28/00 BY SP-2 HAN/ELH

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7/28/00



New York State Conference Of Negro Youth continued....

"Lives of great men all remind us we can make our lives sublime and departing leave behind us footsteps in the sands of time". work for your freedom the opportunity is here lets grasp it.

Musical numbers were rendered by the YMCA chorus. An apology was made for the failure of Adam Powell to be present at the session.

Anna Arnold Hedgeman stated that she was not Chairman of the Office of Civilian Defense but merely one of its officers and that she did not speak as a representative of the that group. There is no need of segregating youth. Youth has been too far away from the general affairs of the nation. The present draft law does not segregate youth they are taken into the armed forces right along with the adults. This is not just a youth movement it is both youth and adult. There must be coordination of all groups both negro and white. I say amen to all that Mr. Kellar has said.

Negroes are second rate citizens. Armistice day does not mean to us that we have won anything. The Negro finds himself in a despairing predicament. This is our historic hour. We must interpret Hitlerism in the light of America. Many whites have been free so long that they do not see and understand this Hitlerism in America. We are important now to America, India, Africa, China, West Indies and South America. Wilkie (Wen'el) did not have to go around the world to tell us what he said. He could have asked any one of us and we could have told him that China does not trust us. We understand that. India is not armed. They are afraid to arm the Indians because they may forget who their enemies are. All countries are watching to see if the Negroes get an equal break. Statesmen are not aware of this. The prospects of a racial war are evident and will ultimately result unless this situation is corrected.

We are hurt, bruised and mad because of race prejudice, discrimination and jim-crow in the armed forces and the NAACP. Many Negroes say that this is a white mans war. That is wrong. We have not begun to use our potentialities. Our leaders are overburdened. We suffer from lack of unity. It is the same sickness of America today. All through our national life there is a noticeable lack of unity. The fight between the AF of L. and C.I.O was cited as an example.

In conclusion she recommended the following points for discussion and consideration:

1. Discuss community life. Get acquainted with the place in which you live. Study its resources, social agencies. What they can do and what they ought to do. A survey is vitally necessary.

2. Consider other sources such as Y.M.C.A.; Y.W.C.A. and churches. The basements of churches should be used as social centers with experienced social workers in charge.

3. Job training for Negroes. Mass meetings explaining these things. Create training opportunities.

4. Study your local, state and Federal government in order to be able to take full advantage of every legal opportunity in the interest of the Negro group.

New York State Conference Of Negro Youth continued.....

Letters should be sent to Senators on the Poll Tax. The Bill is being blocked by a small group of Southern Senators. Do not think that China, Russia, India and South America is not watching what is now going on in Washington and what will happen on Monday at 1 pm. (The vote on cloture by the Senate). Our aim to free white people from their stupidity. There are no Negroes on the policy making committees of the Government. With men like Tom Connolly as head of the Committee on Foreign Relations what chance has the Negro. Dig into community life. Form a brain trust of specialists embracing the church, trade unions, civic organizations and social clubs to give the movement direction and success.

John Fleming, baritone, sang "Red, White and Mine" and "Refuse all you who refuse to be bonded slaves".

Clifford Mc Avey, Legislative Representative of the New York State C.I.O. Industrial Union Council stated that there was no discrimination in the C.I.O. The C.I.O. subscribes to the entire program and platform of the New York State Conference of Negro Youth. All are objectives that the C.I.O. is sworn to fight for.

In 1933 Hitler took power in Germany. He spread the false theory of aryan superiority. Italy adopted it. Herchita adopted it. In the 8 poll tax states the same ideas are perpetuated. Sponsors of such ideas are traitors. White supremacy is the same as Hitler policy. United Nations forces are crushing Hitlerism on foreign fronts. We must use the ballot, telegrams and letters to arouse public opinion for the struggle against Hitlerism on the home front in the struggle for Negro rights. The filibusters the same as armed men wearing the swastika, on his arm in North Africa. Send cards and telegrams to Washington demand that debate be closed and vote for the Bill to restore the rights to vote to 12 million Negroes and whites in the South. There is an infamous deal on between Senator Barkley and Senator Mc Mary to kill the Bill. The vote for cloture needs a two thirds majority. Certain people are willing to give up the fight. Act to stop the deal and to assure passage of the Bill. This is not a fight of the Negroes but a fight for democracy. The C.I.O. is with you.

Rev. Ben Richardson spoke for Adam Powell, former pastor of the Grace Congregational Church, Chaplain 369 United State Infantry. He painted a graphic picture of the denial of democratic rights to Negro soldiers such as refusal to serve them in public places. Everywhere we went we were discriminated against on account of our color. I was jailed in the Hawaiian Islands because I fought against discrimination. I have seen Negroes die a thousand deaths at the hands of jim-crow, discrimination and segregation. I have watched it in uniform and out of uniform. Negroes must unite to fight for full citizenship rights.

A collection was taken up to send delegates to Washington on the Poll Tax Bill.

Young League

There was a well organized fraction of the Communist Party operating at the Conference. It was directed by Howard "Strook" Johnson, Edward Strong and Larry Washington. There was also three white Y.C.L. members

New York State Conference Of Negro Youth continued....

whose identity I was unable to establish constantly consulting them on matters of policy. Ben Davis and Audrey Moore were there representing the Party.

### Final Session

Attorney Charles Keller presiding.

Organization Committee Report: The organization to be independent. A New York State Executive Committee to be set up. It shall be composed of representatives from four regions of New York State. Namely: Western New York; Central New York, Westchester and Greater New York including Long Island.

All regional officers are to be members of the State Executive. The Executive Board to consist of 25 persons. Chairman, Executive Secretary, 4 vice chairmen, Conference Secretary, Treasurer. The only paid officer will be the Executive Secretary.

Assembly organization will be set up in each region.

Report and recommendations were adopted. Leeland Jones Jr. Buffalo, N.Y. reported.

Policy and Action Committee, Ruth Jett reporting. Negro youth is concerned with winning the war. We sail the offensive in Africa. Victory of the United Nations vital. Democracy for the Negro vital. Full use of America war power necessary to win the war. Atlantic Charter must apply to nations, China, India, Africa, Russia. We pledge support for a the United Nations that are fighting for a peoples world of tomorrow. We strive for speedy elimination of all practices that prevent negroes from taking their rightful place in industry, making sacrifices for victory; in the armed forces on land sea and in the air. This is the essence of the Charter of Negro Youth that was adopted setting forth the policy of the group in New York state. This Charter is to be presented to the Governor of New York state with approximately 100,000 signatures.

The immediate programs consists of the following actions to be taken: Immediate creation of the following commissions;

- a. Civil Liberties and Franchise.
  - b. Crime and Delinquency.
  - c. Negro Youth in the Armed Forces.
  - d. Jobs and Job Training
- Warrior of Negro Youth in the War.

Delegation to Washington on the Poll Tax Bill.

Passage of Anti-Poll Tax Bill center of activity.

Educational program throughout the State regarding the program of the group.

Marshall forces for the passage of the anti-lynch Bill.

Extension of social services in order to end juvenile delinquency.

Educational material to be issued to keep the communities informed regarding important legislation both state and federal.

Create inter-racial goodwill and fellowship.

New York State Conference of Negro Youth continued.....

Eliminat discrimination in the armed forces. Petition to be circulated in New York State for mixed units.

Christmas gifts for soldiers and entertainment for the boys at nearby army camps.

Jobs for Negroes and against job discrimination. Education of Negroes relative to applying and filing for jobs and job training and also how to file complaints when there are unfair labor practices.

The following officers were elected:

Attorney Charles Keller, Chairman.

Ruth Jett, Vice Chairman.

Leeland Jones, Vice Chairman. (Buffalo, New York)

Martha Alexander, Conference Secretary.

Ray White, Treasurer.

The Executive Secretary to be elected by the State Executive Committee.



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New York, New York

439740

WET:JE

December 4, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH,  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to a conference of the captioned organization held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, November 20, 21 and 22, 1942. As will be noted, Informant attended the first and final session of this conference. His report reflects the future program of this organization as outlined by RUTH JETT reporting for the Policy and Action Committee at the final session of this conference.

There are also being transmitted herewith a copy of the program for the conference and an outline of the program for group discussion at the conference.

Two copies of the Informant's report as well as copies of the other enclosures are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*RRS*  
R. M. WOLKSTEN,  
Assistant Director.

Incls. - 4  
cc NY file [redacted]

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Delegation to Washington on the Anti-Poll Tax Bill.

Two small delegations left from the Pennsylvania station on Monday November 24th at 7:30 A.M. One delegation was led by Ben Davis Jr. and Communist City Councilman Peter V. Cacchione. The other delegation was led by City Councilman Adam Clayton Powell. I join the delegation led by Adam Powell. We were joined by the Davis group en route. Mrs. Ida E. Guggenheimer asked to join with us she said that she was representing the International Labor Defense. Pictures of the Powell delegation was taken by a photographer from the New York Post.

Adam Powell, Ben Davis, Joseph E. Ford, Peter V. Cacchione, Rev Charles Young Trigg and myself had breakfast in the Dining car. It was suggested by Powell that Ben Davis and I get together for the purpose of burying our political differences and working together. He suggested that Ben Davis and I sit together and talk things over. Ben Davis asked me during the course of the conversation how I felt about the Party. I explained to him the circumstances under which I left placing full responsibility for my leaving upon the shoulders of James W. Ford, Abner W. Berry and Bassett. I told him that I still believe in the Party program but I did not like the above leaders. He told me that there is a different situation in the Party now from what it was at the time I was fighting with Ford and other Party members in the Food Unions. He regretted that he did not pay sufficient attention to the fight at that time. He assured me that I had great possibilities and it was essential for the Party to keep men like me. He asked me about the statements that I made before the Rapp-Coudert Committee investigating subversive activities in the school system in New York State. He attributed that to bitterness on my part. The incident he said could be forgotten about. Ford has lost prestige and influence in the Party because of the alarming fluctuation in Negro membership. He agreed with me that such men like Richard B. Moore, Hank Johnson, Cyril Briggs who were expelled was quite a loss to the Party. I was then asked if I would consider returning to the Party. I assured him that I would work with the Party fraction and groups in their various campaigns and activities but I would not re-join at this time. He accepted my proposition and asked me to think over the matter of rejoining. After the conversation which was very friendly and cordial he assured Adam Powell that we had reached an understanding and that we were going to work together. Ben Davis was pleased that I attended many of their meetings but regretted that I did not take an active part. He assured Adam Powell that he was going to call on me from now on.

We were met in Union Station in Washington by a group of delegates that had arrived on an earlier train. We proceeded to the headquarters of the National Committee To Abolish The Poll Tax, located at 10 Independence Avenue, S.W. We proceeded from there to the Senate Office Building where we were given visitors passes to the Senate Gallery. There was a little difference between Adam Powell and one of the guards whose orders were contrary to those given instructions regarding passes given him by Secretary of Senator Wagner. Powell was told that four or five persons could go in on one pass. The guard said that each person had to have an individual pass. Powell was irked by the fact that he was singled out by the Police immediately upon his arrival and also in the Senate halls. At one time he was followed by detectives with their hands on their pistols. A guard explained that this was necessary "because Negroes get excited too easily". Apart from this everything proceeded without trouble.

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[Redacted Box]

Delegation to Washington on the Anti-Poll Tax Bill continued..

The March On Washington Delegation did not join with us. A. Phillip Randolph, Ben Mc Lauren arrived on Sunday, met with members of the Washington Division. Randolph was unable to get passes for his group and had to appeal to Adam Powell for assistance. The March On Washington Movement is in no way connected with National Committee To Abolish The Poll Tax. They consider it another Communist Front organization.

Immediately after the Senate had acted we went directly to the headquarters of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax where a meeting was held attended by 90 or more delegates. The meeting was presided over by the National Chairman, Virginia Foster Durr. The speakers: Adam Powell, Peter Cacchiare, Ben Davis Jr., Harper Paulsen head of the Detroit Delegation, Rev. Charles Young Trigg.

All speakers characterized the action of the Senate as "capitulation to a small group of reactionary Senators from the South" which gave comfort to the Axis powers. It was considered a blow to national unity and the war effort. The delegates were asked not to be discouraged but to re-double our efforts to force its passage at the next session of Congress. The fight was likened to the fight for women's suffrage.

Adam Powell criticized the church because there was not a single white or colored minister that testified at the hearings on the Bill. He recommended rallying the church for the Bill; expanding the organization through the building branches in every city and state.

The National Chairman recommended that a National Conference be called in Washington, D.C. in January 1943. This Conference to be preceded by local conferences.

It was further recommended that local chapters and State Committees be set up to exert pressure on Senators. Miss Durr stated that we must win New England and the West for the Anti-Poll Tax Bill citing the fact that Senators from these States voted against cloture. She asked the delegates to get relatives and friends and everyone who came from the South to write to people that they knew in the South and arouse them to action on this matter. Telegrams of protest should be sent to Senators.

Ben Davis warned the delegates that the Committee as well as the fight would be attacked as Communist but the Communist Party had no apologies to make if anything the Communist Party did not work hard enough.

Adam Powell assured the National Chairman that the New York Conference would be held in December.

The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax issues a Monthly Bulletin, The Poll Tax Repealer. Each delegate was given a copy and will receive one each month.

The work of the Committee is conducted by:

Miss Virginia Foster Durr, National Chairman  
Sylvia Beitsher, Executive Secretary  
John P. Davis  
George Murphy

The latter two are members of the Communist Party.

**Delegation to Washington on the Poll Tax Bill Continued.....**

There were some delegates who were in favor of picketting the Senate but Adam Powell was against it on the grounds that it would be impossible to get pickets in Washington. The ever wholming majority were content with the procedure that was followed.

The group was composed mostly of Communists and fellow travellers. There were a few from non-Communist groups. The Party line was followed throughout and the Party dominated the show. Every action was directed by George Murphy, John Davis, Ben Davis, Adam Powell and Harper Paulsen.

It was in the full sense a very narrow conference. Many labor groups that endorse the Bill were conspicuous by their absence. There were only four clergymen represented namely:

Rev. Adam Powell  
Rev. Charles Young Trigg  
Rev. James R. Meier  
Rev. Ben A. Richardson



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**November 24th, 1942.**

**Composition of delegation: 40% white and 60% Negro.**

New York, New York

RET:AM

December 4, 1942

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/28/00 BY SP2ALM/KH

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO  
ABOLISH THE POLL TAX,  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated November 25, 1942 relative to the captioned matter.

This Informant accompanied a delegation from New York to Washington, D. C. on Monday, November 24, 1942. This delegation went to Washington for the purpose of urging the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax bill. Informant's report reflects the activities of this delegation while in Washington and sets out future activities planned by this group.

There is also being transmitted herewith one copy of a pamphlet relative to the Poll Tax prepared by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and the American Council on Public Affairs. This pamphlet was furnished to the delegates in Washington.

Two copies of the Confidential Informant's report and one copy of "The Poll Tax" are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*AEH*  
F. E. FOXWORTH,  
Assistant Director.

Encls. - 3  
cc NY file [redacted]  
cc Detroit (Encl.)  
cc Washington Field (Encl.)

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March On Washington Movement  
Legislative Committee Meeting Held Friday December 11th 1942.  
Hotel Theresa Building, 125th Street and 7th Ave. New York City.  
Presiding Richard Parrish.

The following recommendations were agreed upon for presentation to the New York Division for adoption:

1. That the Anti-Poll Tax Bill be introduced by any other Congressman except Vito Marcantonio. That a Delegation be elected to visit Senators Meade and Wagner for the purpose of getting them to sponsor an Anti Poll Tax Bill. (u)

2. That the delegation visit Congressman Gavigan relative to the re-introduction of the Anti-Lynching Bill. (u)

3. That we explore the possibilities of introducing a Bill in Congress outlawing discrimination in the Armed Forces. It is understood that Congressmen should be contacted for this purpose. (u)

4. The Fair Employment Practices Commission become a permanent institution. (u)

5. The abolition of the Jim Crow Law to be accomplished through:  
a. Testing the Constitutionality of the State Laws.  
b. Seeking a Constitutional Amendment. (u)

The other points relate to the State of New York. They are as follows:

6. Housing:

a. The right of Negroes to live any where that they want to live without discrimination with regard to rent or because of the color of their skin. The enforcement of the multiple dwelling law in relation to Harlem and similar laws in those communities where Negroes reside.

7. That day nurseries and recreational centers be established for the care of Negro children during war time.

This program is subject to the approval of the New York Division.

[ ] (u)

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12/12/42  
7 (u)  
March On Washington Movement meeting held December 9th, 1942.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Avenue, New York City.  
Bessye Bearden, Presiding.

The report of the Mass Action Committee was given by Layla Lane Charman. They proposed that action be taken to get the Anti-Poll tax Bill re-introduced in Congress. They are opposed to any Bill sponsored by Marcantonio. They felt that any Bill sponsored by him would give the Bill a Communist label and the possibilities of its passage very slim. The suggestion was that we get some other Congressman to introduce the Bill and that we support it as against anything the Marcantonio puts forth. The Communists are trying to capitalize on this campaign they want to grab credit for it when and if it is passed. She urged full and complete preparation for action when the new Bill is introduced in Congress. (u)

The M.O.W.M. was criticized for its inactivity regarding the Poll Tax and urged to establish that this will not be the case in the future. (u) guarantees

Manning Johnson stated that we should be on our toes and react quickly to situations by so doing we will be ahead of the Communists and other groups. We should have already contacted a Congressman to introduce the Anti-Poll Tax Bill for the March on Washington Movement. This criticism was concurred in by Mr. Baker and Miss Mc Millan of Modern Trend. (u)

The consensus of opinion was that we have been responsible for the Executive Order 8803 and other important gains made by the Negro and that the Communists were trying to grab the credit. Leadership of the Negro must under no circumstances or conditions fall into the hands of the Communists. (u)

The attempts of Miss Mc Millan to bring in The Interracial Committee into active collaboration with the March On Washington Movement was rejected. Several persons spoke against any ties with this Trotskyite group. (u)

Each person present was given two names of persons to visit asking them to join the M.O.W.M. during the next week. Copies of the March were distributed. (u)

The legislative program for 1943 will be worked out at a meeting Friday December 11th the headquarters of the March On Washington Movement. Richard Parrish presiding. (u)



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ON 7/28/00

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2/2/49

March On Washington Movement.  
Meeting held Wednesday December 2nd, 42.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street between 7th and Lenox Ave.  
Dr. Lawrence Ervin presiding.

The meeting was opened with the singing of a number of songs led by  
Colden Brown, Dr. Ervin and others from the audience. (u)

Dr. Ervin in his opening remarks gave a long and detailed account  
of the advancement of the Negro. He traced the rise of the Negro to  
responsible positions in Government and the splendid prospects of far  
greater achievements. This should serve as an inspiration to all of us  
to drive us to greater attainment. We have Negroes who have achieved  
greatness in every walk of life for which we can feel proud. We should  
attend the classes on Negro history conducted on Monday and Friday  
nights at the headquarters of the March On Washington Movement. He also  
called attention to the articles in the Survey Graphic and suggested that  
we read this months edition. (u)

Mr. Charles M. Hansen, Inspector, Wage and Hour Division, U.S.  
Department of Labor, 341 9th Avenue, New York City, spoke on the functions  
of the Division and its structure and achievements in eliminating unfair  
practices and violations. He also gave an explanation of the Walsh-  
Healy Act. He explained that this was a prepared speech authorized by  
the Department of Labor. He gave them a copy for their Educational  
Committee. Deviating from his prepared speech he attacked these Negroes  
who say they hope the Japs win and also against those who say that they  
hope the United Nations win but the war should last a long time until  
England and America are almost beaten to their knees because then they  
will have respect for other peoples rights. I have two sons in the Army  
both of whom are Lieutenants. I have a stake in this war and in victory.  
All of us who have sons and brothers and fathers in this war have a  
stake in it. We want it won in the shortest possible time and with the  
least possible casualties. We must combat both of these arguments because  
both are wrong and against our best interests. (u)

Mr. Aldrich Turner gave a report on the activities of the delegation  
to Washington on the Poll Tax. He stated that Dr. Lawrence Ervin, himself  
A. Phillip Randolph and other members of the Washington Division of the  
M.O.W.M. met in Washington prior to the meeting of the Senate on the Bill.  
They decided to picket the Senate but were unable to get pickets. They  
had difficulty getting passes to the Gallery. One of the delegates from  
the Washington Division was arrested by a Senate Police Officer because she  
resented him telling her to move along. They had a tilt with the Police  
Captain of the Senate over the matter but were unable to get any satisfac-  
tion. When they left the Senate Building they met young lady, who was  
arrested, on the steps outside the Senate Building. He said that the son  
of one of the Senators, a boy about 8 years old wanted to know what all  
the Niggers were doing there today. (u)

Manning Johnson was asked by Dr. Ervin to Give his observations on  
what happened in Washington. He stated that the actions of a small  
minority of members of the highest legislative body of our nation was  
disgraceful. It is a national scandal when a small group of legislators  
put their prejudices above the common interest of the American people.  
They held up legislation vital to our war effort, they widened the breach  
of dis-unity at a time when our Commander in Chief calls for

March on Washington Movement.....

total unity to win the war. The confidence of the peoples of the world who are struggling and dying for preservation of the Four Freedoms is shaken by such action. The Congress will meet again in January, the Poll Tax Bill will be before it again. We must rally the American people to insist upon its passage. (u)

During the discussion on the Poll tax there arose considerable opposition to the activities of the M.O.W.M. This opposition was led by the youth group from Modern Trend. Miss Mc Millan speaking for action was influenced by the leaflet issued by the Inter-racial group calling for a march on City Hall in New York and a March to Washington. She said that this group has stole our thunder and that we should follow their advice. Dr. Ervin was opposed to this. He said that the M.O.W.M. is not going to be influenced by pressure groups who are trying to provoke the movement into premature action. Miss Layle Lane agreed that we should not be influenced by outside groups but that we must plan some sort of drastic action on the Poll Tax issue. She suggested that we plan a picket line around the Senate in January. (u)

Mr. Baker of Modern Trend, recommended that a Legislative Committee be appointed to bring in a report on the Poll-Tax at the next meeting for discussion and approval. The recommendation was approved. Mr. Baker, Golden Brown, Richard Parrish and Manning Johnson to prepare the report. (u)

Miss Layle Lane recommended that the question action on the Poll Tax be referred to the Mass Action Committee for recommendations. This was approved. (u)

It is becoming more and more unmistakably clear that the present leadership can not control the New York Division. The Modern Trend group through insinuations and inferences and direct accusations of inactivity provokes Dr. Ervin to such an extent that he completely loses control of himself and consequently the meeting. The result is that the meeting adjourned in a wrangle that continued in the hall ways and upon the city streets. The affect of this wrangling is reflected in the sharp drop in attendance. (u)

Mr. Aldrich Turner attacked Adam Powell accusing him of trying to provoke situations and "wanting to be a big shot". He wanted to be seen and impress people with his own importance. His actions in Washington was disgusting. (u)

This is the first public denunciation of Adam Powell at a meeting of the M.O.W.M. (u)

( ) (u)



New York, New York

MET:DAL  
100-26792

December 21, 1942

X  
439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EAL  
ON 7/28/00

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the reports of [redacted] dated December 7, 12 and 15, 1942 relative to the activities of the captioned organization. (u)

b7D

Confidential Informant's report of December 15, 1942 reflects the recommendation made by the Legislative Committee of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT adopted by them at a Legislative Committee meeting held Friday, December 11, 1942. This program is subject to the approval of the New York Division. (u)

There is also being transmitted herewith one copy of "THE MARCH" which is the official organ of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT and is now being published monthly. One copy of "THE MARCH" and two copies of Confidential Informant's reports are being retained in the files of this case in the New York City Office for information purposes. (u)

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization. (u)

Very truly yours,

P. F. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

ENC. 7  
CC: N.Y. File [redacted]

X  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

b3

X  
[redacted]  
-133

12/17/42

Committee for the Care of Children During War Time.

One of the main speakers at this rally was Audkey Moore, member of the upper Harlem section of the Communist Party. She has been a member of the Communist Party for several years. She is very active in work among Negro women.

All the speakers invited were either Communists or fellow travellers. A copy of the list of speakers has already been submitted.

Charles Collins, member of the National Committee, member of the Trade Union Commission, member of the Food Fraction (national) and active member of the Communist Party for several years. As a member of the National Committee of the Party I recommended him to the Party fraction for the position he now holds in the Hotel and Club Employees Local 6, A.F.L. He was placed on his present job by the Communist Fraction in the Union.

*also - Co-Chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee*  
Hope R. Stevens, President Manhattan Council National Negro Congress active in Communist Party front organizations for several years.

Congressman Vito Marcantonio active supporter of every campaign of the Communist Party, participant on many front organizations. Voted against every measure against National Defense prior to the attack on Russia. President of the International Labor Defense a Communist Defense organization affiliated with the International Red Aid. I do not know whether this affiliation was severed as a result of changes in Federal law or not.

*Clayton Jr.*  
Adam Powell, Councilman City of New York, Pastor of the Abyssinnia Baptist Church and Chairman of the Peoples' Committee. Has been active and is now active in all Communist Front organizations. Editor of the Peoples' Voice a weekly newspaper that is controlled financially by the Party through Max Yergan. Max Yergan is a head of the Committee on African Affairs. *also Nat'l Pres. of the Nat'l Negro Congress*

E. L. Dimitri, member of the Communist Party, active in the Upper Harlem Section for several years. Head of the Permanent Committee for Better Schools for Harlem. This Committee was formed by the Communist Party more than five years ago.

Winfred Norman active participant in all Communist front organizations for the last four years according to my knowledge.

Rev. Felipe Sabater and Assemblyman Hulan Jack have been active in Communist Front Groups. The latter for the last two years and attributes his re-election to the support given him by the Communists.

All the other persons mentioned are active in Communist organized groups. The chairman of the Committee For the Care of Young People During War Time did not ask anyone to take a leading part except Party members or fellow travellers in the setting up of the Harlem Division.

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/er  
ON 7/28/00

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- 13x

12/7/42

Committee for the Care of Young Children in Wartime  
Harlem Division.

Conference held Saturday December 5th, 1942. Abyssinia Baptist Church,  
138th Street near 7th Avenue, New York City.

Miss Anna L. Moore presiding.

Meeting opened with the singing of "Lift Every Voice and Sing".

A brief speech of welcome was made by Gwendolyn Jones in behalf of  
Abyssinia Baptist Church.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Miss Anna Moore briefly stated the objective of the conference which  
she asserted was "child care during wartime". She stressed the need of  
integration and work to effect proper care of children now and after the  
war.

Eleanor Gimble, Chairman City Wide Committee for the Care of Young  
Children in Wartime. The Committee is not alone interested in the care  
of the children of our City and our State but also of the entire nation.  
Greater pressure is needed to accomplish this purpose. The need of such  
care in Harlem is great. The Committee was formed on December 7th, 1941  
for the purpose of conducting similar activity to that conducted in Eng-  
land. When war was declared England had difficulty because it did not  
have a plan for handling this problem. They had to get up a social  
service plan. We felt that we should get a plan work out and started.  
Our group consists of three main groups: 1. Parent Teachers Group;  
2. Neighborhood Groups; 3. Trade Union Group.

We must plan how best to utilize the facilities in New York and to  
improve upon them. There are a few nurseries in New York and some of  
them are "bootleg nurseries". We must overcome the "bootleg nursery".

The closing down of WPA creates a serious situation. The WPA operates  
28 nurseries in schools. A resolution should be sent the Mayor asking  
that the City take over the operation of these nurseries by this group.  
A resolution has already been sent by the Committee but we have not  
heard from the Mayor. Legislation will be introduced in Albany. The  
Bill will deal with day nurseries.

There are funds available in Washington for this work but to get  
them requires the cutting through of a lot of redtape. We are going  
to keep on until we get them. We are a pressure group. We have nation  
wide contacts. (She mentioned Seattle and Chicago.)

Dr. Peterson, Central Health Center. Health Officer, Department of  
Health gave a statistical report. There are 24 day units for the care  
of children. Nine of them are not supervised. Type of care given is full  
time. One unit part-time. These units can accommodate 1,000 children  
but only 576 children are now in these units. Find out why the existing  
facilities are not used. We should use what we have first and then make  
a survey to get more facilities.

Assemblyman Hulan Jack stated that we pay very little attention  
to community problems and that we must join with other pressure groups.  
The State of New York has not considered underprivileged Communities.  
I am going to introduce a Bill in the Legislature to create nurseries.  
The State must take over its responsibility.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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RECEIVED BY SP-2 ALM/STH  
7/28/60

439740

12/7/42

Committee for the Care of Children in Wartime.....

Mayor La Guardia was a liberal now he is a reactionary. He has abandoned the interest of the people this charge Hulan Jack made in reference to the failure of the Mayor to speak out in reply to the requests made by the Committee. You are a pressure group. Remain a pressure group. This is the time for petitions, delegations and any other action necessary to force issues. I will introduce a Bill for more health centers in the City of New York.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Audley Moore, Winning the war depends upon women in industry. Children will have to be cared for. Government must help us solve this problem. There are and there will be obstructionists. They are the same people who struck down the anti Poll Tax Bill, the same people who believe and practice lynching, jim-crow and discrimination.

We are a pressure group. Wendie Wilkie said, "government officials need prodding". He is right. Lincoln freed the slaves because it was necessary to win the war. The war can not be won unless the women are free. she concluded with an appeal for greater participation in activities of this kind.

Two numbers were rendered by a trio of children. They sang "Sweet and Low" and "Dry Bones".

Mrs. Schroder, Director Volunteer Nurses. The group is concerned with child welfare and health. Protecting health in wartime is essential. Volunteers are essential those who wish to join apply at Bureau of Nurses, Dept of Health ask for Mrs Schroder.

Henry Pope. We do not recognize juvenile delinquency and wrecking of homes. We speak of care of children in wartime. Negro children were never adequately taken care of. If we are going to have the kind of world we are all profoundly interested in we have to work now. We should discuss ways and means of arousing and mobilizing the community for action and pressure.

Rev. Felipe Sabater, Puerto Rican Minister. He said that little has been done in Spanish Harlem and appealed for help. Thousands of Spanish women would like to go to work but were kept at home by their children. 7 months ago a small center was opened called the Community Welfare Center located at 44 West 115th Street.

Archbishop William Earnest appeal for contributions.

The following Planning Committee was elected:

Julia Jones, Audley Moore, Dr. Peterson, Hulan Jack, Henry Pope, Archbishop Earnest, Dorothy Rand, Mable Staupers, Frank Montero, Madeline Johnson, Winifred Norman, Hattie Brown, Olivia Stokes, E.L. Demetri, Rev John C. Johnson. Dr. Peterson Chairman; Mabel Staupers Vice Chairman; Frank Montero, Secretary.

Dr. Peterson explained that under the Lamm Act funds are available but these funds are restricted to Defense Areas only. There are also other limitations which bar New York. He can overcome these limitations. We must prepare a factual survey. This factual survey to substantiate

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EXCLUDED BY SP-2 ALM/CH  
ON 7/28/00

12/7/42

Committee for the Care of Children in Wartime.....

our claims for public funds.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Rev. Adam Powell was not present but he sent a message that he had conferred with the Mayor on the problems being discussed at the Conference and the Mayor assured him that he would take the matter under consideration. He asked that a delegation be sent to the Mayor. He called to the attention of the Mayor that certain social agencies refused aid to Negro children. The Mayor, he said, assured him that all public funds would be refused agencies that practice discrimination.

There were approximately 85 people present. About 35 were white.

Those advertised speak were:

- \* Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Councilman City of New York
- Rulan E. Jack, Assemblyman
- \* Vito Marcantonio, Congressman
- Anna L. Moore, Negro Women Inc.
- Henry Pope, U.S.O.
- Rev. Felipe Sabater, Puerto Rican Minister
- Audley Moore,
- Mrs. E. Gimble, Chairman C.P.T.C.O.C.I.W.T.
- \* Hope R. Stevens, President Manhattan Council National Negro Con.
- Charles Collins Negro Labor Victory Council

\* These persons did not speak

Attached are copies of the resolutions adopted and the program of the group. They meet again next Wednesday at the 135 the Street Library and thereafter every other Wednesday.



12/7/42

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12/15/42

A Resolution introduced by A. Clayton Powell, Jr. Member of the City Council of New York City will come up before the Committee on City Affairs on Friday December 18th at 2 pm at City Hall.

"It is one of the steps in combatting the rising rate of juvenile delinquency which by the way has shown by the head of the Childrens' Court to be higher among whites than Negroes."

Labor, fraternal and other organizations are urged to send representatives. This is an action taken in behalf of the efforts of the Committee for the Care of Children During War Time. I have submitted a report on the Harlem Conference.

I have been requested to participate.



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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/LEHL  
ON 7/28/00

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New York, New York

MET:DAL  
100-23089

December 21, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

RE: COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN  
IN WAR TIME  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the reports of [redacted] relative to the Harlem Division of the COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN WAR TIME. It will be noted that this group held a conference in New York City on Saturday, December 15, 1942 at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 138th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City.

Confidential Informant's report of December 17, 1942 is a supplemental report to his report of December 7, 1942 on the same matter. In the supplemental report the Informant has set out information concerning persons known to him who participated as speakers at the above meeting.

It is not known whether or not the activities of ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. in introducing a resolution to the New York City Council has any connection with the COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN WAR TIME. However, it is being submitted in connection with this matter for information purposes.

Two copies of [redacted] reports are being retained in the files of this case in the New York City Office for information purposes.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Very truly yours,

P. K. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

ENC. 6  
CC: N.Y. File [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/ELH  
7/28/00

X [redacted] 135

12/9/42

Celebration 7th of December Anniversary of Pearl Harbor.  
Golden Gate Ballroom 142nd Street and Lenox Ave., New York City.  
Auspices: Peoples Committee.

The Planning Committee of the Pearl Harbor Anniversary meeting was held on December 5th, at 7:30 P.M. at the residence of Adam C. Powell, Jr. Present at the meeting were: Adam Powell, Chairman; Fredi Washington; Manning Johnson; Joseph Ford, Secretary; Ernest Johnson, Associated Negro Press; Lucille Freeman, Womens' Auxiliary of the 389th Infantry; Attorney Charles Kellar, Chairman, New York State Conference of Negro Youth and three other persons that I was unable to get their names.

The meeting was merely to check and to plan the December meeting. Adam Powell presented the play that was to be the main feature. We were asked to take various parts. A copy of the play is attached. Reverend Ben Richardson was the Spieler in the first half and Manning Johnson in the Second half. The spieler read those sections in bold type and the other parts were read by other persons. The play was rehearsed under the direction of actress Fredi Washington, Sister-in-law of Adam Powell.

Joseph Ford stated that all the persons that were to speak were contacted.

The Peoples Committee, Adam Powell, Jr. Chairman; Channing Tobias, Vice Chairman; Joseph Ford, Secretary; E. Chinn, Treasurer.

Sponsoring Committee: Charles Collins, Negro Labor Victory Committee; Walter White, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Mabel Staupers, Negro Graduate Nurses; Charles Kellar, New York State Conference of Negro Youth; George Murphy, National Negro Congress; Dr. George Cameron, Manhattan Central Medical Society; Rev. Eldridge, Baptist Ministers Conference; Rev. Sweeny, President, Interdenominational Ministers Conference; Brooklyn and New York branches of the Urban League and the March On Washington Movement.

The December 7th mass meeting was presided over by Channing Tobias. There were approximately 4,000 people present. The speakers were: Channing Tobias; Walter White; Canada Lee, Native Son; Adam Powell. Elmer Carter Commissioner of New York; Dr. Lawrence Ervin and the ministers who were ejected from the Senate were supposed to speak. None of them appeared. I understand that there is some disagreement relative to the story reported by Peoples' Voice relative to the events in the Senate relative to the Poll Tax. Rev. Trigg has stated to friends of mine that he is in full disagreement with Powell on the report. Max Yergan and Ferdinand Smith

not previously advertised also spoke. Channing Tobias spoke about the patriotism of the Negro and that it is something that can not be challenged. He cited examples of white persons of many races and nationality that have betrayed the interest of America. He also cited examples of the Negroes loyalty and participation in every major struggle of our nation. He deplores the fact that the Negro is the most loyal and gets the least consideration. He stated that change of attitude and treatment of the Negro essential to winning the war and the peace.

He concluded with the assertion that if other races such as Chinese, Mexicans, Filipinos and others could be given full citizenship rights that the Negro must insist that the same be accorded him.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1/31/00 BY SP2 MML/ETH

-136



Peral Harbor Anniversary Mass meeting continued....

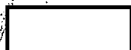
Dr. Max Yergan spoke generally about the international situation regarding the darker races. He called for an application of the Atlantic Charter to all these groups. He said that the principles of freedom and liberation must apply to them and that we in America must insist that these principles apply to them as well as Negroes in America.

Walter White, spoke about the recent lynchings and brutal treatment of Negroes in the South; treatment of Negro soldiers which he said was destroying the soul of America. The Negro must not only fight for their rights but also fight to save white America from destroying its own soul.

Ferdinand Smith spoke briefly about the National Maritime Union and the sacrifices the members are making to get the implements of war to the battle fields of the world. The numerous casualties have not deterred the men, they keep them sailing. He stressed the need of unity in the ranks of labor, among the American people.

Adam Powell presented the platform a copy herewith attached which he said we should strive to achieve in 1943. There were somethings that would require a long time to realized but that we should strive during the coming year to bring their attainment that much nearer. All the achievements listed were the result of struggle, picket lines, mass meetings protests and that winning our program in 1943 can be done only through a continuation of such actions. Fighting for our rights is the key. When are prevented to protest against injustice then democracy dies.

Adam Powell also appealed for contributions for the work of the Peoples Committee during 1943. He pledged a contribution of \$500 before the first of the Year. He gave a personal contribution of \$100. The Negro Congress pledged \$25 and smaller contributions from other groups



New York, New York

NET:DAL

December 21, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

# 439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETK

RE: THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated December 9, 1942 relative to the activities of the above captioned organization.

The first part of this Confidential Informant's report concerns the activities of the Planning Committee of THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE at a meeting of the Planning Committee held December 5, 1942 at the residence of ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. The meeting was held for the purpose of planning a celebration on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City on December 7, 1942. As will be noted from the Informant's report the main feature at this celebration was to be a play given by members of the Committee. [redacted] furnished this office with a copy of the play given at this celebration and photostat copies of this will be furnished to the Bureau as soon as they have been completed.

The second part of this report is relative to the December 7, 1942 Pearl Harbor anniversary celebration held at the Golden Gate Ballroom. The Informant furnished this office with copies of a folder which reflects the plans, claimed by this group, during their first year and sets out their program for the future. It is noted that this folder also advertises a conference of this PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE to be held January 9, 1943 at 132 West 138 Street.

The Informant also furnished this office with throwaways advertising the Pearl Harbor anniversary celebration which were distributed prior to this meeting. Copies of this leaflet are being enclosed.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

ENC: 6

CC: N.Y. File [redacted] ✓

b7D

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[redacted] - 107

12/15/42

The Congress Of Fraternal and Benevolent Organizations.  
Conference and Mass Meeting on Child Care and Juvenile Delinquency.  
Conference Saturday December 12th, 1942  
Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 120th Street and Lenox Ave..

The officers of this group are:

Fred F. Cadet, ~~President~~  
Samuel C. Patterson, Vice President. Member of Communist Party  
according to my knowledge since 1934.  
Bernice Charles, Recording Secretary.  
George Shaw, Treasurer.  
Ernest Chalwill, Secretary.

Fred F. Cadet presided.

There were approximately 50 people present. About ten persons  
were white and the others Negro.

Judge Jane Bolin spoke regarding the establishment of  
adequate safeguards now that WPA has been abolished. Steps should be  
taken to fill in this gap. The establishment of day nurseries and the  
providing of jobs for those youngsters out of work or the creation of  
training centers for them so that they can receive training for jobs.

James F. Adair, National Grand Director, Grand United Order of  
Odd Fellows, spoke generally about the Lodge and its contribution to the  
progress of the race and pledged its support for the program of the Con-  
ference.

Assemblyman William T. Andrews asked the Conference to indorse  
City Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem. Andrews is Vice-President of this  
Committee. This Committee was set up for the purpose of investigating  
the crime situation in Harlem.

The following reports of the different panels were made:

Rev. Ben Richardson reporting:

1. Fraternal and benevolent organizations are interested in the  
securing of paid workers for recreational centers.
2. City schools should be open at night for the purpose of providing  
recreational facilities for youngsters.
3. Fraternal and benevolent organizations to assist in the creation  
of block organization around a given recreational center. Each group to  
assist in underwriting the cost of operation.
4. Create greater Parent and Teacher interest in the block organiza-  
tion.
5. Retention of the various Governmental youth agencies such as the  
National Youth Administration etc.
6. Equipment to be provided for all recreation centers.

7. Co-ordinate activities of all groups in this field and to use  
this group to channelize the whole movement in the interest of Negro  
youth

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/3/00 BY SP2 ABM/ELH

Assemblyman Andrews reporting for his panel:

1. The Conference endorse the demand of the City-wide Committee on Harlem for the appropriation of funds for children and for a law to cover this matter.
2. That the entire group act as a continuations committee which will be the policy committee.
3. The formation of a Child Welfare Committee from members of the Policy Committee.
4. Advisory Committee to be formed consisting of persons prominent in civic life without regard to race color or creed.
5. Send to chairman or Secretary the names and addresses of all heads of fraternal and benevolent organizations so that a complete roster of them can be available for contact.

Judge, Anna Kross. reporting for her panel:

1. Elimination of discrimination. Fundamental prejudices must be eliminated. The people in the community must get together. The W.P.A. and other agencies should not be abolished because of the hardships upon the Community.
2. Organize a Committee for the purpose of continuing nurseries in the schools of the City of New York.
3. Appeal to the authorities for funds for this purpose.
4. Resolution to Mayor and the Board of Estimate for an appropriation.
5. Canvass fraternal and benevolent organizations for space for children.
6. Job preparatio and placement offices in Harlem.
7. Provisions for the reclamation of Negro youth because no such institution now exists.
8. Consumer education.
9. History of the Negro to be taught in all schools and colleges relative to their contribution to the arts, sciences etc..

The reports of all the panels was adopted unanimously.

I attended the panel presided over by Rev. Ben Richardson. The spokesman at the gathering was Henry Pope. He was ably assisted by Samuel C. Patterson. Mr. Patterson explained that the group was not in conflict with any other group in the field but was aimed at the getting of all these groups together.

This group was formed, undoubtedly under instructions of the C.P. because the Confab was directed by Patterson and he was assisted by George Murphy also a Communist.

I was unable to attend the mass meeting. This report covers only the Conference.



New York, New York

NET:DAL  
100-23089

December 21, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

RE: COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN WAR TIME  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated December 15, 1942 relative to the Congress of Fraternal and Benevolent Organizations, which held a conference and mass meeting on Child Care and Juvenile Delinquency on Saturday, December 12, 1942 at the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, 120th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City. b7D

The Informant has indicated in this report that there is a probability this group was formed under the instructions of the Communist Party because this conference was directed by SAMUEL PATTERSON and he was assisted by GEORGE MURPHY, both of whom are reported to be communists.

The Informant also furnished this office with a throw away advertising the above conference to be held December 12, and 13, 1942 to plan a joint action program to solve the problem of protecting the children in war time. Pertinent information set out in the throw away furnished this office, will be included in an investigative report concerning this matter.

Two copies of the Informant's report will be retained in the New York Office for information purposes in the file of the case entitled "COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN WAR TIME - INTERNAL SECURITY - C."

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report any further activities of this organization. b3 b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/21/00 BY SP2AEM/ELC

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

FNC: 2  
CC: N.Y. File [redacted]

[redacted] -139

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

VERSION  
100-28188

December 30, 1943

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Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 ALM/ELH  
ON 7/31/00

RE: DEMOCRACY IN ACTION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

TO: SAC

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] this report, dated December 18, 1943. In regard to information obtained by informant to the effect that the above captioned organization had after six or seven meetings merged with the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

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For the information of the Bureau, it will be noted that on March 6, 1942, [redacted] submitted information to the effect that Democracy in Action was presently being formed and listed seven individuals as being the Executive Committee, headed by FREDERICK SMITH. A review of [redacted] file revealed that FREDERICK SMITH is co-chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee. This information was contained in a report of [redacted] dated October 13, 1943 and further in a report as submitted by [redacted] dated June 28, 1942, in which information appears to the effect that the Negro Labor Victory Committee held their first meeting June 27, 1942.

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At the time [redacted] submitted instant report on Democracy in Action, he further informed Special Agent William H. South that although he did not include it in instant report, he had obtained information that Democracy in Action had met on six or seven different occasions at no regular meeting place and that subsequently this organization had been dissolved, at which time they had entered the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

On December 15, 1943, [redacted] was contacted, at which time he advised that he had never heard of the organization known as Democracy in Action.

140

NY 100-28128

- 2 -

December 26, 1943

Director

Inasmuch as active investigation is being conducted on the Negro Labor Victory Committee (New York file 100-27339), no further investigation is contemplated regarding Democracy in Action, and this case is being placed in a closed status.

Very truly yours,

D. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

ENCLOSURES (2)

cc - 100-27339

cc - 61-730

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Peoples' Committee Conference [redacted] January 15th.  
The place of this meeting will be decided at a later date.

12/12/42

I was asked to serve on the planning committee which meets at the Abyssinians Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City.

The purpose of this meeting, that is conference is to carry out the legislative program presented at the Pearl Harbor Anniversary meeting copies of which I have already submitted.

At the same time this is linked up with the decisions of the meeting of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax. In this report I stated that Adam Powell said that he would call a Conference in New York in December but he postponed it until January.

Adam Powell has asked me to take an active part in all the activities of this Committee and is also anxious that I straighten out myself with the Communists.

The planning committee of which I am a member will meet on December 15th.

In conversation with Joseph Ford, Executive Secretary of the Peoples' he stated that the Coordinating Committee is being dissolved and that its functions will be taken over by the Peoples' Committee. There is, according to his statement, no basis today for its existence.

Rev. Ben Richardson will, as of December 15, become associate Pastor of Abyssinians Baptist Church.

b7D



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

MEP



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New York, New York

W.T:DAL

December 21, 1942

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

RE: THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted two copies of the reports of [redacted] dated December 12th and 16, 1942 relative to the activities of the Planning Committee of the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE.

b7D

The Informant's report of December 16th, 1942 outlines organizational structure of THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE and outlines the plans of this Committee for a conference to be held January 9, 1943. According to Informant's report the purpose of the January 9, 1943 conference is to plan for the carrying out of their legislative program.

The Informant also furnished this office with a copy of a letter on the official stationery of THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE which reflects that ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. is Chairman; CHANNING TOBIAS Co-Chairman; and GENEVIEVE CHINN is Treasurer. The address of this Committee is 132 West 138th Street; telephone number Audobon 3-1210 and 1176. This letter will be made part of the file of this case in the New York City Office.

Two copies of the Informant's reports are also being made part of the file on this case in the New York City Office for information purposes.

[redacted] has been requested to follow and report further activities of this organization.

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DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELC

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXLOATH  
Assistant Director

ENC. 4  
CC: N.Y. File [redacted]

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[redacted]

-142

1/2/43

March On Washington Movement  
New York Division meeting held Wednesday December 30th, 42.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Avenue, New York City.  
Presiding Richard Parrish

The plans for the February 13th Conference was approved.

The main feature of the meeting was the speech of A. Phillip Randolph, National Director. He stated that two additional divisions of the M.O.W.M. were recently set up one in Chattanooga, Tenn., and Cincinnati, Ohio. The local Conference and all the activities of the local division should and must be a build up for the National Conference in Chicago, Ill., in May.

During the week of the National Conference there will be parades and mass meetings all over the country memorializing the Mayors of the Cities and President Roosevelt. This week of activities shall be known as "I am An American Week". The slogan will be "Destry Hitler, Mussolini and Herohite by destroying Jim Crow in America". These actions he asserted will shake the foundations of Jimcrow in America.

A national non-violent civil disobedience campaign will be projected at the National Conference according to Mr Randolph. This shall consist of peaceful violation of Jimcrow all over the country. Where ever there is discrimination and Jimcrow Negroes are to go in defiance of these un-democratic practices. They are to refrain from violence but are to quietly insist upon their rights as American citizens. Some of he said may go to jail but freedom is not a gift from Heaven it something that we must win.

This national non-violent civil disobedience campaign is a part of our program. It will lay the foundation for a successful march to Washington. He stated that the question of marching has not been abandoned but only temporarily postponed. The march he said will follow the national civil disobedience campaign.

He called for more aggressive local action through the full utilization of Executive Order 8802 which he asserted was the result of the activities of the M.O.W.M. All government offices that refuse employment to Negroes should be picketed, also factories and big business concerns.

Moreover the building of the local division was stressed as a must task. This was the first time any announcement has been made of the above plans. Since New York is the birthplace of the M.O.W.M. any national action should originate here.

Miss Iona Morris read a communication from Mr. Fowler of the War Man Power Commission in reply to a letter sent to him by Layle Lane and Ederlie Johns relative to strengthening of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

A committee was set up to draft a letter to President Roosevelt setting forth the M.O.W.M. program for winning democracy for the Negroes.

Mr. Randolph put forth the idea of a world peace conference of representatives of the darker races to be held either in London or Paris to work out a program for liberation of the darker races. This conference to take place simultaneously with the peace Conference after the war. A demand to be made that a secretariat representing the darker races be a permanent part of any structure created by

March on Washington Movement...Continued...

the United Nations for post war reconstruction. Mr. Du Bois and Prof. Ralph Bunch of Howard University are to be consulted on this matter. They will get together specialists on the affairs of the darker races and will work out a program for presentation at the peace conference when and wherever it will be held.



b7D

New York, New York

MEI:EK  
100-26792

January 7, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated January 3, 1943, relative to a meeting of the New York Division of the March on Washington Movement, held in New York on December 30, 1942.

According to informant's report, two additional divisions of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT were recently set up,--one in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and the other in Cincinnati, Ohio.

It should be noted that the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT is trying to organize as many new divisions as possible, prior to the national conference which is to be held in Chicago in May, 1943. They have set five million members as their goal prior to this conference.

Informant's report further points out that a national non-violent civil disobedience campaign will be introduced at the national conference. This campaign is to consist of peaceful violation of all Jim Crow regulations. This disobedience campaign is part of the program to lay the foundation of a successful March on Washington which, according to A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, the national director, has not been abandoned but only temporarily postponed.

Two copies of this report of [redacted] are being designated for the Cincinnati Field Division and the Knoxville Field Division in order that they may be advised of the branches of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT recently set up in that area.

Copies of an investigative report containing more detailed information concerning the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT will be forwarded to the Cincinnati and Knoxville Field Divisions in the near future in order that they may have complete information concerning this organization.

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NYT:XX  
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Letter to Director

January 7, 1943

[redacted] will follow and report the further activities of this organization in the New York City Field Division.

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Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York Field Division for information purposes.

Very truly yours,



H. P. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2:  
2 C.C. Cincinnati (2 Encl.)  
2 C.C. Knoxville (2 Encl.)

✓ C.C. NY [redacted]

December 30th, 42.

March On Washington Movement..

Miss E. Pauline Myers arrived yesterday from Richmond, Va. to take the position of National Executive Secretary of the March On Washington Movement. Miss Myers was formerly employed in the YWCA in Richmond. She assumes her duties on January 2nd, 43. She is residing at the residence of Miss Layle Lane, 236 West 150th Street, Apt. 2j. She informed that her back ground is Socialist. (u)

During her conversation with/at dinner last night in the Hotel Theresa I was impressed by her knowledge of labor. She was President of the Teachers Union, A.F. of L. in Chicago, Ill., and fought with the right wing against the Communists when the split came in the Union. Actively assisted in the organization of the workers in the steel mills in the Chicago area. (u)

The meeting called by A. Phillip Randolph, National Director of national heads of organizations at Freedom House, 32 East 51st Street, New York City was attended by 65 persons. This meeting was called under the auspices of the M.O.W. and the Workers Defense League. Its agenda was the Anti-Poll Tax Bill. (u)

The group pledged to work to get the Bill out of Committee and the floor of Congress and to get its passage at the 78th Congress. The details of the campaign have not been worked out. The plans and strategy for the campaign will be worked out in detail before release. (u)

Ben Mc Laurin National Secretary of the M.O.W.M. presided. The meeting was held Saturday December 19th. (u)

In a conversation held with Ben Mc Laurin on Tuesday December 29th I was informed by him that the National Officers are planning a civil disobedience campaign on a nation-wide scale. This planned ~~tax~~ action will be staged simultaneously with the National Conference of the M.O.W.M. in May 1943. It shall consist of violations of all Jim-crow laws, discrimination and other restrictions placed upon Negroes.

( ) (u)

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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:EK  
100-26792

January 7, 1943

Director, FBI

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated December 30, 1942, concerning E. PAULINE MYERS from Richmond, Virginia, who arrived recently in New York City to take the position of National Executive Secretary of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT. (u)

[redacted] report also sets out information relative to the meeting called by A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH, National Director of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, which was held at the Freedom House, 32 East 51 Street, New York City. This meeting was called under the auspices of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT and the WORKERS DEFENSE LEAGUE. (u)

It should also be noted that, according to information received by informant, Mr. BEN McLURIN, National Secretary of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, advised that this organization is planning a civil disobedience campaign on a nation-wide scale which will consist of violations of all Jim Crow laws, discrimination and other restrictions placed upon Negroes. (u)

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report on further activities of this organization. (u)

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York City Field Division for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures (2)  
C.C. NY [redacted]

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DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 7/2/80  
DECLASSIFICATION

P. H. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

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ON 7/31/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-146

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held Wednesday December, 16th, 1942.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave., New York City.  
Presiding Layle Lane.

12/26/42

(u) X

Conference to be called on February 14th to map the plan of action for the execution of the 8 point program of the M.O.W.M. The details of the conference to be worked out by the Mass Action Committee. This conference to be held in New York City. (u)

The report of the Legislative Committee was postponed until after the New Year. There was some opposition to this action based upon the issue of the poll tax. The opposition felt that action on the Poll Tax should be taken now that a Congressman should be contacted to present the Bill for the M.O.W.M. in opposition to Vito Marcantonio whose Bill the M.O.W.M. would not support because they feel that any Bill sponsored by him would die almost of birth. Benjamin Mc Lauren explained that we should not make the anti-Poll Tax Bill the center of our activity but rather concentrate on the enforcement and strengthening of the Executive Order 8803. That he contended should be the center of our activity. We were also informed that A. Phillip Randolph was getting together a group of leaders from the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People, Urban League and others for the purpose of deciding what action to take collectively and that we would be informed of the action decided upon; in the meantime we were to refrain from taking any positive action with regard to the Poll Tax at this time. His recommendations were accepted. (u)

[ ] (u)

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New York, New York

WET:MK  
100-26792

January 7, 1943

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7/31/00

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated December 26, 1942, relative to a meeting of the New York Division of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, held at the YMCA, 135th Street, New York City, on December 16, 1942. (U)

It will be noted, from informant's report, that the New York Division of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT will call a conference to be held on February 14, 1943 to map the plan of action for the execution of the eight-point program of this organization. It will also be noted that A. PHILIP RANDOLPH will get together with the leaders from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League for the purpose of deciding on action to be taken collectively. (U)

[redacted] will follow and report further activities of this organization. (U)

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York Field Division for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2)

✓ C.C. NY [redacted]

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March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held Monday December 21st, 1943.  
Hotel Theresa Building, 2084 7th Avenue, New York City.  
Presiding Golden Brown

This was a combined meeting of the Educational Committee and the Mass Action Committee. There were 9 persons present. Among them Golden Brown, Layle Lane, Manning Johnson, Baker and a group from Modern Trend. (u)

In connection with educational activity during 1943 it was agreed that the forums should deal primarily with the various forms and methods of bringing about pressure to gain the objectives of the M.O.W.M. The whole question to be developed historically; that is, show how pressure was brought to bear to effect great social changes such as slavery, women's suffrage, labor laws and other social legislation. That specialist in each field should lead the discussion on these subjects. This is aimed at creating a popular understanding of and willingness to participate in mass actions. Golden Brown Chairman of the Educational Committee is responsible for organizing these meetings. In addition there will be discussion of important subjects by prominent speakers at various other meetings. (u)

The Mass Action Committee was concerned primarily with the Feb., 14th Conference. It was agreed that the Conference shall be held on Feb., 13th instead of the 14th. That there shall be registration from 12 noon until 1 P.M. A. Phillip Randolph to deliver the keynote address from 1 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. There will be panel discussions for two hours followed by reports of panel discussions and acceptance of reports. The group decided against the adoption of any resolutions. (u)

The following Panels will be organized:

1. Fair Employment Practices
2. Training and Apprenticeship
3. Farming
4. Poll Tax
5. Employment
6. International Situation

A public mass meeting will be held in conjunction with the conference on Sunday December 14th at one of the local churches. The place not yet decided. (u)

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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NET:SK  
100-26792

January 7, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated December 26, 1942, concerning a meeting of the New York Division of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, held on December 21, 1942 at the Hotel Theresa, 3084 Seventh Avenue, New York City. (u)

It will be noted that, according to the informant's report, the date of the conference of this organization, formerly announced for February 14, 1943, has been changed to February 15, 1943. (u)

[redacted] has been requested to follow and report on further activities of this organization. (u)

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

✓ Enclosures (2)  
✓ C.C. [redacted]

P. F. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

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ON 7/31/00

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OTHERWISE

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12/26/42

New York County Committee Communist Party  
50 East 13th Street, New York City  
Special mass meetings of all Party members in the County of New York  
to be held on Tuesday December 28th, 9 P.M. This also includes members  
of the Young Communist League.

These meetings will be held:

Manhattan Center, 34th Street and 8th Avenue. Speakers:  
William Z. Foster; John Williamson, James W. Ford.

Hunts Point Palace, Southern Boulevard at Hunts Point.  
Speakers: Robert Minor and Rose Wortis.

Academy of Music, Lafayette and Atlantic Avenues, Brooklyn  
Speakers: Earl Browder, Gil Green and Peter Cacchiame.

Masonic Temple Building, Court Square, Long Island City.  
Speakers: Roy Hudson and Ben Davis Jr.

All reports and discussions will be based upon the speech of Earl  
Browder, "Stem Signals — The People Must Know How To Act". The text  
of the speech may be found in the December 27th edition of "The Worker".

All the speakers listed above I have worked with for many years  
and served with them on various leading Committees of the Party.

I served as a member with William Z. Foster, John Williamson  
James W. Ford, Robert Minor, Rose Wortis, Earl Browder, Gil Green  
and Roy Hudson on the National Committee of the Party.

I attended meetings of the Political Bureau with Earl Browder  
presiding and the following persons attending: William Z. Foster,  
James W. Ford, Robert Minor, Rose Wortis, Gil Green and Roy Hudson.

I was a member of the National Trade Union Commission with  
Rose Wortis, Roy Hudson. These meetings were presided over by Jack  
Stachel.

I served as a member of the National Negro Commission with  
James W. Ford and Ben Davis Jr. James W. Ford presided.

I served as a member of the New York State Committee with  
Rose Wortis, and Ben Davis.

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ON 7/3/00

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New York, New York

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100-26603

January 7, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
DISTRICT NO. 2, N Y YORK  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] relative to special mass meetings of all party members in the County of New York which were to be held on Tuesday, December 29, 1942. (u)

[redacted] was unable to attend any of the mass meetings, inasmuch as he is not a member of the Communist Party. However, the meetings at Manhattan Center and Hunts Point Palace were attended by informants of this office. (u)

Efforts are being made at the present time to obtain information relative to other meetings held on that date. (u)

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York City Field office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

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SHOWN OTHERWISE

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

✓ Enclosures (2)  
C.C. NY [redacted]

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ON 7/31/20

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12/30/42

New York State Conference of Negro Youth.  
Meeting held Tuesday December 29, 42.  
Chapel, Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave., New York City.

This is the first meeting held in New York since the formation of the New York State Conference of Negro Youth. It was very poorly attended. There were only twelve people present including myself and my guest. Their stated membership in Manhattan is ~~approximately~~ one hundred persons. There were in my opinion three factors that accounted for the small attendance: 1. All members of the Young Communist League and the Communist Party were instructed to be present at special membership meetings held Tuesday December 29th in various parts of the City. 2. The absence of any leadership in Manhattan. 3. The weather. (Rain)

The group held an informal meeting during which it was suggested a Manhattan Chapter of the N.Y.C. of N.Y. be set up in the near future as a necessary pre-condition for the successful prosecution of the program of the Conference in Manhattan. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ All planning and direction of activities have come from Brooklyn.

An elaborate program was worked out for the sale of buttons. These buttons bear the slogan "Abolish Poll Tax. 100% Democracy". Petitions to be circulated. In the sale of these buttons and circulation of these petitions the plan called for contacting clubs, churches, civic and fraternal organizations and theatres in the Harlem area. Such a plan was considered impossible of execution unless the other Manhattan members can be involved. It was decided that another meeting be called next Wednesday 8 P.M. at the Y.M.C.A.

It was reported that the Brooklyn meeting despite considerable publicity was poorly attended. The Brooklyn Meeting was held on Monday December 28th. There was some opposition to the program at the Brooklyn meeting. This opposition arose from a desire for a program based upon local issues rather than on a National issue like the Poll Tax. The opposition felt that concentration on local problems would have a popular appeal and would win popular support. It was not reported whether the opinions of the opposition was taken under advisement, tabled, voted down, or no action at all.

A few buttons and petitions were distributed.

The Petition.

WIPE OUT THE POLL TAX IN AMERICA!

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
President of the United States

We want victory over Fascism. Such a victory can best be served for the United States and the United Nations by the abolition of the poll tax.

In the interest of securing the only kind of national unity which will bring Victory to the United Nations, the forces of democracy in our country must not in the 78th Congress suffer such reverse as they did with the defeat of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill in the 77th Congress.

We therefore, urge you to do all in your power to secure the passage

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/3/00 BY SP-1/100/11

New York State Conference of Negro Youth continued.....

of a bill outlawing the poll tax for Federal elections.

.....  
Name Address State  
.....

This petition sponsored by

New York State Conference of Negro Youth  
405 Carlton Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.



b7D

New York, New York

MET:EX  
100-41045

January 7, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [ ] dated December 30, 1942, concerning a meeting of the captioned organization, held December 29, 1942, at the YMCA on 135th Street in New York City.

b7D

It will be noted from the informant's report that a meeting of the New York State Conference of Negro Youth was also held in Brooklyn, New York on December 28, 1942. Informant did not attend the Brooklyn meeting.

[ ] has been advised to report on any further activities of this organization which may be held in the New York area.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York City Field Division for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/ELC  
ON 7/31/00

✓ Enclosures (2)  
✓ C.C. NY [ ]

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

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**March On Washington Movement...**

Meeting held Wednesday ~~March~~ January 6th, 43.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave., New York City.  
Dr. Lawrence Ervin presiding.

The meeting was opened with the singing of "O Freedom"; "Faith Of Our Fathers"; "Onward Christian Soldiers" and other songs led by members of the audience.

Dr. Ervin gave a brief explanation of his failure to attend the last two meetings. The rest he asserted fortified him for the tremendous tasks confronting the M.O.W.M. in 1943. He said that there had developed a rift between the National Leadership of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the March on Washington Movement over the question of policy. The rank and file of some of the branches of the N.A.A.C.P. however in spite of the leadership have invited him to speak. He did not explain the differences that caused the rift. He concluded with a call for more aggressive action in 1943 and greater organizational effort.

The report of the Legislative Committee was adopted. I have already submitted a report on the decisions of the Committee. Richard Parrish chairman of the Committee reported.

A motion was passed that an individual postal card campaign be developed on the poll tax and the anti-lynch bills. Each member to send and to get friends to send these cards to members of the House of Representatives urging action on these Bills. Postal cards were sold at the meeting, filled out and mailed.

letter

Miss Iona Morris reported that the/memorizing President Roosevelt had already been sent.

Benjamin Mc Laurin spoke about the work of the M.O.W.M. during 1943. The National Civil Disobedience Campaign, he said, projected by A. Phillip Randolph National Director, is our prime task. Simultaneous action must be taken all over the country to act against jimcrow, discrimination and other ills that beset the Negro people. In the South it means violation of the Jimcrow Laws in busses, on trains, in restaurants and other public places. The Congressional Restaurant in ~~Washington~~ Washington, D.C. must be a target because of its policy of discrimination and also the Constitutional Hall, operated by the Daughters of the American Revolution that at one time barred Marion Anderson from singing there.

Negroes will be urged to go from Harlem to other sections of the city where Negroes are seldom seen for the purpose of breaking down this isolation and to get recognition everywhere. He stated that he mentioned this campaign, which is a plant from the Gandhi Movement, to some liberal whites and they were fearful of it. Their reaction he contended was typical of these so-called liberals who fear the development of a mass movement of the people. He called our attention to an article published in the current issue of Atlantic Monthly which was typical of the bankruptcy of white liberalism. He pointed out the dangers of white liberalism and of Negro "uncle toms" whose ideologies prevent the Negro from collectively and concertedly acting in his own behalf. He was very critical of the article of Warren Brown, Ph.D. published in The Saturday Review of Literature and the Readers Digest recently. He urged that a committee be set up to answer him and to expose his wanton attack on the Negro press and the Negro people.

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DATE 7/31/02 BY SP2ALM/EHL

March On Washington Movement continued.....

The success of the National Civil Disobedience Campaign which will be projected at the National Conference in May requires the strengthening of the M.O.W.M organizationally and for that reason the National Executive Committee decided to bring Miss E. Pauline Myers to New York as National Executive Secretary. This would assure proper coordination and direction to our work nationally. He then introduced Miss Myers.

Miss Myers spoke of the splendid reception and cooperation she has received from the members in New York City and assured us that she would do her best to make the campaign a success. Her remarks were devoted primarily to an expose of white liberalism which she contended "saps the strength and vitality of the Negro". Citing an experience in Richmond of a white liberal Newspaper that gave the Negro a separate section in the paper and an editorial column fully staffed by Negroes, that has recently turned against the Negro because of his aggressive action. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Urban League were criticized on the grounds that they depend on public philanthropy, contributions from liberal persons and for that reason are fearful to develop a mass movement of the Negroes. The actions of the leaders of these groups reflected the attitude of the liberal white who support them financially.

The Negroes in the South, she asserted, can be moved and that the success of the campaign for full citizenship rights depended upon moving the masses of Negroes in the South who feel the sting of Jim Crow and discrimination. The New York group must take the leadership in this crusade. The responsibility rests upon this generation of Negro Americans and if they fail to act they are unworthy of the splendid traditions of Frederick Douglas and others.

The Financial Committee report consisted of asking every member to pledge one dollar a month toward the work of the M.O.W.M. Nearly all those present pledged a dollar. The 5,000 members in New York will be asked to pay their dues for 1943.



I was asked by Dr. Ervin to tour the Eastern Seaboard with him in preparation for the National Conference.

New York, New York

RGH:EE  
100-26792

January 11, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated January 6, 1943, in which he reports on a meeting held at the Negro YMCA, 135th Street, New York City, on the same day.

Informant advised that MR. REVIN spoke and gave a brief explanation of his failure to attend the last two meetings and, among other things, stated that there had developed a rift between the national leadership of the N.A.A.C.P. and the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT over the question of policy. However, he did not explain the cause of these differences.

A motion was passed that an individual postcard campaign be developed on the Poll Tax and Anti-Lynch Bills. Postcards were sold at the meeting, filled out, and mailed to members of the House of Representatives, urging action on these bills.

MR. McLAURIE spoke concerning the work of the U.C.W.M. during 1943, and, among other things, stated that their prime task was the promotion of the national civil disobedience campaign and that their main target at this time was the Congressional Restaurant in Washington and Constitution Hall, operated by the Daughters of the American Revolution; further, that Negroes in Harlem would be urged to go to other sections of the city where Negroes are seldom seen for the purpose of breaking down isolation and to get recognition everywhere.

Miss E. MARLINE MYERS, newly appointed national executive secretary from the State of Virginia, spoke and her remarks were devoted primarily to an exposure of White liberalism in which she cited certain experiences in Richmond, Virginia. She also criticized the N.A.A.C.P. and the NATIONAL YEMAN LEAGUE for their dependency upon public contributions from liberal persons, which resulted in their reason for being fearful to develop a mass movement for the Negroes as contemplated by the March on Washington Movement.

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ON 7/31/00

Room 2

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MEM:NY  
100-26792

Letter to Bureau

January 11, 1943

Miss IRWIN asserted that the Negroes in the South can be moved and that the success of this campaign for full citizenship rights depended upon the moving of masses of Negroes in the South.

At this meeting, every member was requested to pledge \$1.00 a month toward the work of the organization. At the close of the meeting informant was approached by MR. IRWIN in an effort to obtain his services in touring the Eastern Seaboard for this movement. Informant declined.

Two copies of the above report are being retained for the files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,



P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

Enclosures (2)

✓ C.C. NY



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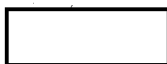
1/14/43

**National Negro Congress.**

John P. Davis, National Secretary of the National Negro Congress and George Murphy, Administrative Secretary of the Congress have resigned. They devoting their time to the work of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax. Their resignation was not a surprise because the National Negro Congress is without any basis for national appeal. Their actions indicate the possible eventual liquidation of the National Negro Congress.

Ever since A. Phillip Randolph and his group withdrew from the Congress charging Communist domination, the Congress has lost prestige and influence among Negroes. Membership has progressively declined to a point where the organization exists in name only. Its entire membership today is composed entirely of Party members and sympathizers.

The Negro Communists that were active in the National Negro Congress are today active in other united front groups. The policy of the Party in relation to the National Negro Congress is not to attempt to rebuild it but to gradually and gracefully liquidate it.



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1/14/43  
Good  
RMR

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DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH



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New York, New York

KRR:JNW  
100-3633

January 15, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated January 14, 1943, on the above captioned matter.

The informant advises that JOHN P. DAVIS, National Secretary, and GEORGE MURPHY, Administrative Secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, have resigned and are devoting their time to work on the NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH THE POLL TAX. This group is gradually liquidating and now exists in name only, its entire membership being composed entirely of party members and sympathizers, and the Communists that were active are now active in other union front groups.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,

  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

✓ cc N.Y. B114 [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/31/00

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158

Monday Jan. 11, 43

**Peoples Conference**

Held January 9th, 1943 at Abyssinian Baptist Church, 138th Street near 7th Avenue, New York City.

Auspices: Peoples Committee.

Councilman Adam Clayton Powell presiding.

The Conference was called to order by Adam Powell who made a brief talk on the aims and objectives of the Conference. He stated that the purpose was to create an overall organization for the purpose of carrying out the Harlem Charter. The Harlem Charter was drawn up by Councilman Powell, Ferdinand Smith, Walter White, Channing Tobias, Dr. Max Yergan. It was presented at the mass meeting called by the Peoples Committee on the Anniversary of Pearl Harbor at the Golden Gate Ballroom at which time it was adopted. Leaders in the fields of labor, employment, civil rights, housing, health, social service, education, consumer, war were being brought together, whose experience and knowledge and support of the people, will be able to force recognition and consideration of the problems of Negroes in New York City.

The Conference was divided into panels for the purpose of evolving from discussion ways and means of executing the points in the Harlem Charter. The following panels were organized: 1. Employment and Labor. 2. Civil Rights. 3. Housing and Health. 4. Social Service and Education. 5. Consumer and War.

The following points were considered by the Panel on Employment and Labor: 1. Decent Working Hours, treatment and pay for domestics. 2. More white-collar jobs in the Negro communities, such as real estate offices, financial institutions, credit houses, etc. 3. Clerical positions in the Transit system. 4. More jobs in all types of public utilities—bus, telephone, and electric companies. 5. Workers in all categories on white newspapers. 6. Salesmen in all companies doing business in Negro areas. 7. Appointment of more Negroes in State offices. 8. Inclusion of Negro workers in all capacities in the OPA and other offices. 9. Training and advancement in the air-craft industry both as workers and operators.

**Labor**

1. The encouragement of greater Trade Union activity and affiliation. 2. To fight for inclusion in all Trade Unions and full recognition and advancement within these Unions that now admit Negroes. 3. Vigorous prosecution of the discrimination complaints through the F.E.P.C., the Governors Commission on Discrimination and other agencies. 4. More war contracts for New York with an increase of industrial training facilities. 5. The end of discrimination in war production. 6. The inclusion of domestics and farmers in the Social Security program. 7. Legislative supported authority for the F.E.P.C. with punitive powers.

The following points were considered by the panel on Civil Rights: 1. Every citizen over 21, a registered voter — voting individuals not parties. 2. An immediate end to the wanton brutality of some of the police. 3. The establishment of a Free Legal Aid Bureau for all people who have been victimized. 4. The inclusion of more Negroes on Grand Juries. 5. The abolition of the Poll Tax. Passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill. The inclusion of Negroes in war-time and post war policy making bodies.

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Peoples Conference continued.....

The following points were considered by the panel on Housing and Health:  
1. To fight for lower rents and better living conditions. 2. To obtain rent control for Harlem. 3. To break down the walls of the ghetto so that Negro people may live anywhere. To end discrimination in war housing and Housing projects.

#### Health

1. The use of competent men and women of the medical service in all city institutions. 2. To work for low cost hospitalization plan. 3. To demand complete clinic facilities in Negro areas. 4. To fight for the abolition of the segregated Blood-Bank and other discriminatory practices of the Red Cross.

The following points were considered by the panel on Social Service and Education: 1. Increased relief for Negro clients due to artificially high cost of living. 2. Recreational program using all city buildings and park facilities on a full time basis. 3. The establishment of Day Nurseries for the children of parents engaged in war work. 4. The education of the Metropolitan press so that Negro life will be reported without bias.

#### Education

1. More Negroes appointed to the faculties and clerical staff of the colleges of New York. 2. The appointment of a Negro to the:

a. Board of Education. b. Board of Higher Education. c. Regents of the State of New York. d. Supervisory position in the elementary and secondary school system.

The following points were considered by the panel on Consumer and War:  
1. Establishment of a Harlem public market. 2. The appointment of Negroes as Market Inspectors. 3. To urge the enforcement of OPA orders. 4. To work for a strong consumer movement.

#### War

1. End discrimination and segregation in the Armed forces. 2. The immediate investigation and prosecution of all individuals who have murdered or brutalized Negro soldiers. 3. The full use of all recreational facilities for Negro Troops. 4. The passage of the Kilgore-Tolan-Pepper Bill for the establishment of a Central Planning Organization. 5. The winning of the war and the peace with full democracy for all black, brown, yellow and white people of the world.

Among those present and taking part in panel discussions were:  
Audley Moore, Communist, in charge of work among Negro women in the Upper Harlem Section. Ben Davis Jr. Secretary New York County Committee of the Communist Party. Elizabeth Barker, financial secretary Upper Harlem Section, Communist Party. Theodore Basset, Member of State Committee, Communist Party, employed in State Office 50 East 13th Street. Charles Collins, Communist Business Agent Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6, A.F. of L. head of Negro Labor Victory Council. Ferdinand Smith, Communist, Secretary National Maritime Union.

There were approximately 250 people present of this number about 25 were white and the others Negroes. They represented according to the statement of Adam Powell 178 organizations. All delegates attending paid a registration fee of one dollar which included membership for the year 1943. Each registrant was given a membership card signed by Adam Powell, Chairman. Dr. Channing Tobias Vice Chairman. Joseph E. Ford, Executive Secretary. Genevieve Chinn Treasurer.



Peoples Conference continued.....

The panel discussions lasted approximately one hour and a half after which the Conference re-assembled to act on the reports of the Panels. The following reports were unanimously adopted by the Conference:

**Employment & Labor** Mrs. Victoria Best reporting.

That entire panel group constitute a Continuations Committee to work out the ways and means of fulfilling the many and complex tasks assigned the group. There were a number of ~~important~~ suggestions among which were the support of the hearings in Washington, D.C. January 25th on discrimination in the railroad industry, held under the auspices of the FEPC. The FEPC and the Governors Committee to be made permanent. Formation of an overall group to handle discrimination in employment. End of discrimination in City, State and Federal Governments. Negro training, placement and upgrading. All these suggestions will be considered for action at the first meeting of the Continuations Committee.

**Civil Rights.** Lionel Barrows reporting.

The Peoples Committee to set up immediately before elections a Committee to examine the record of all candidates in the field and report its findings to the people. House to house canvass prior to elections to urge everyone to vote. Demand that a Committee be recognized that will work with the Police Department to end police brutality in Harlem. This Committee to have power to examine police practices and policies. Establishment of a free Legal Aid Bureau the details and mechanics to be worked out by small committee. Demand that more Negroes be placed on Grand Juries. Passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill and the anti-lynching Bill. A Committee be set up to draft a policy that will guarantee Negro rights in peace time. A resolution was read calling for the abolition of the Dies Committee. All Congressmen to be informed of this action.

**Housing and Health.....**

Delegation to go before CPA to demand rent control for Harlem. The City to be asked to either demolish or renovate boarded up buildings. Increase in the City Budget to provide more Inspectors of housing. All landlords be given maximum punishment for violations. Support of the Consolidated Tenants League. Increase hospital staffs. Admittance of Negroes in all City Hospitals.

**Social Service and Education.** Theodore Bassett ~~reporting~~ reporting

Schools to be open from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M. during the school week and also on Saturday to serve as a recreational center. Child care centers and nurseries be set up in the Negro communities. Negro history and culture classes in the schools. Delegation to the hearing of the Board of Estimate on the Budget to ask for increased appropriations for education and social service. A mass meeting to be called on child care.

**Consumer and War.** ~~Elizabeth~~ Reporting Lillian White

The Peoples Committee establish a sub-committee on war. The Executive Board take immediate steps to guarantee passage of anti-poll tax bill. Encourage house wives not to buy more than necessary. Short changing and short

Peoples Conference continued.....

weighing should be reported immediately to the Department of Weights and Measures  
More Negroes should serve on Ration Boards. Newspapers to give publicity to  
rationing and price control. Public markets in Negro communities.

Report of the Nominations Committee. Earnest Johnson chairman.

Chairman, Adam Powell  
Vice chairman, Channing Tobias  
Treasurer, Genevieve Chinn  
Executive Secretary, Earnest Johnson

**Executive Board Members:**

a  
Wyren Bunker (Warren)  
Roy Wilkins  
Donald Phillips  
Dr. George Cannon  
Earnest Demitri  
Henry Craft  
John Harman  
Louise Mc Donall  
Mabel Staupers  
Rev. Sam. Sweeney  
Rev. S. T. Eldridge  
Charles Collins  
Frank Crosswaite  
Clifford Mc Avey  
A.A. Austin  
Samuel Patterson  
Max Day  
Olivia Stokes  
C.P. Powell

The Conference went on record supporting the Anti-Poll Tax Conference  
in Washington D.C. February 9th. Adam Powell and Harrison Jackson were  
elected delegates.

The budget announced for the year of 1943 to something over \$5,500.  
Finances on hand a little over \$250.



KMR:LM

234 U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 20, 1943.

Director, FBI

RE: PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
ON 7/31/00

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated January 11, 1943 on the above-captioned matter. Informant advised that he attended a meeting on January 9, 1943 at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, which was called to order by ADAM POWELL who made a brief talk on the aims and objectives of the conference. He stated that the purpose was to create an organization to carry out the "Harlem Chapter" which was drawn up by P. FERDINAND SMITH, WALTER WHITE, CHANNING TOBIAS and Dr. MAX YERGAN, which was previously presented by a mass meeting called by the People's Committee at the Golden Gate Ballroom on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

The conference was divided into the following channels: 1-Employment and Labor, 2-Civil Rights, 3-Health, 4-Social Service and Education, 5-Consumer and the War. The points of resolution considered are set forth in this report.

Informant reports the following Communists who were present and took part in the panel discussions: ANDREW MOORE, BEN DAVIS JR., ELIZABETH BARKER, THEODORE BASSETT, CHARLES COLLINS and FERDINAND SMITH.

There were approximately 200 people present and of this number, about 25 were white, the others were Negroes and according to the statement of Reverend ADAM POWELL, they represented 178 organizations. All delegates present paid a registration fee of one dollar, which included membership to the organization for the year 1943.

Two copies of the above-mentioned report are being retained for the files of the New York Office.

Informant has been requested to follow and report the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc [redacted] ✓

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160

January 17th, 43.

**Fair Employment Practices Committee**

The actions of War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. Mc Nutt in postponing indefinitely the hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry that was scheduled for January 25-27th in Washington, D.C., has caused considerable bitterness and resentment among Negroes.

There has been considerable agitation regarding the hearings. They were widely spoken of as an important step in breaking down jimcrow. It is contended that the jobs of 2,000 Negro firemen are at stake; that most of these workers will lose their jobs by July 1943. Various groups have gone to great lengths preparing for the hearings and were expecting Government intervention through the Fair Employment Practices Committee to eliminate jimcrow as a principle and policy.

Attached hereto is a copy of the "Case of the Negro Fireman" issued by the March On Washington Movement!

Protesting the actions of Mc Nutt are the following groups:

March On Washington Movement.  
Negro Labor Victory Council  
National Negro Congress  
People's Committee

The effort to get more delegations to Washington continues and more groups and individuals to send telegrams and cards to President Roosevelt and Mc Nutt.

will

The March On Washington Movement/plan on Wednesday January 20th to picket the offices of the War Manpower Commission here in New York.



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161

New York, New York

NYT:MW  
100-26792

January 27, 1943

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated January 17, 1943, concerning the reaction of the Negroes to the cancelling of the hearings of the War Relocation Authority Commission on discrimination in the railroad industry.

It will be noted that informant has listed four organizations which are protesting the action of the War Relocation Authority Commission. It should be noted further that, according to information subsequently furnished by this informant, the March on Washington Movement is not making their protest jointly with the other organizations listed. The other organizations listed are reported to be working jointly through the "People's Committee" in making their protest concerning this matter.

This informant will continue to follow and report on the activities of the Negroes with regard to this matter.

The following exhibits were obtained by informant, and are being transmitted as enclosures herewith:

- 1 copy of "The Case of the Negro Fireman"
- 2 copies of a pamphlet advertising the Action Conference of the March on Washington Movement, to be held on Saturday, February 13, 1943, at the Harlem Y.M.C.A., 180 West 135th Street, New York City.

One copy of each of the above exhibits are being retained in the files of this case in the New York City Field Office. Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Field Division for information purposes.

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/CH

ON 7/31/60

Enc.

Very truly yours,

T. J. DONAGAN  
SAC

cc [redacted]

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162

Thursday January 21, 43.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/TEH

March On Washington Meeting held Wednesday January 20.  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave., New York City  
Miss E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary presiding  
Attendance about 75 people about ten white persons were present.

The meeting was a mass meeting called in protest against the postponement by Paul V. McNutt of the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings on discrimination in the railroads. There is also another mass protest rally to be held in Washington, D. C. on January 25th at which Mr. Randolph, National Director of the M.O.W.M. will speak.

Aldrich Turner, Treasurer of the M.O.W.M. gave a brief report on the delegations trip to Washington. He stated that it was unsuccessful because Paul McNutt refused even to grant an interview with the delegation. However he did qualify this statement by saying that McNutt was willing to see four members of the delegation of approximately 28. This was rejected by the delegation. It was all or nothing.

Rev. Eldridge spoke on need of the inclusion of white persons in the March movement. The inclusion of liberal white persons in the movement was essential to success. These persons he characterized as "20th Century Abolitionists", whom can open doors for Negroes that they can not open for themselves.

Rev. Eldridge speech was very coldly received. The majority disagreeing with any change in policy. In fact the active members were taken by surprise at this complete reversal of policy. Quite a number expressed to me their dissatisfaction.

Rabbi Goldstein spoke on the denial of economic and political economy to the Negro asserting that "sons, brothers and fathers of the Negro people are called upon to die for democracy for other peoples of the world, therefore they are intitled to enjoy democracy here at home". He called for greater unity and effort on the part of all groups to attain this end.

Dr. Lawrence Ervin spoke generally about the history of F.E.P.C. and that there is a grave danger that it will be destroyed. He characterized F.E.P.C. as the hopeful medium through which discrimination can be exposed and liquidated.

Miss E. Pauline Myers summarized the speeches and made specific recommendations for action. She stated that a Co-ordinating Committee consisting of Negroes and whites was to be formed for the purpose working out plans for action regarding F.E.P.C. That the New York Division refrain from taking any action separate and apart from that which this committee decides. Since the Provisional Committee To Organize Colored Locomotive Firemen and other organizations were responsible for the hearings that resulted in the action of McNutt they should be consulted on how best to hand the campaign. These recommendations were made in consultation with A.P. Randolph Wednesday afternoon in the headquarters of the March On Washington Movement. Present at the caucus meeting were: Pauline Myers, Iona Morris, Aldrich Turner, A. Phillip Randolph.

All the recommendations were approved. The question of picketting the War Manpower Commission offices was tabled. Persons willing to picket will be registered in order that they will be available in the event the Co-ordinating Committee decides to take action.

New York, New York

100-26792

NET:MM

January 27, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CONFIDENTIAL

SP2 ALM/ETH

7/31/00

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated January 21, 1943, relative to the above captioned matter.

b7D

It will be noted this meeting was called in protest against the postponement by PAUL V. HENRY of the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry. It should also be noted that, in speaking before this group, Rev. ELDREDGE mentioned the need of the inclusion of white persons in the organization, as being essential to success. This is a complete change of policy of this organization, inasmuch as previously it has been an all-colored group.

Informant points out in the last paragraph of this report that the question of picketing the War Manpower Commission offices was tabled. However, the names of the persons willing to picket were to be registered, in order that they might be available in the event the Coordinating Committee decides to take such action.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report on further activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of this office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

T. J. DONEGAN  
SAC

Enc.

cc [redacted]

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-164

Thursday January 21, 43

**National Negro Congress**

I was informed by Bill Chase, Columnist, Amsterdam -Star News he was invited to the send-off party for George Murphy, former Administrative Secretary, National Negro Congress. George Murphy is being inducted into the Army. He is being replaced by Thelma Dale of Washington, D.C. There has been no decision as to who shall replace John P. Davis, Executive Secretary N.N.C.

There were approximately 25 persons present. It was strictly a "Red" party. Among those present were: James W. Ford, Ben Davis Jr., Hope Stevens, Max Yergan, Adam Clayton Powell, Theodore Bassett, Zelma Belasco, Poindexter.

The meeting was held at the home of Max Yergan, 22 Hamilton Terrace. Max Yergan's Secretary acted as hostess.

Bill Chase stated that Max Yergan, Adam Powell, Ford and others tried to convince him to leave the Amsterdam Star News without success. The reasons he gave me for his refusal was that in his opinion the Peoples' Voice was not sound and that the policy it pursues may cause it to fold up eventually, and too, that the Amsterdam Star News is the better paper in every respect.

He expressed considerable resentment against Powell and his actions. In his Column in the January 23rd edition of the Amsterdam Star News he is mentioning that a very prominent citizen will be named co-respondent in a divorce suit. He informed me that the person that will refer to is Adam Clayton Powell.



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New York, New York

NET:MW  
100-3633

January 27, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith, two copies of the report of [redacted] dated January 21, 1943, relative to a party for GEORGE MURPHY, former Administrative Secretary of the National Negro Congress, who, according to informant, is being inducted into the Army. b7D

The party was held at the home of MAX YERGAN, 22 Hamilton Terrace. It will be noted that ADAM CLAYTON POWELL attended this party, along with many of the reported Negro Communists.

This office will endeavor to verify informant's information that GEORGE MURPHY is being inducted into the U. S. Army, and the Office of Military Intelligence will be notified.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of instant case in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*

T. J. DONOGAN  
SAC

Enc.

cc- [redacted] ✓  
100-22864

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH  
ON 7/31/00

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[redacted] 166

Saturday 1/23.43

People's Committee

Meeting of the Executive Board and the Chairmen of the working committees.  
Saturday January 23rd, 1:30 PM. Y.M.C.A. 135th Street, New York City.  
Presiding Adam Powell  
Recording Secretary Earnest Johnson.

This was the first meeting of the Executive Committee and Chairmen of working committees since the election of the Executive Board by the delegates attending the People's Conference on January 9th at Abyssinia Baptist Church. The Chairmen of working committees were appointed in accordance with the decision of the People's Conference.

The meeting was preceeded by a luncheon. After which a brief explanation of the reason for the appointment of working committee chairmen, was made by Adam Powell. He stated that there were many persons who are on the Executive Board that are not in a position to function because of the pressure of work and other responsibilities. They were selected primarily because of their training, experience and contact but that he was mindful of training a group with lesser experience, and, upon whom there is not such a great demand for their time and knowledge, to do the daily work. The criticism, he said, made about the composition of the Executive Board and its functional ability was sincere and correct.

Hunter College. Adam Powell stated that Hunter College was given to the W.A.V.E.S. (Women's Auxilliary of Navy). This womens' Auxilliary of the Navy refuses to admit Negro women there for the Mayor of the City of New York and the Board of Estimate should be asked to deny the use of Hunter College to the WAVES or any other group that practices discrimination. A resolution will be introduced in City Council, New York on Friday of next week asking for withdrawal of use of Hunter College an ay other City property to the WAVES or any other group that practices discrimination.

Mass meeting. An emergency mass meeting to be called on Monday January 25th at 730 PM. Abyssinian Baptist Church in protest against discrimination and jim crow on railroads and the calling off of the hearings by Paul V. Mc Nutt, War Manpower Commissioner, that were to be held in Washington, D.C. by the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Charles Collins explained that the technical arrangements were worked out by Adam Powell, himself, Joseph Ford in the last twenty four hours. The following persons are asked to speak:

- A. Clayton Powell, Jr. Councilman of the City of New York.
- A. Phillip Randolph, President Brotherhood Sleeping Car Porters, also National Director, March On Washington Movement.
- Charles Collins, Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee, also Business Agent Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6, A.F. of L.
- T.A. Jackson, President, Dining Car Employees Union Local 370, A.F. of L.
- Stanley M. Isaacs, Councilman of the City of New York.
- Congressman Vito Marcantonio
- James Fitzsimon, Director of Organization, Local 100 Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.
- Saul Mills, Secretary Treasurer, Greater New York C.I.O. Industrial Union Council.

Attached hereto is a copy of the circular that is to be circulated. It contains a partial list of sponsors the majority of these groups are Controlled by the Communist Party.

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DATE 7/3/00 BY SP2A/HML/ELH

## People's Committee Continued.....

Discrimination in United States Labor Department. It was reported that the quota of jobs or appointments in the U.S. Labor department have not been filled and that qualified Negroes are discriminated against in the hiring. It was decided that on Monday January 26th the Regional Director of the United States Labor Department be contacted for an appointment to take up this matter. The local and National offices of the Urban League and the Y.M.C.A. will be contacted to get all available information of cases of discrimination for the delegation to present. It was suggested that the steering Committee of the Executive Board constitute the delegation.

The Steering Committee consists of: Adam Powell, Manning Tobias, Joseph Ford, Earnest Johnson, Genevieve Chinn, Charles Collins and Mable K. Staupers.

United Action Program. The United Action Program recommended for 1943 by the Peoples' Conference on January 9th was referred to the Steering Committee to concretize and make specific recommendations. The Action Program to be worked out on a time table basis; that is, that the action recommended will be accompanied with a definite time set for the action. Most of the recommendations were included in my report on the People's Conference. It was recommended that mimeographed copies of all the decisions of the People's Conference be given to each member of the Executive Board and the Chairmen of working Committees.

Action Program when finally adopted by the Executive Board will be printed in a six page pamphlet and sold for one cent a copy.

It was unanimously agreed that an Action Letter, similar to the one gotten out by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, be issued monthly. This letter to give a resume' of most important events, their background and specific recommendations for action.

Educational Campaign. An educational program be worked out to stress efficiency and responsibility to employer and community as an essential step toward greater infiltration into war production. The main stress to be placed upon being a better, more efficient and qualified and responsible worker. Committee should be set up to handle this and that a column be devoted to the question weekly in People's Voice.

There were 22 people present. Among them:

Adam Powell  
Joseph Ford  
Earnest Johnson  
Genevieve Chinn  
Charles Collins  
Manning Johnson  
Mable K. Staupers  
Henry Kraft  
Mac C. Davies  
Harrison Jackson  
Donnellan Phillips  
Lorenzo F. Davis  
Emmett May

People's Committee Continued.....

Division and representation on Executive Board:

Labor:

Charles Collins, Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council,  
Clifford Mc Avey, Legislative representative, C.I.O. Industrial Union  
Council.  
Thomas C. Hall, National Alliance Postal Employees

Industrial Relations:

Warren Eanner, National Urban League.

Civil Rights:

Boy Wilkins, Columnist Amsterdam Star News, National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People.

Benevolent and Fraternal:

Samuel C. Patterson, Vice President Congress of Fraternal and Benevolent  
Organizations. International Workers Order.  
~~Ernest L. Dimitry, Permanent Committee on Better Schools.~~ Mac C. Davies

Education:

Ernest L. Dimitry, Permanent Committee on Better Schools.

Housing:

Donellan Phillips, Consolidated Tenants League.

Social Service:

Henry Kraft, 135th Street Branch Y.M.C.A.

Church:

Rev. S.T. Eldridge  
Rev. Samuel Sweeney

Consumer:

John Harmon, Harlem Consumers Cooperative.

Youth:

Olivia Stokes

Women:

Nabel K. Staupers  
Louise J. Mc Donald

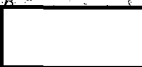
Health:

Dr. George Cannon

Business:

Dr. C.B. Powell, publisher Amsterdam Star News  
A.A. Austin

The Executive Board and Chairmen of working committees will meet  
every 4th Saturday at 2 PM.



# PROTEST MASS MEETING

JIM CROW ON RAILROADS HAMPERS WAR EFFORT

**MONDAY  
EVENING  
JAN. 25**

**AT 7:30 P. M.**

Negro railroad workers like these are denied promotions to skilled jobs while the country's war-time transportation system is threatened by a manpower shortage. Charges of discrimination hindering the war effort WERE to have been brought before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice,



**ABYSSINIAN  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

**132 WEST 138th ST.**

## **BUT**

Mr. McNUTT HAS CALLED OFF THE HEARINGS.

ARE THOSE RAILROADS WHICH CONTINUE TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST NEGROES AND THUS HAMSTRING THE NATION'S VICTORY EFFORT MORE POWERFUL THAN OUR U. S. GOVERNMENT?

CAN THEY SUCCESSFULLY DEFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES?

## **SPEAKERS**

**A. CLAYTON POWELL, JR.**

Councilman of the City of New York

**A. PHILIP RANDOLPH**

Pres. of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A.F.L.

**CHARLES A. COLLINS**

Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee

**T. A. JACKSON**

Dining Car Employees Union, Local 370, A.F.L.

**STANLEY M. ISAACS**

Councilman of the City of New York

**VITO MARCANTONIO**

United States Congressman

**JAMES FITZSIMON**

Director of Organization, Local 100 Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.

**SAUL MILLS**

Sec'y Treas., Greater N. Y. Industrial Union Council

## **SPONSORS: (Partial List)**

The Peoples Committee. American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born. N. Y. County American Labor Party. National Maritime Union, C.I.O. National Negro Congress. Cooks Union, Local 89. Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks Union, Local 125, C.I.O. Father Swezey, Dept. of Christian Social Relations of the Diocese of Long Island. Transport Workers Union, C.I.O. Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, A.F.L. International Labor Defense. Rev. B. C. Robeson, Pastor, Mother Zion Church. Jewish Peoples Committee. Nat'l. Fed. for Constitutional Liberties. Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, C.I.O. Negro Labor Victory Committee. Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., Editor Peoples Voice. Rev. C. Y. Trigg, Pastor, Salem M. E Church. Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Local 309.

New York, New York

NET:MM  
100-43415

January 27, 1943

439740

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 ALM/KHL  
ON 7/31/00

Director, FBI

Re: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith, two copies of the report of [redacted] dated January 23, 1943, relative to the captioned matter.

b7D

In this report, informant has pointed out that an emergency mass meeting will be held by this group on Monday, January 25, 1943, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, in protest against discrimination in the railroad industry, and the calling off of the hearings by the War Relocation Commission. Arrangements have been made to have this informant attend this meeting.

It will be further noted that the last page of informant's report lists various divisions of this organization and the persons representing each group. In this connection, informant has advised that some of the persons mentioned in these groups have never attended meetings of the People's Committee and it is doubtful whether they will be persuaded to serve in the capacity indicated. The persons mentioned by informant as not having previously participated in the activities of this organization are: Rev. S. T. ELDRIDGE and Rev. SAMUEL SWEENEY, of the Church Division; Dr. GEORGE CANNON, of the Health Division; and Dr. C. B. POWELL, of the Business Division.

There are also being transmitted herewith, two copies of a circular distributed by this organization, advertising a protest mass meeting for January 25, 1943. Two copies of this circular, as well as two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the files of instant case in the New York Office.

Informant has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Very truly yours,

T. J. BOWEN  
SAC

Enc.

cc: [redacted] ✓

b3

Peoples Committee.

Copy of Communication dated January 12th, 43.

The People's Committee

A. Clayton Powell, Jr. Chairman  
Dr. Channing Tobias, Vice Chairman

Ernest Johnson, Sec'y.  
Genevieve Chinn, Treasurer  
Joseph Ford, Administrator

132 West 138th Street  
Au. 3- 1178

My dear friend:

As the newly elected chairman of the People's Committee for 1943 I am asking you to serve as the chairman of the Delegation Committee.

Mr. Joseph E. Ford, the administrator of your committee, will be glad to talk to you about our work. If you will call him on the phone he will be happy to arrange an appointment.

The most successful conference of last Saturday issued many mandates for us to carry forward. The ability to successfully accomplish these objectives rest upon our organization the people into an effective movement. That will be our task as chairmen of the organization.

Will you kindly let me know on or before January 18th if you will accept and will attend the first meeting of the Board of Directors and Chairmen of the Operating Committee? It will be held Saturday, January 23rd at the Y.W.C. at 1:30 when a complimentary luncheon will be served.

Yours for the People  
A. Clayton Powell, Jr.

ACP/d

The task of the chairman of the above committee is to see to it that a representative of the People's Committee cover all meetings, conferences etc.. There will be a meeting on Juvenile Delinquency on January 19th at 8 P.M. at the Public Library, 104 West 136th Street. A delegate of the People's Committee will be present.



b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/31/02 BY SP2ALM/ETH

1/14/43  
Good  
KRR



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New York, New York

KRB:JMW

January 15, 1943

110.43415

Director, FBI

Re: THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed are two copies of a communication, dated January 12th, 1943, as received by [redacted] from Reverend ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., Chairman of THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE.

Informant advises that THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE is a group, promoted by Reverend POWELL, in which are delegates from practically every liberal organization in New York City. Reverend POWELL has requested informant, in the enclosed letter, to serve as Chairman of the Delegation Committee, which informant explains that, as such, his duties will be to cover and report to Reverend POWELL on all conferences and meetings of the various organizations, groups and committees.

Two copies of the enclosed letter are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc N.Y. File [redacted]

*al*  
*M. Martin*  
*Conf. Am. A.*

DECLASSIFICATION AS OF 6/26/79 by SP-1



# National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax

Number 10 Independence Avenue, Southwest  
Washington, District of Columbia

Jennings Perry  
Chairman

Dr. Will Alexander  
Vice Chairman

Virginia Foster Durr  
Executive Vice Chairman

Sylvia Beitscher  
Executive Secretary

December 22, 1942

Eleanor Bontecou  
Research Director

Dear Friend:

The campaign to abolish the poll tax will be renewed with greater energy and determination by the American people in the new Congress.

## Sponsors

☆

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT  
DR. FRANK P. GRAHAM  
HON. ARTHUR CAPPER  
HON. THOMAS H. ELIOT  
HON. KNUTE HILL  
HON. JAMES O'CONNOR  
HON. CAROLYN O'DAY  
HARRY C. BATES  
MARY McLEOD BETHUNE  
BARRY BINGHAM  
RABBI BARNETT BRICKNER  
RUFUS CLEMENT  
MAY THOMPSON EVANS  
DR. HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK  
WILLIAM GREEN  
RT. REV. HENRY W. HOBSON  
MORDECAI JOHNSON  
PAUL KELLOGG  
BISHOP PAUL KERN  
KATHRYN LEWIS  
MOST REV. ROBERT LUCEY  
DOROTHY S. McALLISTER  
FELIX MORLEY  
PHILLIP MURRAY  
RT. REV. EDWARD L. PARSONS  
JAMES PATTON  
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH  
EMIL RIEVE  
FATHER JOHN A. RYAN  
DONALD OGDEN STEWART  
REV. JOHN B. THOMPSON  
DR. FRANCIS E. TOWNSEND  
OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD  
WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE

☆

Abolition of the poll tax is an immediate war necessity. The United Nations are launching an offensive against Fascism on all fronts. To win Victory, all the people must be mobilized behind an all-out war effort. Yet here in America, 10,000,000 southern citizens - 6 million whites and 4 million Negroes - cannot exercise their democratic right to vote.

In the recent filibuster in the Senate it became clear that the fight against poll tax repeal is the beginning of the reactionary drive against all measures for the security of the people, and therefore against the successful prosecution of the war. The poll taxers are the spearhead of reaction!

NOW is the time to act on the poll tax.....NOW is the time to take the offensive - to strengthen our national morale - to build our democracy - to guarantee our war effort - to win the People's War.

The work of the National Committee has been made possible as a result of your contributions. We wish to thank the thousands of organizations and individuals who have so generously contributed and respectfully to call your attention to the attached financial statement showing the amount of money received, expenditures made and accounts payable.

We need your financial support now to renew the campaign. Our plans for the next several months are described in detail in the REPEALER - the launching of a two million signature petition drive, a pamphlet on the poll tax for wide distribution. Will you send us your check as soon as possible so that we can go ahead with these plans? Will you make a request for a contribution at your next meeting?

The poll tax is an obstacle to victory..it must be removed. With your help, it will be done.

Sincerely yours,

Sylvia Beitscher

SYLVIA BEITSCHER  
Executive Secretary

uopwa 27  
Encl.

# NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH THE POLL TAX

## Financial Statement

January 1 to November 30, 1942

### SUMMARY:

Total Income	\$8,530.47	
Total Disbursement	<u>8,414.04</u>	
Cash in Bank		\$116.43
Accounts Payable		<u>512.81</u>
<u>DEFICIT</u>		<u>\$396.38</u>

### Contributions:

A. F. L.	Internationals	\$300.00	
	State Federations	10.00	
	County & City Fed.	100.00	
	Local Unions	<u>520.00</u>	
			\$930.00
C. I. O.	National Office	\$1,000.00	
	Internationals	1,470.00	
	State I. U. C.'s	62.50	
	County & City IUC's	600.62	
	Local Unions	<u>961.00</u>	
			\$4,094.12
Independent Unions		620.00	
Individuals		2,296.20	
Women's Organizations		24.40	
Negro Organizations		13.10	
Civil Rights Organizations		365.00	
Miscellaneous Organizations		54.15	
Mass Meeting Proceeds		<u>133.50</u>	
	TOTAL INCOME		\$8,530.47

### Disbursements:

Salary for Executive Secy	\$2,284.70
Stationery & Supplies	976.73
Printing (Repealer)	815.27
Pamphlets	281.90
Advertising (3 newspaper ads)	1,653.30
Radio	40.15
Research	37.00
Mass Meeting	239.50
Postage	1,037.76
Rent	120.00
Telephone & Telegram	456.16
Field Work	287.23
Miscellaneous	<u>184.34</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$8,414.04

Cash in Bank \$116.43

### Accounts Payable:

Stationery	122.89
Telegraph	109.39
Telephone	14.76
Printing	<u>265.77</u>
TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 512.81

DEFICIT \$396.38

New York, New York

KRE:JMW  
100-41224

January 15, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH THE POLL TAX  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted], dated January 14th, 1943, concerning the above captioned matter. Furnished also are two photostatic copies of a financial statement of the above group, a copy of which is being retained in the files of the New York office. Informant reports that this group is actively campaigning among groups in New York, and other organizations actively working with the committee are: NEGRO LABOR UNION COMMITTEE, PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE, NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE OF NEGRO YOUTH, NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, COMMUNIST PARTY and the COMMUNIST CONTROLLED UNIONS.

b7D

Preparations are being made to have a large and representative delegation in Washington, D. C. on February 9th, 1943, and it is understood that a number of delegates attending this conference will recommend picketting Congress.

At the time informant furnished this report he advised that JOHN P. DAVIS, National Secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and GEORGE MURPHY, Administrative Secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS have resigned, and are devoting their time to this group.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH  
Assistant Director

cc N.Y. File [redacted]

b3

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/21/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

*Copy not received with cover letter 2/2/43 [initials]*

172

1/14/43

**March On Washington Movement**

Meeting held January 13th, 1943. at the Y.M.C.A. 133th Street near 7th Ave.  
Dr. Lawrence Ervin presiding.

(u) #

The entire meeting was devoted to a discussion of the report of Miss Layle Lane chairman of the Mass Action Committee. It was the consensus of opinion of the Mass Action Committee that the M.O.W.M. call a march on Washington because of the actions of Mr. Mc Nutt in calling off the hearings regarding discrimination in the railroad industry. There were several rulings of Mc Nutt that in the opinion of the M.A.C. spelled the doom of F.E.P.C. Executive Order 8802 is considered the medium through which discrimination in industry can be exposed and remedied. The actions of MR. Mc Nutt in calling off the hearings has aroused considerable bitterness and resentment. His actions are considered as a "yeilding to reactionary and anti-Negro forces". (u)

Many jobs which Negroes have gotten as a result of the work of F.E.P.C. is considered endangered and that further gains are impossible provided the ruling of Mr. Mc Nutt stands. A postal card and letter campaign asking the President of the United States to intervene is being organized. A number of cards were sent from the meeting. (u)

The recommendation of the Mass Action Committee for a march on Washington in protest against the actions of MC Nutt was voted down by the group. Those who opposed the march at this time were Dr. Ervin, Miss E. Pauline Myers, Aldrich Turner, Ederle Johns, Counsellor Madison, Manning Johnson and others. The consensus of opinion of the group was that telegrams, cards and letters of protest be sent and that a mass meeting in protest be held next Wednesday at the Y.M.C.A. (u)

There are approximately 65 persons from Detroit, Chicago and other cities, according to the statement of Miss Lane, on their way to Washington who will protest to Mr. Mc Nutt on Friday. A deleggtion from New York will arrive in Washington on Monday to protest. Among this delegation will be Dr. Lawrence Ervin, Layle Lane and Ederle Johns. Mr. A. Phillip Randolph will also be present. (u)

The mass meeting called for January 24th relative to the discrimination in the railroad industry will go on as scheduled. It will be changed into a protest mass meeting. (u)

The office of the War Manpower Commission in New York will be picketed next week after the mass meeting at the Y.M.C.A. The recommendation to start picketting Saturday January 16th was voted down. The recommendation that the day and time be decided at the mass meeting was passed unanimously. (u)

The meeting adjourned in a wrangle because of differences of opinion regarding action to be taken. Miss Lane and the members from Modern Trend (a youth organization composed of students) and a few other wanted to march the other group led by Dr. Ervin, Ederle Johns, Aldrich Turner, Pauline Myers were against it and advocated following the leadership of the National Director. Dr. Ervin quit the chair under fire and Mrs. Blocker took over until the meeting was adjourned. Some of the members left the meeting in disgust. I am not able to say whether they left in protest against drastic action or because the group voted against taking drastic action at this time. (u)

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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 15, 1943

KRE:JMW  
100-26792

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/30/90 BY SP-104 7/30/90

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated January 14th, 1943, concerning the meeting of the above captioned organization, held January 13th, 1943 at the Y.M.C.A. at 125th Street near 7th Avenue, New York City. (u)

Informant reports that the radical or liberal group of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT desired to call a mass march on Washington because of the actions of PAUL V. McNUTT in calling off hearings regarding discrimination in the railroad industries. However, such action was vetoed down by the group and the leaders who opposed this march are set forth in informant's report. (u)

It was further stated, at this meeting, that approximately six to five persons from Detroit, Chicago and other cities were on their way to Washington to protest to Mr. McNUTT on Friday, January 15th, 1943. At this time it was voted upon that a delegation from New York will arrive in Washington on Monday, January 18th, and among this delegation will be DR. LAWRENCE ERVIN, LAYLE LANE, EBERLY JOHNS and A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH. (u)

At this meeting it was recommended that the office of the WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION in New York will be picketed next week after the mass meeting at the Y.M.C.A. when the date and time will be decided upon. (u)

The meeting is reported to have adjourned in considerable confusion on differences of opinion regarding actions to be taken. (u)

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,

cc N.Y. File [redacted]

ASST. DIR. P. E. FOXWORTH

Assistant Director

SP-104 7/30/90

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-104 7/30/90

174

January 25th, 43.

Protest Mass Meeting held Monday, January 25th at Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City.

Aspices: Peoples' Committee

Dorothy Funn presiding. Member Executive Board Teachers Union, Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council. Member Communist Party.

The meeting was called to protest against the actions of Paul V. Mc Nutt in calling off the hearings regarding discrimination in the railroad industry that were to be held by the Fair Employment Practices Committee in Washington, D.C. January 25th.

The following organizations and individuals were listed as sponsors:

The Peoples Committee  
American Committee of the Protection of Foreign Born  
New York County American Labor Party  
National Maritime Union, C.I.O.  
National Negro Congress  
Cooks and Kitchen Employees Union Local 89, A.F. of L.  
Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks Union, Local 125 C.I.O.  
Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.  
Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6 A.F. of L.  
International Labor Defense  
Jewish People's Committee  
National Federation for Constitutional Liberties  
Joint Board Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, C.I.O.  
Negro Labor Victory Committee  
Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Local 309  
Father Swezy, Department of Christian Social Relations of the Diocese of Long Island  
Rev. B.C. Rebeson, Pastor Mother Zion Church  
Councilman, Adam Powell Jr.  
Rev. C.Y. Trigg, Pastor Salem M.E. Church

Speakers:

Ashley Tetten, National Secretary, Brotherhood Sleeping Car Porters  
T.A. Jackson, President Dining Car Employees Local 370, Secretary of the Sub-committee on Railroads.  
John Beecher, formerly head of the Fair Employment Practices Committee in New York. Staff writer New York Post.  
Charles Collins, Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council, Business Agent, Hotel and Club Employees Local 6 A.F. of L.  
Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Chairman of the People's Committee  
Algermen Black  
Wabe Marcantonio, Congressman  
Stanley Isaacs, Councilman City of New York.

Resolution:

That the Fair Employment Practices Committee be given autonomous status, additional funds and that the railroad hearings be resumed immediately. Passed unanimously. This resolution to be sent to President Roosevelt and Man Power Commissioner Paul V. Mc Nutt.

Attendance:

Approximately 900. majority Negroes.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/3/00 BY SP2 ABW/AM

January 25, 43

**Mass Protest Meeting continued****Collection:**

Appeal made by Rev. Ben Richardson, Associate Pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church. The Collection was approximately one hundred and nineteen dollars.

**Telegram received:**

The International Workers Order sent greetings as well as informed the group that there was a delegation attending representing the I.W.O. A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, March On Washington Movement, stated that he could not be present but designated Ashley Totten to speak.

**Leading Communist/Present:**

Charles Collins  
 Anna Daman, Secretary International Labor Defense  
 Theodore Barnett  
 Howard "Stretch" Johnson, President T.C.L. Harlem  
 Solomon Harper People's Voice  
 Saul Mills, Secretary Treasurer, Greater N.Y. Industrial Council, C.I.O.  
 T.A. Jackson  
 Dorothy Funn  
 Eugene Gordon, staff write/Daily Worker

**Composition of Meeting:**

Mostly Communists, sympathizers and members of Abyssinian Baptist church. There were a number of others not connected with any group.

**Ashley Totten:**

He gave a detailed presentation of the activities of the March On Washington that led up to the Executive Order 9802. It was the fear of a march on Washington that led to the issuance of the order. He criticized those who placed too much confidence in liberals (the insinuation was that the Negro Labor Victory Council placed too much confidence in Mc Nutt that they invited him to speak at a meeting under its auspices at the Golden Gate Ballroom). He praised A. Phillip Randolph and his work and called for concerted action to save F.E.P.C.

**T.A. Jackson:**

He read a report on the activities of the Sub-Committee on Railroads outlining their activity in with regard to contacting trade unions and other organizations to support the fight against Jim Crow in the railroad industry. The Committee was also instrumental in preparing evidence to be presented at the hearings.

**John Beecher:**

He read a prepared speech with regard to the Proclamation of Emancipation, covering the role of the Negro in the Civil War and "80 years after". The objective was to show by citing experiences

January 25, 43.

Protest Mass Meeting continued....

that the Negroes plight today was a challenge that must be met by united action to guarantee full democracy for them.

Charles Collins:

Condemned the actions of Paul V. McNutt and accused him of yielding under pressure from the reactionary forces in America. Disagreeing with Ashley Totten with regard to the Negro Labor Victory Council inviting MC Nutt to speak at a meeting it sponsored, he stated that our objective should be to invite leading government representatives to speak at public meetings in order to make them commit themselves before the people and the people will hold them responsible for what they have pledged. There are, he said, certain reactionary forces in America that would rather lose the war than to give the people their rights. He attacked the Federal Bureau of Investigation because of its successful prosecution of the leaders of the pro-Japanese Ethiopian Pacific Movement. He stated that there are more dangerous people in America than these Negroes and that the F.B.I. should prosecute them. He also stated that the Axis powers are not friends of the Negro people and that we must fight against fascism in every form. He said that there is a concerted movement to call treason everything that is said in the interests of the people. The same people that killed the poll tax and fought against all progressive legislation, slander Soviet Russia hinder the war effort. He praised the Red Army and ridiculed those who speak against the Reds.

Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

Called the calling off the hearings by McNutt as a vital blow against the people and the war effort. There are reactionaries that united to thwart the will of the people but that the will of the people will prevail. The people will force the passage of the anti-Poll Tax Bill. There are people, he said, like Rankins, the Cox's who would rather lose this war than end discrimination against the Negro. He called for unity of Negro and white to win the war and the peace which he asserted must be a people's war and a People's peace.

Algernon Black

Democratic rights to should be given to the now. That any successful planning in this period with regard the post war period should begin now. Unity now to guarantee that reconstruction will include equal rights for the Negro.

Stanley Isaacs

Praised Adam Powell and his work in the City Council. Spoke of the need of giving the City Council certain legislative powers which he felt were needed. Protested the calling off of the R.R. hearings and called for unity of action to win democracy.



## Vito Marcantonio

Called the actions of Mr. Nutt reactionary. Urged that we demand that the hearings be started immediately and that the Committee be taken out of the War Manpower Commission and given an independent Status. The placing of the F.E.P.C. in the W.M.P.C., he said, was an obvious attempt to bury it. Many complaints have come to FEPC. They must be taken care of. He said that he would introduce a Bill in Congress that will give the FEPC power to have violators into court and prosecute them. He called for support of his Anti-Poll Tax Bill H.R. 7. He attack as reactionary those who prevented him from serving on the Judiciary Committee. He stated that he could have been able to do considerable good for the people on that Committee. The Anti-Poll Tax and Anti-Lynching Bills come, he said, before that Committee. The reactionary Southern Democrats were held responsible. The reactionary forces are doing all they can to hinder the war effort, by creating confusion preventing national unity. Every progressive person is labeled a "Red". "If to fight against the Poll Tax is Red; If the fight against lynching is Red; If the fight against Jim Crow is Red then I am Red". He told his audience not fear the label of "Red". It was an old weapon used to smear those who fight for the people. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

New York, New York

MET:DD  
100-43415

439740

January 26, 1943

b3  
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2ALM/EX

Director, FBI

Re: THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith in duplicate the report of [redacted] dated January 25, 1943, relative to a protest mass meeting held Monday Evening, January 25, 1943 in the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City.

This meeting was held under the auspices of The PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE. DOROTHY FUNN, Secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, a member of the Executive Board of the Teacher's Union, and a reported member of the Communist Party, presided.

Informant has advised that this meeting was called by the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE, but that it was an effort on the part of this group to rally all the leading Negro organizations, various labor unions and others to cooperate in protesting against the action of Paul V. McNutt in calling off the hearings regarding discrimination in the railroad industry, which were scheduled to be held by the Fair Employment Practice Committee in Washington, D. C. on January 25, 1943.

It will be noted that ASHLEY TOTTEN, National Secretary of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, represented A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, director of the March on Washington movement at this meeting. Informant has advised, however, that he does not believe that A. PHILIP RANDOLPH intends to cooperate with the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE in their program; that TOTTEN was said to speak at this meeting because he did not want to refuse to take part in this effort to protect the rights of the Negroes, because of the adverse publicity that might result. In order to avoid this, the informant advises, ASHLEY TOTTEN appeared for RANDOLPH, but instead of lauding the program of the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE, he outlined the efforts of the March On Washington movement to protect the Negro's rights by obtaining passage of the Fair Employment Practice Act. Informant further advised that immediately upon the completion of his speech, ASHLEY TOTTEN left the meeting and did not stay to listen to other speakers.

[redacted] will follow and report further activities of this organization. Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the instant New York case file for information purposes.

b3  
b7D

Very truly yours,

Enclosures (2)

T. J. DONEGAN  
SAC

- 176

January 30, 43.

COMMUNIST CLUBS IN HARLEM:

Lincoln-Douglas Club, 19th A.D.  
315 Lenox Avenue, 1 flight up, meets first and third Tuesdays.  
Lawrence "Larry" Washington, Chairman.

21st and 22 A.D. Club  
702 St. Nicholas Ave., meets first and third Tuesdays.  
Helen Samuels, Chairman.

Johns Brews Club, 13th A.D.  
321 West 125th Street, Room 8. meets first and third Tuesdays.  
Audley Moore, Chairman.

11th A.D. Club  
225 West 118th Street, 1 flight up, meets first and third Tuesdays.

Ballplayers Club  
702 St. Nicholas Avenue meets first and third Tuesdays.  
Charles Leman, Chairman.

Uptown Seamans Branch of the Communist Party  
200 West 135th Street, Room 118  
Hubert Warner, Chairman.

Communist Party of Upper Harlem  
200 West 135th Street, Rooms 118 --120  
Benjamin Davis Jr. Executive Secretary. Tel. An. 3-1358.

This is a complete list of all Communist Party offices in Harlem.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2 ALON/KH

b3  
b7D

ME

177

New York, N. Y.

MET:MVV  
100-26603

February 6, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.  
District No. 2, New York City  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of report of [redacted] dated January 30, 1943 relative to a meeting of the Upper Harlem section of the Communist Party, held January 30, 1943.

According to informant's report, the meeting was called in protest against the rise in prices in Harlem and to agree upon remedial measures. Representatives of the Office of Price Administration and leaders of trade unions, fraternal, civic and other organizations were invited. A list of the resolutions adopted are set out in this report.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report future activities of the Communist Party in the Harlem area.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP8ALM/ELH  
ON 7/31/00

Enc. - 2

cc: NY file [redacted]

b7D

b3

170

OFFICERS NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Max Yergan, President.  
Edward E. Strong, Secretary  
Ferdinand Smith, Treasurer  
Thelma H. Dale, Administrative Secretary.

Address of National Office:

307 Lenox Avenue, Room 205  
New York City.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/31/80 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Emergency Meeting National Executive Board:

There will be a one day emergency meeting of the Executive Board of the National Negro Congress on Sunday February 21st, 1943. The meeting will be held in Rooms D and E., Harlem Branch of the Y.M.C.A., 180 West 135th Street, New York City. It will begin at 11 A.M.

Purposes and aims of the meeting:

The officers of the Congress have decided to call this joint session of the Board and leaders in other phases of American life to consider and act upon a number of pressing problems relating to the mobilization of the Negro people for victory and full citizenship rights. There was never as great a need for a united front of the Negro people and their organizations as today. The growing possibility for victory over the forces of Hitler fascism, the increasingly acuteness of the struggle being waged for the abolition of the poll tax, the cancellation of the F.E.P.C. Hearings by Paul V. McNutt are a few of the important questions confronting us that demand unprecedented steps on a national scale if we are to fulfill the responsibility that this crucial hour in world history has placed upon us.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Morning Session - 11 A.M. till 1 P.M. Dr. Max Yergan presiding.

The role of the National Negro Congress in Mobilizing the Negro People for Victory and Full Citizenship Rights. A report by Edward E. Strong, National Secretary, on the problems of the Negro people as they relate to the war.

Discussion.

The Legislative Program of the National Negro Congress, Attorney Hope Stevens.

Discussion. Adoption of program.

Afternoon Session 2 P.M. till 5 P.M.

National Negro Congress Organizational Problems, Thelma Dale, Administrative Secretary. (Work of the local Councils, Budget, and finance)

February 1st, 43

Reconstruction of the National Board and the Administrative Committee.)

Discussion.

Regional Victory Conferences of the Negro People. Mrs. Goldie Ervin Watson, Chairman, Philadelphia Council. (A report on three proposed Regional Conferences to be held during the months of March, April and May.)

Discussion. Adoption of reports.

John P. Davis.

Resigned as National Secretary. Stated that he is going to return to practice of law. He is still working with the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.

The present Conference is an attempt to revitalize the National Negro Congress and will undoubtedly recommend new organizational forms.



b7D

New York, N. Y.

RET:MMW  
100-3693

February 6, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/31/00

Director, FBI

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated February 1, 1943 relative to the captioned organization.

b7D

The informant advises that there will be an emergency meeting of the Executive Board of the National Negro Congress on Sunday, February 21, 1943. This meeting will be held at the YMCA, 180 West 135th St., New York City. This report also reflects that three regional conferences are proposed for the months of March, April and May, 1943. The place where those conferences are to be held is not known.

Informant further advises that the officers of the National Negro Congress are presently attempting to revitalize this organization in order that it may take an active part in supporting the program of the People's Committee.

[redacted] will follow and report further developments and activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the New York City Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

E. L. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc. - 2

cc: [redacted] ✓

b3

[redacted]

180 MMW

January 30th, 1943.

Conference On O.P.A.  
Congress Casino, 132nd Street and 7th Ave., New York City, 3 P.M.  
Apices: Communist Party Upper Harlem Section.  
Chairman: Audley Moore

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

The meeting was called in protest against the rise in prices in Harlem and to agree upon remedial measures. Representatives of O.P.A. and leaders of trade Unions, fraternal, civic and other organizations were invited.

**Speakers:**

Benjamin Davis, Jr. County Chairman Communist Party, U.S.A.  
Marvin Smith, representing Office of Price Administration  
Harlem, Consumer Council,  
Audley Moore

439740

Benjamin Davis, Jr.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/31/00 BY SP2ALM/EAH

Ben Davis, Jr. spoke generally about the world situation and toward the end of his talk spoke about prices and price control. He called for freedom for India, Self-determination for the West Indies and Latin-America. This war, he asserted, was a peoples' war and that there must be a peoples' victory and a peoples' peace. He sanctioned rationing with the contention that this must apply to rich and poor alike. The rich, he said, were able to store up large supplies of commodities because they had the money to buy them. He ridiculed the rich whom he asserted are against the ceiling on earnings. They think that \$25,000 dollars a year is not enough. He called for full support of the President and his war policies. He praised Soviet Russia and the Red Army in the war against Hitlerism and fascism. This he contended was tied up with the whole question of passage of the anti-poll tax Bill, the Pepper-Tolan Bill for a Centralized economic control and an overall price control.

Marvin Smith:

He gave a detailed report on the history of O.P.A. He explained its aims and purposes and the difficulties that it faces in its work and called for greater co-operation and effort to guarantee successful operation in the interests of the people.

Harmon:

He spoke about the steady and alarming increase in prices in the Harlem area and urged co-operation with the Consumers Co-operative Movement. He indorsed the aims and purposes of the Conference and pledged full support.

Audley Moore:

She mad an appeal for membership in the Communist Party.

SP  
MET



January 30, 43.

Conference ~~and~~ O.P.A. continued...

**Resolutions Adopted:**

1. A resolution to President Franklin Roosevelt greeting him on His Birthday; indorsing the march of dimes to fight infantile paralysis; support of the win the war program; requesting the opening of a "Second Front" in Europe and for victory in 1943.
2. Resolution to Paul V. McNutt protesting against the suspension of the Fair Employment Practices Committee Hearings on discrimination in the Railroad industry.
3. Office of Price Administration be given adequate funds; authority to enforce overall price control.
4. Passage of the Pepper-Tolan Bill for centralized economic control.
5. Delegation to the O.P.A. to demand that a center be opened in Harlem and employment of Negroes on the O.P.A. staff.
6. West Harlem Riverside Council establish a class in point rationing.
7. Every delegate present to join Block Service Groups. Contact the West Riverside Civilian Defense Volunteer Office 432 West 125th Street.

**OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Enroll at consumer education classes; point rationing and price ceilings:**

**Consumer Council**

West Harlem Harlem Riverside Civilian Defense Volunteer Office  
432 West 125th Street. Tel. Mo. 2-8775 Contact Miss Sally Gaines.

**Check ceiling prices:**

Every merchant must post a list of ceiling prices in view of the customers. If it is not posted you should ask to see it. If the merchant refuses you the list, you should report this to:

Office of Price Administration  
535 5th Avenue. Tel. Mu. 2-0860

**To apply for jobs in war industries or job training:**

United States Employment Service, Industrial Division, 87 Madison Ave.  
For advice on how to obtain jobs and job training and how to get your birth certificate:

Negro Labor Victory Committee  
67 West 125th Street. Tel. At. 9-4670  
People's Committee A. Clayton Powell Chairman.  
332 West 138th Street Tel. Au. 3-1176

**TO Report discrimination by an employer:**

Committee on Discrimination, State War Council

2.P.A. Conference continued.....

Jan 30th, 43

80 Center Street.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee and the People's Committee.

Advice on nurseries and child care during war time:

Harlem Committee for the Care of Children in War Time.  
Mr. Frank Montero, Chairman  
c/o West Harlem Council of Social Agencies  
2239 Fifth Avenue. Tel. AU. 3-5090

Campaign for lower rents; rent ceilings; organization of tenants, make landlord supply adequate heat; convert from oil to coal:

Consolidated Tenant's League  
209 West 125th Street Tel. Mo. 2.3759

Support of the Fair Employment Practices Committee and to urge that the E.R. hearings be resumed:

Write to Paul V. McNutt, Director  
War Manpower Commission  
Washington, D.C.

To join the struggle to pass the Marcantonio Anti-Poll Tax Bill HR 7

Write to:

Representative Sol Bloom (19th Congressional Dist.)  
Vito Marcantonio (30th Congressional Dist.)  
Joseph Gavagan (21st Congressional District)  
All to House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Attendance:

one hundred persons. Communist Party members and sympathizers  
Among those present were:

Benjamin Davis, main speaker.  
Audley Moore  
Dr. Denoma.  
Cyril Phillips  
Larry Washington  
Howard "Strech" Johnson  
Isadore Begun  
Elizabeth Barker  
Miss Simons  
Ethel Rayford

People's Committee:

Represented by Joseph Ford. He pledges full support of the people's Committee for the aims and objectives of the Conference.

A collection was taken at the meeting. There were four speakers from the floor who spoke in discussion.

New York, N. Y.

MET: MVW  
100-26603

February 6, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI


RE: COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.  
District No. 2, New York City  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated January 30, 1943 relative to the location of the Communist clubs in Harlem, New York City. It will be noted that informant has also listed the name of the Chairman of each club.

Copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc. - 2

cc: NY file [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETHL  
ON 7/3/00

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[redacted] 182/1701

January 27th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held January 27th, 43  
Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave., New York City.  
Presiding Dr. Lawrence Ervin.

CONFIDENTIAL

#### MASS MEETING ON F.E.P.C.

On Monday January 25th a mass meeting was held in Washington, D.C. in protest against the calling off of the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearings regarding discrimination in the railroad industry. The meeting according to Dr. Ervin was held in the Vermont Ave. Baptist Church with Benjamin Mc Laurin, National Chairman, March On Washington Movement presiding. It was well attended.

#### Speakers:

Dr. Lawrence Ervin, President, New York Division, M.O.W.M.  
E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary, M.O.W.M.  
T. A. Jackson, President, Dining Car Employees Union, Local 370, A.F. of L.  
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, M.O.W.M.  
Webster, International Vice-President Brotherhood Sleeping Car Porters.

#### Communist Interference:

According to Dr. Ervin, the Communists under the leadership of a person by the name of E. Franklin Frazier tried to crash the meeting. A group of white girl Communists distributed literature outside and inside the church. The Communists, he stated, called a meeting at the same time of the meeting of the M.O.W.M.

#### Reaction to Speakers:

Dr. Ervin stated that the reaction of the audience was good. He also said, that there was some disagreement with the "civil disobedience" campaign raised in the speech of Miss E. Pauline Myers on the part of certain white liberals. They seem, he said, take the wrong attitude toward what the M.O.W.M. means when it advocates civil disobedience. "It does not mean that we are not to produce munitions or in any way hinder the war effort but to refuse to submit to discrimination."

#### Auspices:

The meeting was held under the auspices of the M.O.W.M. and the Provisional Committee To Organize Colored Locomotive Firemen. A collection of over \$300 was taken up.

#### CRITICISM OF MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT:

Dr. Ervin stated that there was considerable adverse criticism of A. Phillip Randolph and the M.O.W.M. relative to the Civil Disobedience campaign. The consensus of this criticism is that if such a campaign is started the government will crack down. Among the critics the outstanding ones are Virginius Dabney and W. E. B. Du Bois.

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/ELC  
ON 7/31/00

January 28th, 43.

March On Washington Movement Continued.....

## FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMITTEE: ] X(u)

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Ervin stated that there was marked evidence of retreat on the part of Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner, as a result of mass pressure. Several persons on the Committee have already resigned in protest. It is necessary to intensify the campaign. On February 1st, he stated, the F.E.P.C. along with Paul V. McNutt will meet with President Roosevelt and make specific recommendations regarding F.E.P.C. X(u)

## F.E.P.C. Recommendations: ] X(u)

According to Dr. Ervin the F.E.P.C. will recommend to the President:

- a. That F.E.P.C. be taken out of the War Manpower Commission.
- b. That it be given punitive powers.
- c. That adequate funds be given for its work.
- d. That the vacancies in the Committee be filled.
- e. That the railroad hearings be resumed.

X(u)

## ACTION TAKEN AT MEETING: ] X(u)

1. The campaign to get individuals and organizations to send telegrams, letters and postal cards to President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt be intensified. X(u)
2. The following resolution to be sent to President Roosevelt: F.E.P.C. to become an autonomous body directly under the President. ~~with complete independence~~  
That it be given punitive powers.  
That adequate funds be provided for its work.  
That the railroad hearings be resumed. X(u)
3. A delegation go to Washington on February 1st for the purpose of contacting the F.E.P.C. to check on action taken and results. X(u)

The entire meeting was devoted to a report on the Washington meeting and recommendations for action. Mr. Johnson an employee of the Independent Subway System, who was present at the meeting spoke, giving his reactions. He branded the Communists as disrupters and "undoing all that we try to do". Anna Morris spoke. She said that some people had suggested that the name M.C.W.M. should be changed but that she was against changing it and urged retention of it. X(u) [ ] X(u)

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439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/31/00

New York, New York

NYT:AH  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ETHC  
ON 7/31/00

February 11, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY.

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of a report of [redacted] dated January 27, 1943 relative to a meeting of the March On Washington Movement held January 27, 1943 in New York City. At this meeting Dr. LAWRENCE ERVIN, President of the New York Division of the N.A.A.P.C., discussed a mass meeting held January 25, 1943 at the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church with BENJAMIN McLAURIN presiding. BENJAMIN McLAURIN is national chairman of the March on Washington Movement. This mass meeting was held in protest against the calling off of the Fair Employment Practices Committee hearing regarding discrimination in the railroad industry. (u)

According to Dr. ERVIN, the Communists under the leadership of a person by the name of E. FRANKLIN PHAZIER tried to crash the meeting, while a group of white girl Communists distributed literature inside and outside the church. (u)

One copy of informant's report is being forwarded to the Washington Field Division for their information.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of the March on Washington Movement. Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York Office for information purposes. (u)

EX-100  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/3/90  
cc Washington Field  
✓cc N.Y. [redacted]

Very truly yours,

RFB  
E. C. CONROY  
SAC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7D

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-184

February 4th 43.

March On Washington Movement (New York Division)  
Meeting held Wednesday February 3rd, 1943.  
135th Street branch Y.M.C.A., New York City.

Calden Brown presiding.

A. Phillip Randolph, National Director Introduced:

He announced the resignation of Dr. Lawrence Ervin, President of the New York Division which was accepted by the Executive Committee. After praising the work of Dr. Ervin, he said, that he has in mind the placing of Dr Ervin as a Regional Director of the March On Washington Movement.

On F.E.P.C. he stated that the Provisional Committee To Organize Colored Locomotive Firemen had called a National Conference in Washington D.C. on Friday February 5th at the Y.M.C.A. This Conference would devote its deliberations entirely to preservation, strengthening of F.E.P.C. and the resuming of the Railroad hearings on discrimination in the industry which were called off by War Manpower Commissioner, Mc Nutt. The Conference will be divided into delegations that will visit Paul V. Mc Nutt, Congressmen, Senators and Attorney General Biddle. The delegations will ask that F.E.P.C. be maintained; that it be taken out of the War Manpower Commission; that it function under the direct supervision of President Roosevelt; that adequate funds be provided for its work and that the railroad hearings be resumed.

Mr. Randolph stated that a Department of Justice Agent, Mr. Routman called him for the purpose of arranging a conference between A. Phillip Randolph and Attorney General Biddle. He said that he Mr. Routman that he would meet Mr. Biddle only with a delegation. It was suggested that Mr. Randolph and Walter White meet with the attorney General. This was rejected by Randolph. Mr. Routman according to Mr. Randolph informed him that he would call him on Thursday February 4th at 2 P.M. and let him know if Mr. Biddle would see a delegation and if so the number of persons on it. He reasoned that his going into a conference with the Attorney General by himself or with only Walter White might be mis-constructed and that statements may be issued that certain things were made and understandings reached that will react against the movement.

On the Civil Disobedience Campaign, he said, that in two or three weeks he would personally deliver a detailed speech on the forms and methods, tactics to be used in the development of the campaign.

He concluded with a pledge that upon his return from the Conference in Washington he would actively participate in the work of the New York Division and its recruiting drive.

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EM  
ON 7/3/00

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SP-1 on 7/3/00

2

DECLASSIFICATION 7/3/90

[Feb. 4th, 43.]

X(u)

**Executive Board Report:**~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The report was given by Iona Morris, Administrative Secretary New York Division, M.O.W.M. X(u)

The resignation of Dr. Lawrence Ervin, president of the New York Division was accepted by the Executive Board. Golden Brown, Chairman of the Educational Committee was elected temporary President until after the National Conference in Chicago, Ill. X(u)

Miss Iona Morris was appointed Administrative Secretary, New York Division. X(u)

The functions of the New York Division changed. In the past it has functioned as a national policy making body because it was the parent body. The Executive Board decided that this function should now be changed in order that the New York Division can devote its attention and energies on local problems. In the future the New York Divisions functions will be similar to that of any other Division. Instructions will be sent down to the Division from the National office through the National Executive Secretary Miss E. Pauline Myeres. All national policy will be devised and formulated by the national officers. X(u)

**Byard Ruskin Guest Speaker:**

X(u)

Mr. Ruskin was invited to speak on the Civil Disobedience Campaign. He was introduced as an outstanding authority on the subject by virtue of extensive study and experience. Dr. Ervin stated that we would see much of him because he was going to work with the M.O.W.M. to develop the Campaign. X(u)

The speaker asserted that the non-violent civil disobedience campaign is very effective weapon against injustice. Citing two experiences: X(u)

In Baltimore, Maryland they organized a group of persons to protest against the refusal of taxicabs in Baltimore to ride Negroes. They went over to the cabs attempting hire them they were refused. Thereupon they proceeded to bar path of these cabs to prevent them serving any other persons until they agreed to take them first. They were threatened with be run over if they did not move but that they were not intimidated by neither the threats of the police or the attempt of one cab driver to run down one of the group. They finally succeeded in getting the cabs to take them to their destination. X(u)

On a trip South he took a seat that was in a section of the bus other than that which was designated for Negroes. He was asked to sit in the section designated for Negroes or leave the bus. He stoutly refused to do either one. In Georgia the bus was boarded by policemen who beat him, tossed his papers and personal affects out onto the highway and later placed him in jail. after a while X(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



[Feb. 4th, 43.] X(14)

March On Washington Movement continued.....

Byard Rustin: ] X(14)

he was released. He cited these two examples to show what has to be faced in this campaign. There will be violence, imprisonment beatings and persecution but that is the price of freedom. Freedom must won, it must be taken. It will never come as gift from heaven. X(14)

Speaking briefly about the situation in India, he suggested that it should be thoroughly studied and its lessons learned and applied to our plight in America. The principle of non-violent civil disobedience in India is applicable to the American situation and methods and ways for its adoption here should be worked out in detail. X(14)

In reply to Mr. Vincent Baker, he stated, that non-violent civil disobedience is nothing more or less than non-cooperation with injustice. It is not a movement against the government, it is not a movement against national unity and the war effort but movement to win freedom through non-cooperation with any injustice against the Negro. X(14)

Other Remarks: ] X(14)

It was announced that in a few days A. Phillip Randolph will have completed a pamphlet on the proposed Non-violent Civil Disobedience Campaign. He is working on it in collaboration with a person that is fully familiar with the subject. C

Aldrich Turner, Treasurer reported that the financial position of the M.O.W.M. was alarming; that their capital had dwindled to less than \$500 and that everyone should hasten to pay their pledge. X(14)

[ ] X(14)

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NET:MC  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 25, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/31/00

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated February 4, 1943, relative to the captioned organization. (u)

A review of informant's report reflects that the organization is still considering the non-violent civil disobedience campaign. (u)

BYARD RUSKIN, a follower of the Harlem Ashram, a pacifist group which follows the doctrines of CHANDI, was guest speaker at this meeting. He advised the audience that they should thoroughly study the situation in India, and that the lessons learned there could be applied to the negroes plight in America. (u)

[redacted] will continue to follow the activities of this organization. (u)

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York Field Division for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

R. E. CONROY  
SAC.

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-1/24 7/3/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
2  
DATE FOR DECLASSIFICATION 7/3/90

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

c.c. NY File [redacted]  
Encl. 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

186

February 10th, 43.

March On Washington Movement, New York Division  
Meeting held Wednesday, February 10th, 43.  
135th Street Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Golden Brown, President New York Division presided.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Action Conference:

Miss Layle Lane, chairman, of the Action Committee gave a report on the preparations for the Action Conference that is to be held Saturday, February 13th, 1943 at the Harlem Branch of the YMCA, 180 West 135th Street.

There will be 6 panels that will discuss:

Fair Employment Practices Committee  
Job Training  
Employment  
Domestic Workers  
Political Action  
Migratory Workers

F.E.P.C. panel, chairman, Eardlie Johns.

Speaker Mr. Edward Lawson, Examiner-in-Charge Regional FEPC

Job Training panel, chairman, Richard Parrish

Speaker, Mr. Joshua Lee, N.Y.A.

Employment panel, chairman, E. Pauline Myers

Speaker, Mr. Edward Lewis, Executive Sec'y New York Urban League

Domestic Workers panel, Chairman, Iona Morris

Speaker, Dr. Benjamin Andrews, Head Department Household Economics, Columbia Teacher's College.

Political Action panel, chairman, Golden Brown

Speakers, Mr. Prentiss Thomas, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Legal Staff.

Odell Clark, New York County, American Labor Party.

Migratory Workers panel, chairman, Miss Layle Lane

Speaker, Dr. Sherman Briscoe, United States Dept. Agriculture.

A number of organizations have been visited and they have all promised to send delegates. These organizations Miss Lane stated were visited by her. She was unable to report on the work of other members of the Mass Action Committee. Conference calls were sent to more than 500 organizations and individuals. It is too early to state the results. Persons were asked to volunteer to visit organizations and churches before the Saturday Conference.

Race Relations Mass Meeting:

Layle Lane also report on the preparations for the mass meeting on Sunday February 14th that will be held in conjunction with the Action Conference. Members were asked to volunteer for distribution of leaflets to make the meeting a success.

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SECTION 2

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February 11, 48

March On Washington Movement continued.....

Race Relations Mass Meeting: ] X (u)

Mass meeting to be held at the Mount Olivet Baptist Church,  
120th Street and Lenox Avenue. 3 P.M. X (u)

Among the speakers invited are: Thomas E. Dewey; Anna Hedgeman;  
Kingsley M'Badawe; E. Pauline Myers; Father Delaney; James Farmer;  
Rabbi Ahron Opher; Dr. Timothy Lew an Victoria Best. X (u)

In the discussion on Layle Lanes report, Iona Morris stated that  
there has been very little cooperation on the part of the  
to make the Action Conference and Mass Meeting a success. She  
asserted that, some of the people who do the most criticising  
of the active members take assignment but never carry them  
out. She was referring to Vincent Baker and some of the members  
of Modern Trend. X (u)

Aldrich Turner: ] X (u)

Prior to the meeting I had a talk with Aldrich Turner, Treasurer  
of M.O.W.M. He stated that he was going to resign because he  
was not getting the proper cooperation. It was difficult to  
get the members to pay their pledges and there was some  
dissatisfaction with his work among other officers. He stated  
that they feel that a more capable persons should handle the  
job X (u)

[ ] X (u)

b7D

X

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

MET:MC  
100-26792

February 25, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated February 11, 1943, relative to the above captioned organization. (u)

b7D

GOLDEN BROWN, the new President of the New York Division of this group, presided at the meeting. The meeting dealt mainly with plans for the Action Conference to be held February 13, 1943 in New York City. (u)

Miss LAYLE LANE, Chairman of the Action Committee, reported she had contacted more than 500 organizations and individuals, requesting them to send speakers to their Action Conference. (u)

[redacted] will continue to cover meetings of this organization. (u)

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

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EXTENDED

REASON

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SP-104 7/3/80

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E. E. CONROY  
SAC

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY

SP-2 ALM/ETH

ON 7/31/00

c.c. File [redacted]  
Encl. 2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

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188

February 14th, 43.

**Race Relations Mass Meeting**

Mount Olivet Baptist Church, 120th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City  
Sunday February 14th. 3 P.M.

Miss Iona Morris, New York Executive Secretary, M.O.W.M. presided.

Auspices: March On Washington Movement, New York Division

Attendance: approximately 800 about 90% Negroes.

**Speakers:**

Golden Brown, President New York Division, M.O.W.M.

James Roberts, Federal Council of Churches

Victoria Best, Administrative Assistant, New York Urban League

James Farmer, Race Relations Secretary, Fellowship of Race Relations

Kingsley O. M'Badiwe, Secretary African Student's Association

E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary, M.O.W.M.

Rabbi Ahron Spher, Hebrew Tabernacle, Washington Heights.

Rev. O. Clay Maxwell, Sr., Pastor Mount Olivet Baptist Church.

**Invited Guests:**

Dr. Timothy Leu, Noted Chinese Scholar, Columbia Teacher's College

Father Delaney, Institute of Social Order

Anne Arnold Hedgeman, Regional Racial Relations Staff Advisor, O.C.D.

Thomas E. Dewey, Governor, New York State.

The above invited guest speakers did not appear. Father Delaney sent a telegram of regret.

**Golden Brown:**

He greeted the audience in the name of the March On Washington Movement, welcoming them to the mass meeting and praising them for their support of the program of the M.O.W.M.

**James Roberts:**

He did not speak on the subject matter of the mass meeting. He spoke at length from a prepared manuscript about white roosters, brown and black roosters, how they fought. Those that were not killed were injured. Those that remained were taken up by the owner and nursed to health. What the moral of the whole story was the secret of the speaker.

**Victoria Best:**

Reading from manuscript she traced the development of social work the humble beginning of "helping the poor and unfortunate" to the present stage where it is an essential part of life and well being of the nation. The trained social worker is a professional who has the responsibility of assisting in solving the problems of the community and to establish better race relations. The breaking down barriers between racial groups, she asserted, would tend to eliminate the mutual distrust and suspicions that prevails between races. These suspicions and this distrust constitute the basis of the whole problem that must be tackled in order to establish good relations among races.

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Feb. 14th, 43

Race Relations Mass Meeting continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

James Farmer: ] X (u)

He stated that the Dictatorships of Mussolini and Hitler are not half as bad as the dictatorship of tradition. In order to create proper race relations man must develop freedom of thought and freedom of action. The Negro must be emancipated from the traditional way of thinking and acting. If the war doing anything good, it is the bringing the Negroes together. It is uniting them. X (u)

When you tolerate discrimination and Jim Crow you help to perpetuate these injustices. The solution he asserted was a well organized and carefully planned civil disobedience campaign. This campaign means and implies non cooperation with injustice. Praising the leadership of the E.O.W.M. for projecting the campaign, he concluded, with an appeal, not to hate all people because they are white, that is a sign of weakness but to cooperate with all people to breakdown discrimination, Jim Crow and all the other injustices that beset the Negro. X (u)

Kingsley O. Badiwe: ] X (u)

Race prejudice, he stated, is an international disease. It arises from "arrogance of the west". The western nations have set themselves up as the "custodians of civilization". Tracing the genesis of race prejudice by giving a brief statement on ancient Africa before the West took upon itself to establish what it considered civilization. Race prejudice as a policy was created by the higher ups, a small minority of the people. The great majority of the people ignorantly and blindly accept this policy. X (u)

The world must be emancipated from ignorance. It needs a greater man than Moses. It needs a greater man than Abraham Lincoln. It needs a greater man than Frederick Douglass. America has a rendezvous with life. It is the melting pot of culture. It will have to play the leading role in doing this job. X (u)

Today the Negroes are on the defensive. They will not always be on the defensive. They will eventually go on the offensive for justice and right. "Better we die fighting for our rights than perish on our knees". As Patrick Henry said, "give us liberty or give us death. X (u)

E. Pauline Myers: ] X (u)

There is an old world that is dying and a new world that is being born, she stated. The Negro must take part in the destruction of the old and the building of the new. The Negroes must unite to end discrimination and Jim Crow and all other injustices. The non-violent civil disobedience campaign is the effective way to bring these injustices before the people and to get destroyed

Feb. 14th, 43.

Race Relations Mass Meeting continued.....

E. Pauline Myers: ] (u)

once and for all. Negroes must be willing to suffer, sacrifice and even die to gain their rights. The N.O.W.M. is welding powerful overall movement of the Negro people to give them moral and spiritual sense to struggle for their rights. The civil disobedience campaign will be launched during the week of the National Conference in May. (u)

All Negroes will be asked to stay out of restaurants, public places, off busses, trains and other places where Jim Crow is practiced. This weapon, the boycott will be tried first. Later Negroes will be asked to go into all these places and violate the Jim Crow rulings. They are to go into these public places violate the Jim Crow rulings as a means of protest against injustice and win public sentiment for the abolition of this condition. (u)

We are not, she stated, against the war effort. We are not asking, now will we ask soldiers, sailors, members of the armed forces or defense workers to participate in these actions. These actions are to be taken by other persons of the population who have to do the job at home. The N.O.W.M. will lead the struggle for Negro rights and against injustice and for abolition of the old world that is dying and the birth of the new. (u)

Rabbi Ahron Ophar: ] (u)

He spoke of the former enslavement of the Jews in Egypt, that they were and enslaved people like the Negroes and for that reason have a common back ground. They to face many of the problems that the Negroes face and for that reason can understand injustice. Many people speak of the Four Freedoms but do not have remotest idea of granting them to everybody. Today it is not question of words it is one of deeds and works. Ask them to do away with Jim Crow and discrimination when they speak of civil liberties. Ask them to do away with the segregated neighborhoods that Negroes are compelled to live in. The world must above all bridge the gap between what is proclaimed and what is done. The sages of Israel and the leaders of Christianity should and must get together make the world live up the teachings of religion, to really "love thy neighbor as thyself." (u)

Re. O. Clay Maxwell, Jr. ] (u)

Spoke briefly about the overcoming of sin and ignorance as essential to the success of any mass movement. No mass movement can succeed without God. It should not attempt to eliminate the Church. It join with all democratic organizations. In this connection he praised decision of the Action Conference to cooperate with only those organizations that are democratic. He attacked all "isms" as enemies of the Negro. He said that Communism are attempting to mislead the Negro and called for concerted action to combat them. (u)



February 14th, 43.

**Action Conference**

Earlen Y.M.C.A. 180 West 135th Street, New York City.  
Saturday February 13th, 43. 2 P.M.

Auspices New York Division, March On Washington Movement.  
Layle Lane president.

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**Registration of Delegates:**

All delegates were registered prior to the opening of the Conference. A registration fee of \$1 for individuals and \$2 for delegates from organizations was collected.

**Opening Address:**

The opening address was delivered by Attorney Harold Stevens. He merely greeted the delegates and stated that this was to be an action conference during which the ways and means are to be found to solve the problems that we face and are the subject matter of the Conference.

**Panel Groups:**

The following persons were introduced as speakers at the Panels:

Mr. Edward Lawson, Examiner -in-Charge, Regional F.E.P.C. to lead discussion on F.E.P.C.

Mr. Edward Lewis, Executive Secretary, New York Urban League to lead discussion on Employment.

Mr. Joshua Lee, National Youth Administration to lead the discussion on Job Training.

Dr. Benjamin Andrews, Head Department Household Economics, Columbia Teacher's College to lead discussion on Domestic Workers.

Mr. Printice Thomas, member Legal Staff, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to lead discussion on Political Action. Assisted by Odell Clark, American Labor Party.

Dr. Sherman Briscoe, U.S. Department of Labor was to lead the discussion on Migratory Workers but was unable to be present. The Panel on this subject was not held.

**Panel Chairmen:**

F.E.P.C. Eardlie Johns.  
Employment, E. Pauline Myers  
Job Training, Richard Parrish  
Domestic Workers, Iona Morris  
Migratory Workers, Layle Lane  
Political Action, Colden Brown.

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ON 7/31/00

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February 14th, 43.

Action Conference continued.....

Panels Organized:

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Immediately after the introduction of speakers and the announcement Panel chairmen the Conference was broken up. The following assignments were made:

F.E.P.C. Panel, Little Theatre.  
Employment Panel Room C.  
Job Training Panel Room A  
Domestic Workers Panel Room B  
Political Action Panel Room D.

Re-Convening of Conference and Reports from Panels:

Fair Employment Practices Committee: Petition President Roosevelt to remove F.E.P.C. from the War Manpower Commission, give it complete autonomy responsible only to the President. The railroad hearings to be rescheduled immediately. F.E.P.C. be given power to penalize and to subpoena. Adequate budget to enable the Committee to do a thorough job. A request for \$2,000,000 was suggested. Those who resigned from F.E.P.C. to be asked to continue in their former capacity on the Committee.

President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt to be informed our position with regard to F.E.P.C.

A petition campaign to be launched in New York City to collect 50,000 signatures in support of the above program.

Congressmen in New York area to be visited relative to the budget to guarantee and adequate appropriation.

A delegation to visit the War Manpower Commission and F.E.P.C. offices in New York to present the Conference recommendations regarding F.E.P.C.

Individuals and organizations are urged to send telegrams, postal cards and letters to President Roosevelt and Paul McNutt in support of the recommendations.

There was some differences on the question of whether the FEPC should or should not be a paid Committee. Ben Mc Laurin stated that the National leaders of M.O.W.M. were opposed to a paid Committee.

Vincent Baker tried to amend the the report to included the picketing of the War Manpower Offices if the Railroad hearings are not rescheduled. The amendment was modified to wait for advice from the leaders who are participating in the Conference in Washington D.C.

Mc Laurin reported that the leaders of a number of groups interested in F.E.P.C. have been personally invited by Paul V. McNutt to meet with him and president Roosevelt on Friday February 19 to discuss

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Action Conference continued.....

Feb. 14th, 43

**Fair Employment Practices Committee:**~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the future of F.E.P.C. The objective was to get the views of all interested groups before a final decision is made. Immediately following this Conference the M.O.W.M. plans to form a National Committee to police the activities of F.E.P.C. at all times in the future.

**Employment:** Negroes are not given their full quota of jobs in relation to their percentage of the population. It was recommended that all Negroes employed in war industries be urged to join the labor unions for protection now and during and after the post war period. Pressure to be brought to bear on local, state and federal governments for adequate housing for Negro war workers. All organizations are urged to use political pressure to get war jobs for Negroes.

**Job Training:** The following recommendations were made. Conferences to be called with individual employers relative admission of Negroes into plant job training facilities for all categories of workers. Confer with the National Youth Administration for the creation of additional facilities for job training. Poster parade through Harlem led by prominent ministers and leaders calling for job training for Negroes and advertising places where information can be had.

**Domestic Workers:** It was recommended to seek an amendment to the Unemployment Insurance law to include domestic workers. In this connection to support the Bill introduced into the Legislature by Assemblyman, Hulan Jack. This amendment calls for the payment of unemployment insurance by employers employing one or more persons. Passage of a minimum wage and hour law covering domestics. Ways and means to be found to get the inclusion of domestics in the Social Security laws. Encourage organization of domestic workers.

**Political Action:** It was recommended that a program of political education be worked out with aim of teaching Negroes to use their vote independently. Independent political action necessary get recognition and results. Passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill. It was contended that its passage will not solve the problem entirely regarding Negro suffrage because of the existence in the South of what is known as the white primaries. The records of all persons in office and aspiring for public office should be carefully studied and recommendations as to their fitness for the office made to the people. A Political Action Committee to be formed for this purpose. The Action Conference to establish as its policy to cooperate only with democratic groups, that is only those groups that democratic in their program, policy and actions.

All the above recommendations were unanimously accepted.

There were approximately 150 persons attending the Conference.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NET:MC  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 25, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

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58-1047/3/80

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith [redacted] dated February 14, 1943. These reports are relative to the Action Conference and the March on Washington Movement held at 2:00 P.M., February 13, 1943, at the Harlem, Y.M.C.A., New York City, and the Race Relations Mass Meeting held February 14, 1943 at the Mount Olivet Baptist Church, New York City. (u)

Informant's report reflects that approximately 150 persons attended the Action Conference. This report reflects the program of action planned by this organization. (u)

At the Race Relations Mass Meeting, it was noted that PAULINE MERRIS, National Executive Secretary of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, in speaking before this meeting advised that the non-violent civil disobedience campaign was an effective way to bring the injustices of the negroes before the people and to destroy them once and for all. She said that negroes must be willing to suffer, sacrifice and even die to gain their rights. She stated the Civil Disobedience Campaign would be launched during the week of the National Conference of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT to be held in Chicago, Illinois, in May, 1943. The methods along which they intend to conduct this campaign are set out herein. (u)

[redacted] will continue to cover these meetings and report on the activities planned. The Chicago Field Division will be appropriately advised of the plan of action of this group for their conference in Chicago, Illinois, in May, 1943. (u)

[redacted] furnished this office with two copies of pamphlets issued by the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT entitled "Why Should We March", and two circulars advertising the "Race Relations Mass Meeting". One copy of each is being transmitted to the Bureau herewith, and one copy is being retained in the files of the New York Field Division, together with copies of Informant's report. (u)

Very truly yours,

E. A. CONROY

SAC

ENCL. 4  
c.c. NY file

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7/31/00

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Februaury 23, 43.

Fair Employment Practices Committee Conference  
Washington, D.C.  
Friday February 20th, 43.

**Conferees:**

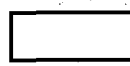
Mr. Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner acted as Chairman.  
Attorney General Francis Biddle  
Mr. Fowler Harper, Deputy Administrator of War Manpower Commission  
Mr. Ornburn, Vice President of the American Federation of Labor  
Mr. Willard Townsend, member National Executive Board of the C.I.O.  
Monsignor Ryan, Catholic Church.  
Rabbi Sidney Goldstein, Synagogue Council of America.  
Mr. Walter White National Association for the Advancement of  
Colored People.  
Mr. A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, March On Washington Movement.  
Mr. Lester Granger, National Urban League.  
Mr. Abner Green, American Committee for the Protection of the  
Foreign-born.  
Samuel Rosenwein, National Lawyers Guild.  
Mrs. Bousfield, Chicago Negro Womens Clubs.  
Dorothy Funn, Administrative Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee

**Conference:**

The Conference was called by Paul V. McNutt under orders of  
President Roosevelt. It had as its aim to get the views Negro,  
labor, civic and leaders of minority groups on the revision and  
strengthening of F.E.P.C.

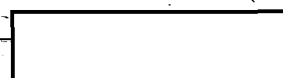
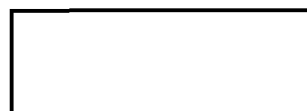
All the conferees invited were in general agreement on all the  
points presented.

It was reliably reported that Mr. McNutt assured the group that  
President Roosevelt would receive the full report of the Conference  
and that any action on the report would rest with the President.



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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NET:RLM  
100-43415

New York, N.Y.  
March 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY C

There is being transmitted herewith an original and one copy of a one page report of [redacted] dated February 23, 1943 relative to a conference held by PAUL V. McNUTT on February 20, 1943 to which a number of Negro labor leaders and other leaders were invited. The names of the individuals who attended this conference are set out in informant's report.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
N. E. Conroy  
Special Agent in Charge

✓ cc- N.Y. File [redacted]  
Encl. (2)

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ON 7/31/00

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EXTENDED BY SP-2 on 9/30/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 9/30/90

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RJM

[redacted]

- 193

February 25th, 43.

Peoples' Committee  
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Chairman  
Earnest Johnson, Secretary

**Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen:**

There will be a regular meeting of the Board of Directors  
and Committee Chairmen of the Peoples' Committee  
Saturday March 6th at the Y.M.C.A. 135th Street Branch.

**Order of Business:**

- a. Review of the activities of the past month.
- b. Report of each Committee Chairman on their plans.
- c. Consideration of objectives.
- d. Special discussion as regards timing.

Adam Powell Jr. will preside.

The regular meeting was originally schedule for the last Saturday in February but was postponed for the first Saturday in March. Whether this change will be present will be decided at the meeting of the Board.



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NET:RLM  
100-43415

New York, N.Y.  
March 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.


RE: PEOPLES' COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY C

There is being transmitted herewith an original and one copy of a one page report of [redacted] dated February 25, 1943 relative to the captioned matter.

In this report informant advises that the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE will be held on March 6, 1943. Informant has been advised to attend this meeting if possible and report on the activities.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
M. E. Conroy  
Special Agent in Charge

cc - File [redacted]  
Encl. (2)

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ON 7/31/00

*RM*

[redacted]

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February 26th, 1943.

J. "Pete" Peters

I met J. Peters during the Summer of 1931. He was an instructor at the National Training School in New York City. The classes at that time were held in 50 East 12th Street, headquarters of the Communist Party, U.S.A. I was a student. I was sent to the School from District #4, headquarters Buffalo, New York.

The National Training School is the highest Party training school in the U.S.A. It is composed of the best and most promising Party members. They are trained to be Party functionaries. Their transportation and all expenses are paid by the National Committee during the time they are in school.

Just before the completion of the course we attended classes under J. Peters. These classes gave us final training. They dealt with the building of the "special apparatus" of the Party and methods of safeguarding Party.

Plenums of the National Committee and Conventions:

I attended all plenary sessions of the National Committee and Conventions of the Party from 1931 till 1938. At all these meetings I met J. Peters.

Enlarged Political Bureau Meetings:

I attended a number of meetings of the Political Bureau (Pol-Buro) at which J. Peters was present.

Conferences or meetings at the National Office:

When ever I was called to a conference or a meeting at the National office of the Party, 50 East 12th Street I would meet and speak to J. Peters.

Technical Department of the National Committee:

J. Peters was head of the Technical Department of the National Committee.

Work of the Technical Department:

The Technical Department concerns itself with maintaining an efficient and smoothly operating Party apparatus that handles all the "confidential matters", such as special mailing addresses, minutes of various Party meetings, membership lists, codes, using of the U.S. mail to send "confidential material" without possible detection and the organization of the special Party apparatus in every state and district.

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DATE 7/31/02 BY SP-2 HEM/ELH

February 26th, 43.

J. "Pete" Peters

## Instructions in Technical Work:

All leading Party functionaries are given instructions by J. Peters in:

- a. Placing of membership cards, biographies, minutes important documents in safe places. The home of someone who is not suspected of having the remotest contact with the Communist Party.
- b. Use of the "confidential mailing apparatus". The leading functionary is asked to memorize and bring to New York the names and addresses of persons not even remotely connected with the Party that will receive confidential mail. These persons must be reliable. The addresses of persons in New York are given the functionary by J. Peters. A test message is sent before the channel is used for confidential mail.
- c. Coding and decoding of messages.
- d. Establishment of confidential printing shops that can be used in case of difficulty in getting the work done in known places. These instructions were given primarily to those who work in sections of the country where repressive measures legally or extra-legally or both are applied against the Party. Every functionary is given the lessons of the experiences of the the Party.
- e. Safeguarding the leadership of the Party by careful selection of meeting places. Persons leaving meetings are not to leave altogether but one or two at a time at various intervals.
- f. Safeguarding the membership by not carrying names and addresses around in address books or brief cases. Never go directly to places where membership cards and other confidential material of the Party is kept. When ever you leave the Party office be careful to ascertain that you are not being followed.

## Underground Work:

The course in the National Training school given by J. Peters dealt with the lessons of the Bolshevik Party of Russia in working under the extreme suppressive and repressive conditions prior to the revolution. The experiences of the German Communist Party and the method they used in carrying on the work of the despite the fact that the Party was illegal and torture and death faced anyone caught with Communist Party literature. ~~xxxx~~ Special reading material was given us on this subject. The

February 26th, 43.

J. "Pete" Peters

**Underground Work:**

danger of the Party being declared illegal was always stressed as a grave possibility and that preparation to meet the emergency should begin now. Building of a special Party machinery that is a group of leaders that are not now generally known that will carry on when the known leaders are imprisoned or because of other conditions are not able to function; reorganization of the Party on the basis of cells; confidential headquarters and equipment to get out printed and mimeographed material.

**Party Organizer**

Numerous articles have been published in the Party Organizer over a period of years for the education of Party functionaries and members regarding technical questions of Party work.



b7D

NYT:JLM  
100-24753

New York, N.Y.  
March 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~


Director, S.B.I.

RE: J. "PETE" PETERS  
INTERNAL SECURITY C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

There is being transmitted herewith an original and one copy of a three page report of [redacted] dated February 26, 1943 relative to the above captioned individual. In this report informant has set out information concerning PETERS' connection with the Communist Party during the period from 1931 to 1938 and also information concerning the nature of the work directed by PETERS. Informant further advised that he has had no contact with PETERS since 1938 and at the present time he does not know his location or anything about his activities. He advised further that from information he had obtained from various Communist Party members he was of the opinion that it was the policy of the Communist Party since they started to work openly for the war effort to place American-born individuals in positions of leadership and that as a result individuals such as PETERS have been kept in the background. He is further of the opinion, however, that PETERS continues to hold a position of authority and probably has considerable influence in directing the program of the Communist Party.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
N. H. Conroy  
Special Agent in Charge

cc- N.Y. File [redacted]  
Encl. (2)

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 7/31/00

February 18th, 43.

Negro Labor Victory Committee  
67 West 125th Street, N.Y.C.

Conference with Paul V. Mc Nutt, War Manpower Commissioner:

The Negro Labor Victory Committee requested and received an appointment with Paul V. Mc Nutt Tuesday February 16th. The following proposals were presented regarding F.E.P.C.:

- 439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 11/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/HL
- a. That the railroad hearings should be rescheduled at once.
  - b. That the Fair Employment Practice Committee function as an independent government agency responsible to the President.
  - c. That the Committee be granted an adequate budget to take care of its work in its main office and in regional offices throughout the country.
  - d. That the Committee be given power to apply penalties for violations of the President's Executive Order.
  - e. That the Committee be comprised of representatives of labor, minorities and industry functioning on a voluntary basis.
  - f. That Mr. Mc Nutt issue a stern ~~order~~ warning to contractual agencies to cease their discrimination practices against Negro workers who leave their non-essential jobs for war work in compliance with the "work or fight" order.

The Negro Labor Committee receive assurance from Mr. Mc Nutt that the above points would receive his serious consideration and also extended the Committee an invitation to attend the Conference on Friday February 20th that was ordered by Pres. Roosevelt.

The Committee of the N.L.V.C. was headed by Dorothy Funn.

Dorothy Funn was selected to represent the N.L.V.C. at the Friday February 20th Conference.

Action Proposed by the N.L.V.C.

- a. Wires to President Roosevelt requesting speedy action in putting the proposals of the Conference into effect.
- b. Wires to Paul V. Mc Nutt demanding immediate rescheduling of the hearings on Railroad discrimination.
- c. In both wires include a statement to the effect that the sender is in accord with the recommendations submitted to Mc Nutt by the N.L.V.C.

Labor, fraternal and civic organizations are being asked to act on the above proposals.

9169

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b3  
b7D

MEM:HEM  
100-27339

New York, N.Y.  
March 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY C

There is being transmitted herewith an original and one copy of report of [redacted] dated February 28, 1943 relative to a conference which delegates from the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE are reported to have had with PAUL V. SCHMIDT on February 16, 1943. Informant advises this committee was headed by DOROTHY FUNK, executive secretary of the organization. He was unable to obtain the names of other delegates.

In this connection it should be pointed out that the Bureau was advised by teletype dated February 15, 1943 that confidential informant 61-119 would attend this conference in Washington with delegates from the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE. It later developed, however, that informant would not be able to attend the conference as a delegate and he did not make the trip to Washington.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

R. E. Conroy  
Special Agent in Charge

cc- N.Y. File [redacted]  
Encl. (2)

439740  
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ON 7/31/00

28M

199

March On Washington Movement

Meeting New York Division held Wednesday, March 1, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave. New York City  
Golden Brown, President presided.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Report Mass Action Committee: (u) (X)

Laile Lane, Chairman of the M.A.C. reported that the Committee decided to recommend two actions to be taken during the month of March: (u) (X)

a. A Poster Walk through Harlem to be led by prominent Negro leaders. Each participant will carry a poster. These posters will carry signs dealing with F.E.P.C.; jobs and job training. The Poster Walk is scheduled for the 20th of March.

b. The last week in March to be set aside as mass registration week. During this time Negroes will be asked to go to the United States Employment Service en masse to register for jobs in defense industries.

Both recommendations were accepted. (u) (X)

Fair Employment Practices Committee: (u) (X)

Laile Lane recommended a postal card to be sent to President Roosevelt requesting action on F.E.P.C. Everyone present sent a card and took a few to get other interested individuals to do the same. The text of the card was suggested by Ben Mc Laurin, National Chairman, M.O.W.M. "Protest delay in making appointments on F.E.P.C.; Railroad hearings to be rescheduled immediately and conducted by the Sub-committee that originally planned them." (u) (X)

Ben Mc Laurin: (u) (X)

He stated that he had just returned from a tour of the South during which he set up a new division of the M.O.W.M. in Nashville, Tennessee and Montgomery, Ala. The Atlanta, Georgia Division was reorganized. At the Nashville meeting there were 30 persons present representing 17 organizations. (u) (X)

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EXTENDED BY SP2 BHK/clon 7-3-80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7-3-80

(u) (X)  
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IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE

CONTAINED HEREIN  
EXCEPT WHERE

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b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, New York

March 10, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-26792

NY 100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to a meeting of the New York Division of the March on Washington Movement held in New York City, March 3, 1943. (u)

It will be noted that according to the last paragraph of informant's report this organization has set up new divisions in Nashville, Tennessee, and Montgomery, Alabama. It also states that the Atlanta, Georgia Division has been reorganized. The field division covering the location of the new divisions of the M. O. W. M. are being appropriately advised. (u)

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization. (u)

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

E. R. CROOK  
SAC

Enclosures - 2

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL

ON 8/1/00

cc - NY [redacted]

DECLASSIFICATION

7-3-90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

20, [signature]

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March 1st, 43.

Mass Meeting. Ladies Day Celebration.  
Ethiopian World Federation, Local 26  
Sunday February 28th 6 P.M.  
290 Lenox Ave., New York City.  
Rabbi Mathews presided.

**Topic Discussed:**

"Will the United Nations stand for justice to see that Ethiopia regains her ancient seaport?"

**Speakers:**

Mrs. I. Blackstone  
Mrs. Rose Jackman  
Miss Eudora Paris  
Dr. J. W. Shirley  
Kingsley O. Mbadine  
Audley Moore  
Rabbi W.A. Mathews  
Wizero Assaguedetch

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**Mrs. I. Blackstone:**

She stated that if the world is to be straightened out the women will have to do it. The real President of the United States is Mrs. Roosevelt. Women have great power. It is question of using it. They type of child that is brought into the world is determined by the actions of the mother before child birth. Unity of the women is essential and love for one another.

**Mrs. Rose Jackman:**

Praised Negro women and also Haile Selassie. Urged support of the demand that Ethiopia be given its ancient seaport.

**Miss Eudora Paris:**

Called for unity of Negro women. Lack of proper care of children in formative stages is responsible for children going astray. Mothers were asked to exercise this care in order that healthy high caliber child grows up. The future of the race depends upon it. Called for freedom for India, Africa and a seaport for Ethiopia. She concluded with the reading of a poem by Hubert Harrison.

**Dr. J. W. Shirley:**

Praised Negro women, their fortitude and willingness to sacrifice and urged greater unity

March 1, 43.

Ethiopian World Federation continued.....

Kingsley O. MBadiwe:

African women, he said, are the real power in Africa. They influence the conduct of their men. They are willing to sacrifice and suffer for freedom. They have always been against the influx of other peoples to the Dark Continent. To them Africa is sacred land. Many of them were killed in efforts to keep their land free from outsiders. There is a high degree of social consciousness existing among Africans and American Negroes. There must be, he asserted, unity of the Negroes in America with the Africans in Africa. The refusal to release Gandhi and other leaders undermines confidence in the publicly stated aims of the Churchill government. Ethiopia, he said, is now occupied by the British under the terms of the Anglo-Ethiopian Agreement. Under the terms of the Agreement the British rule the entire Country, formulates all policy and governs all Ethiopian life. Reading excerpts from the agreement showing the sweeping power of the British forces of occupation he said that we must see to it that after the war Ethiopia is returned to the Ethiopians. It was he said in the opinion of Haile Selassie that the Agreement was in his best interests and the interests of the Ethiopian people. We must insist the Selassie participate in the Peace Conference.

Audley Moore:

She said that she was glad to see Negro women getting together. Negro women must unite and participate with all organizations and progressive forces to win full citizenship rights, freedom India, Africa. The winning of the war ~~was~~ is a vital necessity. The Red Army was praised for the splendid offensive it is now conducting against the axis forces. Negro women must take an ever increasing part in helping to win the war and the peace.

Rabbi Mathews:

He said that he would have to be very careful what he said because he was visited by a F.B.I. agent regarding remarks made at previous meetings. All meetings he said are covered by the F.B.I. The finger of Providence he said is in this war and that He would see that justice is done. Haile Selassie is a great spiritual man and has great spiritual power. Greater faith is necessary. He took up a collection of \$70.00

Wizero Assagnedetchi:

Thanked the audience for its contribution and the women for the splendid support of the cause of Ethiopia.

Musical numbers were rendered.



New York, New York

March 10, 1943

100-22865

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - J

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 1, 1943, relative to the above captioned matter.

It will be noted that this informant attended a meeting of the Ethiopian World Federation Sunday evening, February 28, 1943. Informant's report reflects the activities of this organization at this meeting.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*JH*  
E. B. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures - 2

cc - NY [redacted]

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ON 8/1/00

703

February 19th, 43.

Communist Party Upper Harlem Section.  
Audley Moore, Organizer; Ben Davis, Jr., Executive Secretary.  
200 West 135th Street, New York City.

**January 31st Conference On The High Cost Of Living:**

A report has already been submitted on the above mentioned Conference. This merely a resume of the activities of the group since then.

**Civilian Defense:**

All Party members, sympathizers and contacts are urged to take part in Civilian Defense activities. A Considerable number of Party members and sympathizers are now enrolled as Block Service Group Leaders, Air Raid Wardens or other defense activity. West Harlem Riverside Civilian Defense Volunteer Office, 422 West 125th Street is the clearing house for Harlem.

**Office of Price Administration:**

housewives  
Delegations of ~~groups~~ are visiting grocery stores in Harlem demanding that merchants post a list of ceiling prices. This action is lead and directed by Audley Moore. A number of cases have already been reported to the OPA where merchants have been asked to post a list of price ceilings and refused.

**Communist Meetings:**

The 138th Assembly District Branch of the Communist Party is holding a meeting at its headquarters, 321 West 125th Street, Sunday, February 21, 3 P.M. Audley Moore Chairman. A report on the activities will be given.

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MM:JMW  
100-26803

New York, New York

March 4, 1947

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
DISTRICT NUMBER 2  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith an original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated February 19th, 1947 relative to the activities of the Upper East Side Section of the Communist Party.

The Bureau's attention is called to the fact that according to informant's report all party members and sympathizers are urged to take part in civilian defense activities and that a considerable number of the party members and sympathizers are now enrolled as block service group leaders and as defense wardens.

[redacted] has been requested to obtain the names of the communist party members or sympathizers that are entering into the civilian defense activities, if it is possible for him to do so.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
J. E. HOOVER  
GAC

Enclosures (2)  
cc: NY File [redacted]

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February 24th, 48.

March On Washington Movement (New York Division)  
Meeting held Wednesday, February 24th, 48.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Colden Brown, President presided.

**Communications:**

A letter from Ashley Totten, National Secretary, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A.P. of L. was read requesting support of Winifred Lynn in his effort to get a writ of habeas corpus in the United States Circuit Court next month. The writ, the letter stated, was based upon a section of the Selective Service Act barring discrimination in the armed forces. The case, he stated, can become a rallying point for a nationwide struggle against discrimination in the armed forces. A request was made that the M.O.W.M. send a representative to a National Conference that will be held Friday March 5th at which time a National Committee for the defense and support of Winifred Lynn will be formed. Arthur Garfield Hayes of the Civil Liberties Union will represent Lynn in court.

**Report of the Mass Action Committee:**

The report consisted of a request that A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, give the New York Division a complete report on the Conference with Paul V. McNutt held last Friday in Washington and to make specific recommendations on what action or actions the Division should take in reference to F.E.P.C. A number of the Committees of the New York Division are not functioning. It was recommended that a meeting of all chairmen of Committees be called together immediately to rectify this situation.

Colden Brown, President, stated that such a meeting will be called.

**Regular meetings:**

A recommendation was made to hold meetings only twice a month. This was voted down by the members. The meetings will continue as in the past every Wednesday night at the Y.M.C.A.

**Meeting in Brooklyn, New York:**

Dr. Lawrence Ervin reported that he and Colden Brown attended a meeting of the Negro Women Voters League of Brooklyn. There were approximately 50 persons present. Twenty of the number were signed up as members in the M.O.W.M. He condemned the magazine "Negroes and the War" published by the Office of War Information. It places, he stated, the Negro in to separate position in the body politic. No where in the magazine is there Negro and white workers shown working together in production. It is propaganda designed to appease the Negro and to keep him in the position of a "second class citizen. Chandler Owen author of the feature article in the magazine was branded misleader who would sell his people for his own personal security.

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[Redacted Box]

- 200

March On Washington Movement continued...

Feb. 4th, 43.

### Negroes and the War:

Golden Brown and Richard Parrish condemn the magazine and the article of Chandler Owen as appeasement propaganda. Their contention is that it shows only what the Negro will lose by an Axis victory but it fails to point out what the Negroes are going get from their sacrifices in helping to win the war that is full citizenship rights.

### Finances:

The financial condition of the organization is very critical. Every effort is being made to get a director whose job it will be to organize the necessary committees to raise funds. E. Pauline Myers has worked out a very elaborate plan and is seeking the services of Manning Johnson to direct the drive. He was offered a salary of \$65 weekly but so far he has not accepted the proposition.

b7D

February 18th, 43.

March On Washington Movement, New York Division.  
Meeting held Wednesday, February 17th, 43.  
135th Street Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Colden Brown, President, presided.

**Action Conference:**

Richard Parrish, Chairman, Legislative Committee, M.O.W.M. reported on the Action Conference, Saturday Feb. 13th at Harlem Y.M.C.A. 180 West 135th Street. His report consisted of reading the official minutes of the Conference and a few personal observations. A copy of the official minutes of the meeting is attached.

**National Youth Administration:**

Mr. Kermit Borne, representative of the National Youth Administration spoke on the job training program of the NYA and the many opportunities that this program provides for placements in defense industries. He urged the youth to take advantage of these opportunities now.. Copies of NYA literature was distributed.

**Morale:**

There is considerable dissatisfaction among the members arising from:

- a. Limiting the New York Division to formulation of policy only for New York ~~thus~~ thus taking away the power it formally had in formulating national policy. This has resulted in the centralization of power in the hands of the National Director, A. Phillip Randolph; National Chairman, B. P. Mc Laurin;; National Executive Secretary, E. Pauline Myers.
- b. Disapproval of the appointment of E. Pauline Myers to the position of National Executive Secretary. A number of persons feel that one of old and active members of the New York Division should have been given the position.
- c. Division of opinion regarding the resignation of Dr. Ervin as President.

This dis-satisfaction has resulted not only in decline in attendance by a number of the oldest members but also a marked decline in income. Aldrich Turner is planning to resign as Treasurer because of his inability to collect monies pledged by members and supporters.

The New York Division has functioned as the policy making body for the National M.O.W.M. The sudden shearing of its power is considered dictatorial. The manner in which it was done was not the best in the opinion of some members. However, A.P. Randolph is aware of the situation and will undoubtedly take a hand to get the organization on an even keel.

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100-38792

New York, New York

Director, FBI

March 4, 1943

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the reports of [redacted] dated February 22nd and 24th, 1943, relative to the above captioned matter.

It should be noted that in the February 24th report informant has advised that ARTHUR TOWNE, National Secretary, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A.F. of L. and an officer of this March on Washington Movement has requested the March on Washington Movement to support WINIFRED LYNN in his effort to obtain writ of habeas corpus in the United States Circuit Court next month. The writ was reported to be based upon a section of the selective service act barring discrimination in the armed forces. According to TOWNE, the case can become a rallying point for a nationwide struggle against discrimination in the armed forces.

A request was made that the March on Washington Movement send a representative to a National Conference to be held Friday, March 5th, 1943, at which time a National Committee for the Defense and Support of LYNN is to be formed. ARTHUR CAMPBELL, Secretary of the Civil Liberties Union will represent LYNN in court.

[redacted] has been requested to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's reports are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

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DATE 8/1/02 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Very truly yours,

E. C. CONEY  
CNS

Enclosures (2)  
cc: BY file [redacted]

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Feb. 22, 43.

National Negro Congress  
Meeting of the National Executive Board held Sunday February 21st, 1943.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Dr. Max Yergan presided.

**National Officers:**

Dr. Max Yergan. National President.  
Edward E. Strong. National Executive Secretary.  
Thelma Dale. National Administrative Secretary.  
Hope Stevens. Legal Representative.

**National Executive Board Members:**

Goldie Ervin Watson, Philadelphia, Pa.  
James W. Ford. New York.  
Charles Collins. New York.  
Ferdinand Smith. New York.  
Dr. W.A. Hinton. Washington D.C.  
Professor Doxey A. Wilkerson. Washington D.C.  
William L. Harrison. Boston, Mass.  
Dr. J.S. Berne. Boston, Mass.  
Lebron Simmons. Detroit, Michigan.  
Bevis Burnham. Birmingham, Alabama.

All the National Officers are included on the National Executive Board.

**Absentees:**

James W. Ford. Charles Collins. Ferdinand Smith. Lebron Simmons.

James W. Ford was represented by Benjamin Davis Jr.  
Charles Collins was represented by Dorothy Funn  
Ferdinand Smith was represented by E. "Smitty" Smith  
Lebron Simmons was represented by Vera Carter.

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Feb. 22, 43.

National Negro Congress continued.....

**Regional Conferences Planned:**

Three regional Conferences are planned, in New York City, San Francisco, California and Detroit Michigan. The New York Conference will be held April 11th and 12th. The other conferences will be held at a later date not yet decided, during May and June respectively.

**Objectives of the Congress:**

Rally Negroes throughout the country for victory and full citizenship rights.

Abolition of the Poll Tax.

Integration of Negroes in all defense industries as a necessary pre-condition to the full utilization Negro manpower.

Combat chauvinistic presentation of the Negro on the stage, screen and radio.

Unity of the Negro with the organized labor groups and all progressive forces.

**Finances:**

Thelma Dale called for the raising of \$24,000 for the building branches of the National Negro Congress throughout the country.

**Whose Who:**

Dr. Max Yergan. Head of the International Committee on African Affairs. Treasurer of the Peoples' Voice. Active participant in all Communist front organizations. Member of the Communist Party. Attended fraction meetings of the National Executive Committee held in the offices of the International Committee on African Affairs.

Edward E. Strong. Member National Committee Young Communist League. Organizer of the Southern Youth Congress. Has been active in youth groups, according to my recollection, for more than nine years.

Thelma Dale. Worked with John P. Davis in the National Negro Congress in Washington D.C.

Hope Stevens. Attorney at Law. Member of the Communist Party. Has been active in Communist front organizations for several years.

Goldie Ervin Watson. Member of the Communist Party in Phila. Has been active in the National Negro Congress since its inception

Feb. 22, 43.

**National Negro Congress Continued.....****Whose Who Continued:**

**James W. Ford.** Member National Committee Communist Party. Member Political Bureau, Communist Party. Worked in the Offices of the Red International of Labor Unions (R.I.L.U) in Hamburg, Germany. Actively engaged in Communist Party activity in the United States and Mexico. Attended meetings of the Communist International in Moscow. Graduate of the Lenin School. Author of many Party Pamphlets and books. ~~xxx~~

**Charles Collins,** Business Agent, Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6, A.F. of L. Member of the National Food Fraction of the Communist Party. Member of the National Trade Union Commission of the Communist Party. Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Council. Member of the State Committee, Communist Party. Has been an active Communist for several years.

**Ferdinand Smith.** National Secretary, National Maritime Union, C.I.O. Member of the Party fraction, National Maritime Union. Actively engaged in Party front organizations.

**Professor Dorey A. Wilkerson.** Visited Russia about ten years ago. Studied intensely and extensively Communist theories. At onetime he was considered a Trotskyite. Has worked with the National Negro Congress since its inception. He is a Professor at Howard University, in Washington, D.C.

**Benjamin Davis Jr.** Executive Secretary, Upper Harlem Section Communist Party.

**Dorothy Funn,** Administrative Secretary Negro Labor Victory Committee. Member Upper Harlem Section Communist Party.

**E. "Smitty" Smith,** delegate National Maritime Union. Member Communist Party.



New York, New York

MEMO  
100-3653

March 6th, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated February 22nd, 1943, setting out information relative to the meeting of the National Executive Board of the National Negro Congress.

b7D

It will be noted on page 2 of Informant's report that the Congress is planning a series of three regional meetings, one to be held in New York City April 11th and 12th, 1943, and the other two to be held in San Francisco, California and Detroit, Michigan in May and June respectively, 1943.

The San Francisco and Detroit Field Divisions have been advised of the meetings planned, and have been requested to cover and report on the activities.

[redacted] will follow and report on future activities of this organization at New York City.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the New York City office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*Copy by M. M. Conroy*  
M. M. CONROY  
SAC

439740  
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DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 Hm/en

Enclosures (2)  
cc: N.Y. File [redacted]

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[redacted] - 210

March 12th, 43.

Arthur Bary

I met Bary at a meeting of the Food Fraction of the Cafeteria Workers Union in 1934. I have continuously attended such meetings with him until 1939.

He was until 1940 a member of the National Food Fraction of the Communist Party. The National Food Fraction directs the Party work in the food industry, that is the trade unions in the industry.

**Business Agent:**

From 1935 until 1940 he was Business Agent of the Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302. Prior to that time he connected with the Cafeteria Local of the Food Workers Industrial Union Local 110.

**Party Activities:**

His activities consisted of directing and checking the work of the industrial units in the culinary industry. He worked very closely John J. Ballam in handling meetings of the fractions in the Unions in New York City. He was directly responsible to the Carment Section of the C.P. for this work.

**Party Conferences:**

We met at a number of Party Conferences. These Conferences were usually called to discuss important Party policy. All leading functionaries, Party leaders in the trade unions and other groups are invited. Upon all those present rested the responsibility of carrying out the policy decided.

**Present Work:**

I was informed that he is Executive Secretary of the Communist Party in Utica, New York at present.



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211

New York, N. Y.

100-26603  
MET:DW

March 24, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI


Re: COMMUNIST PARTY - U.S.A.  
District #2, New York  
Internal Security - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 12, 1943, setting out information relative to one ARTHUR BANY who, according to the Informant, is Executive Secretary of the Communist Party in Utica, New York.

One copy of the Informant's report is being designated for the Albany Field Division for information purposes. Two copies of the report are being retained in the files of the New York Field Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

CC: ALBANY (Enc.)

✓ file [redacted]

Enclosures (2)

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ON 8/1/00

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D-11

March 12th, 1943.

John P. Davis.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

**National Negro Congress:**

I have worked with John P. Davis in the National Negro Congress from its very inception. He was elected National Secretary of the National Negro Congress, a post which he held until his resignation recently.

**Negro Commission of the National Committee Communist Party:**

Davis was a member of the Negro Commission participated in the deliberations of the body relative conduct of Party activities among Negroes. He participated in the formulation of policy in a number of meeting held at 415 Lenox Ave the former offices of the Party. At these meetings James W. Ford would present and analysis of the situation among Negroes and outline the tasks that confront the Party. Jack Stachel, member of the Political Bureau of the National Committee would speak occasionally for National Committee. John Davis would speak about the National Negro Congress.

**National Committee Meetings:**

Davis was never to my knowledge a member of the National Committee but he was invited to meetings of the Enlarged Plenary Sessions. Only select and trusted leading Party members are invited to the foregoing meetings.

**National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax:**

Davis attended two Sessions of the Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax held in Washington, D.C. on March 9th and 10th. On one occasion while lobbying I visited the offices Congressman Vito Marcantonio. There I found him working as Marcantonio's Secretary. He was also participating in a small Party fraction meeting in Marcantonio's office. I was unable to see any of the others at the fraction meeting except Louis Burnham.

5

Davis is a Washingtonian. He worked from the National Negro Congress offices which were in Washington, D.C.



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MEP



New York, N. Y.

100-3633

LET:DW

March 24, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:


There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 12, 1943, relative to JOHN P. DAVIS, who was formerly the National Executive Secretary for the National Negro Congress.

The informant has previously reported that JOHN P. DAVIS resigned his job with the National Negro Congress to take up law practice, however, according to this report informant observed DAVIS working in the office of Congressman Vito Marcantonio in Washington, D. C. while he, the informant, was in Washington, D. C. at a meeting of the Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax held on March 9 and 10, 1943.

One copy of the informant's report is being designated for the Washington Field Division for their information.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the New York file on this case.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures (2)

CC: Washington Field

NY file [redacted]

DECLASSIFICATION AS OF 4/27/79 by SP-1

[redacted]

-214

DW

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b3

March 13th, 43.

~~xxxx~~ Edwards

Communist International:

Edwards was Communist International Representative in the United States according to my knowledge from 1933 to 1938. He was sent to the U.S. by the Communist International to work with the C.P.U.S.A. He replaced the Comintern Representative that was sent to this country from Finland. Edwards predecessor was recalled by the Communist International because basic political disagreement with Earl Browder regarding the Finnish groups under Party control. He was accused by Browder of organizing the Finns against the leadership of the Party.

Canadian Communist Party:

Edwards was also advisor to the leaders of the Communist Party of Canada. As near as I can recall he met with the leaders of the Communist Party of Canada in Buffalo, New York during the Summer of 1933 in the home of Joseph Green active leader at present of the C.P. in Buffalo, N.Y. Earl Browder was present at this meeting.

Buffalo Meeting:

The Buffalo meeting was raided by detectives. All papers w/ important names and addresses were tossed hastily into the fire. The detectives thought that the group were in "numbers racket". There were no arrests after Earl explained that he was holding a small meeting re: International Workers Order.

National Committee Meetings: Political Bureau Meetings: Conventions

He attended all meetings of the leading committees of the Party. He never to my knowledge spoke at Conventions but he did speak at political Bureau meetings and meetings of the National Committee. As a rule he would listen to all the reports and discussions and give his observations just before Browder's summary.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETH

b3  
b7D

New York, N. Y.

NET:DW  
100-4931

March 24, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/1/00


Re: COMMUNIST PARTY - U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated March 13, 1943, relative to one EDWARDS who was reported by the informant to have at one time been a leading functionary in the Communist Party. The informant is not cognizant of EDWARDS present location, however, he has been requested to be on the alert for additional information concerning the location and present activities of this individual.

Two copies of the Informant's report are being retained in the files of this case at the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
E. M. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures (2)

cc: NY file [redacted]

b7D

b3

[redacted]

2/6

DW

March 8th, 1943.

Louis Sass

I met Sass in 1936 at a meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party held at the Finn Hall, 126th Street near 5th Ave. in New York City.

**National Committee Meetings:**

He was present at all National Committee meetings to my knowledge from 1936 until 1937. ~~XXXXXX~~

**Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party:**

He was from 1935 until 1937 organizational secretary of the Upper Harlem Section. His work consisted holding meetings of Unit Organizers; preparing instructions for the Units relating to the Party campaigns; calling fraction meetings of Party members in mass organizations, trade unions and other organizations for the purpose of checking their work and to outline campaigns of the Party and the tactics to be used to carry them out in these organizations; issuance of membership books, checking on finances checking on street meetings, mass meetings. In short he directed work of the entire Section. His job was to organize the different Party Committees and and check their functions.

During this period James W. Ford was Section Organizer. He was sent to the Harlem Section by the Pol-Buro (Political Bureau) of the National Committee upon the insistence of the Negro leaders of the Party. He did practically no organizational work. He gave political direction. Sass did all the technical work.

In 1937 or 38 Sass was transferred either to St Louis or Kansas City. He was recalled to New York in 1939 to help rebuild the Party among Negroes. Many of the former members had dropped out and Sass was considered the most logical one to get them to return because he was well liked. He was not so successful. The blame for the situation was placed upon Ford.

He worked in the Harlem Section until his induction in the U.S. Army. According information that I received from a Party member he was inducted by the Board located at 125th Street and Lenox Ave. about a year or so ago and that he is in Tunisia. I can not vouch for the information as to where he is at present.

He is considered one of the best organizers of the Party, loyal and trusted. I worked very closely with him in fraction and committee meetings and can attest to his ability.

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/EL

b3  
b7D

NEW YORK, N.Y.

RECEIVED

March 20, 1943

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: LOUIS CASO, Negro,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original, and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 5, 1943, setting out information relative to the captioned individual.

The subject of this report is presently being investigated in the New York Field Division.

Two copies of Informant's report are being placed in the files of that case for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

J. E. CONNELLEY,  
SAC

ENC.

cc: [redacted]

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELC

-218

March 21st, 43.

**"The Related Problems of War and Peace"**

Kether A.M.E. Zion Church

143 West 138th Street, New York City.

Address: Department of Public Relations I.B.P.O.E. of W.

**Sponsors:**

Negro Labor Committee  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Workers Defense League  
New York Urban League  
Catholic Interracial Council  
Union for Democratic Action  
Italian-American Labor Council  
League for Industrial Democracy  
March On Washington Movement  
New York Baptist Ministerial Alliance  
A.M.E. Zion Ministers Conference  
Brotherhood Sleeping Car Porters.

**Topic:**

"The Shape Of A Better World To Come".

**Speakers:**

Kingsley Ozuomba, Radio Author, "British and Axis Aims in Africa".  
Dr. Borge A. Liu, Former President, Chinese Training Institute at Nanking.  
Father George B. Ford, Pastor, Corpus Christi Church.  
Dr. Anup Singh, Research Director, India League, Biographer of Nehru.  
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, March On Washington Movement.  
Racheal V. Corrothers, Public Relations Director, I.B.P.O.E. of W.

**Chairman:**

Mr. Houston of the I.B.P.O.E. of W. substituting for J. Finlay Wilson.

**Mr. Houston:**

Stated that the objective of this effort was to fuse the views of his organization with those of other groups that are seeking the same objective. At the Elks Convention in Richmond, Va., in 1926 it was decided that the organization take on other activities. In 1926 an Educational Committee was formed that gave scholarships to many Negroes. In 1927 a Health Department and Civil Liberties Committee were formed. Later an Economics Department and recently the Department of Public Relations. We have come to New York to associate ourselves with all organizations and groups that have ideologies similar to ours. Our object is to activate the membership of the Elks with all groups in the world with concepts and ideas similar to ours.

**Miss Racheal Corrothers:**

We are going ahead with post war planning. The speakers will bring to you what the exploiters of the darker races are doing. I hope that the meeting will stir serious and great interest among Negroes regarding the situation at home and abroad. We must to day concern and interest ourselves in world problems.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

March 21st, 43.

**"The Related Problems of War and Peace", continued.....****Dr. Bangee A. Liu:**

The topic "The Shape of a Better World to Come" is a big order but it is better than the "New Order", suggested by Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito. The very mention of the "New Order" makes me think of a New Order.

Negroes and Chinese want the same kind of world. Years ago I spoke to Mr. Jones, President of Wake University. He said that the Negro question must be solved along with the other problems of the world. I agree with him. We must take all problems into consideration.

We Chinese believe only in three principles namely, National Independence, Political Democracy and Social-Economic Welfare. They are the foundation of the national revolution that has been going on in China for 30 years. In order for China to find her place in the world she must work out and fully establish these three principles. I offer these three principles to the world as the sure foundation for a better world.

Freedom, equality and justice are not common things. Too many people love to play with words. You say this is a land of freedom. Well I don't know. The Chinese will die for their freedom. The Indian will die for his freedom. Our first goal must be freedom for all. It is not the number of freedoms. You may multiply them indefinitely. Economic freedom can be cutthroat competition. What is essential is equality of opportunity in the economic field, for individuals as well as nations. I do not agree with Hitler when he sets forth the idea of have not have nations. No nation has everything. Every nation has something. Those nations that have certain things that other nations do not have share them with those that lack. It is question of give and take.

I disagree with the use of the term racial democracy. I tired years ago reading of 5 races. Racial differences play into the hands of Hitler. We must think in terms of being a part of the whole human race. Social justice is what we want. Not what Father Coughlin proposes but a fair deal. Give the people of India a fair deal. Give the Chinese people who are immigrants here in America a fair deal. Give the Negro in America a fair deal. When this war is over lets give the Japanese people a fair deal.

**Father George B. Ford:**

I do not like the use of the term racial democracy. What we ought to have is religious democracy. Judaism, Christianity, Mohammedism, Buddhism have their rightful place. All their followers are the followers of God. There is a real spiritual relationship. No group can feel that that one body is superior to another. The Western World has not lived up to the principles of Christianity which we declare our belief in. "Love thy neighbor as thyself" is a Christian principle. Christ stressed it, but we do not live up to it. Christ did not say that because you are of one race or another you are not accepted.

March 21.43.

**"The Related Problems of War and Peace" continued.....****Father George Ford:**

The fault with the church is that their principles have conformed with the wishes of society. Christian principles have shrunk to the prejudices of Society. Were this not so there would not be jimcrow churches in the South.

The ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution giving everyone the right to enjoy those God given rights of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness are not being lived up to. The war is making us aware that we are not living up to our avowed principles. Negroes are willingly laying down their lives for our democratic institutions yet we have political and social restrictions against them. There must be justice and fair play for Negroes, Chinese and Indians. This is essential to the shaping of a better world.

**Kingsley Omuomba MBadiwe:**

Statesmen make lofty speeches on democracy and freedom. England is today enjoying full support of the war effort from the African people. The Africans have contributed more than 100 million dollars to various agencies toward the war. At the same time in South Africa the peoples land are being taken away. The British tell the Africans that they are protecting them from Axis domination.

The League of Nations was only an instrument to protect the interests of the victorious nations. The first thing the League did was divide the spoils, that is the German colonies. We may again win the war and lose the peace. The situation is a challenge for action for winning the peace. The attitude of Churchill and Craneborn indicates that Africa in the peace talks will little to say. Africa is a bombshell in their plans. There shall be no peace so long as Africa is not free.

Imperialism is a crime against humanity. Imperialism must be crushed before Africa and the rest of the world can be free. The British take gold, diamonds, iron ore and other riches from Africa to Britain to feed and care for their people with no material gain for the African. Firestone must adjust its policy in relation to Liberia. Britain in the name of peace must get out of Africa. France in the name of peace must get out of Africa. Spain and Portugal must go. Belgium must go. A Federation of African States must be formed to protect the interest and serve the welfare of the people. If imperialism is not destroyed Africa, China, and India will be united not to save themselves from exploitation but to save the world from imperialism.

**Dr. Amur Singh:**

Considerable misinformation is spread in this country about the political situation in India. I do not agree with those persons who say that any discussion of the problem of India hinders the war effort. India finds herself in a tragic situation. 80,000 of her leaders are under arrest. 8,000 of them killed by machine guns from the air by British and Indian police. 200 Indian newspapers have voluntarily suspended publication because of the strict censorship. They are not



March 21st, 43.

The Related Problems of War and Peace<sup>o</sup>. Continued.....

Dr. Singh:

allowed to publish anything about Gandhi or any of the leaders, in fact everything published must be first approved by the British censor. Public floggings are widespread and numerous. If anyone in a small village is suspected of sabotaging the war effort the whole town is made to pay. The situation in this respect is similar to what Hitler is doing in the occupied countries. The British are not in India for the good of India. 80% of the people are illiterate. Many die before they are three years old. There are no sanitary facilities in the majority of homes where ten or more persons sleep in one room.

British have used the differences among the people to dominate them. They play one group against another. The Indian princes upheld this brutal rule. Hindus and Moslems lived and worked together more than a thousand years before the British came. They are from the same race and speak the same language. The British started friction in the big cities. In 1909 they wrote a provision in the Constitution or charter a provision barring Hindus from voting for Moslems and vice-versa. That was the beginning of trouble. Imagine if all the different nationalities in America were told that they could only vote for their own nationality what would happen.

Indian National Congress composed of Hindus, Moslems, Mohammedans, Christians, Buddhist. In 1937 the Gandhi Party carried the elections in 8 out of 11 provinces. India does not look at this war as any of its business. They have no love for Hitler or the Japanese. The statements of certain persons to the contrary was an effort to discredit Gandhi. The Indians were among the first to declare a boycott against the sale of Japanese goods.

India has been used to support the British in their wars to build an empire. Egypt and Afghanistan feel that the Indians are mercenaries of the British. When Britain declared war on Germany, India was declared a belligerent. This was done without consulting the Indian leaders to say nothing of the people.

Gandhi is the best friend of Britain in India. They should try to reach an understanding with him. If Gandhi dies India will be plunged into a Civil War. It has been reported that Sir Stafford Cripps offered India full freedom after the war. What Cripps did offer was the right of the Indian people to write their own constitution after the war. Any province may stay out of the newly formed State and may form a State of their own with full support and backing of Britain. The offer was turned down because it fostered the very division that they sought to eliminate.

The Viceroy of India is a virtual dictator. He can nullify any law. His powers to veto are unlimited. The failure of Cripps resulted in mass disillusionment among the people. This gave rise to pro-Japanese feeling among the people mostly out of bitterness. Gandhi tried to curb this but the Viceroy would not listen. Gandhi was placed into prison and is not permitted to see or be interviewed by anyone. It is a good thing that Gandhi survived the fast.

March 2nd 43.

**"The Related Problems of War and Peace", Continued.....****Dr. Singh:**

The people now feel that there is no hope of getting freedom from England. Churchill has a bad record in India. He has never inspired any confidence among the Indian people. He has openly and consistently opposed freedom for India. Britain has no more right in India than Japan has in China or Hitler in the countries of Europe.

We must liquidate imperialism if the world that is the people of the world are to live in peace.

**A. Phillip Randolph:**

The people today are thinking globally. They are drawing a sharp comparison between totalitarianism and democracy. Totalitarianism means complete suppression of all human rights. Democracy maintains and increases the rights and privileges of the people. Democracy is preferable. The negro wants to see the United Nations win the war. However the war may be won in Europe and Asia and lost in New York and Georgia.

The imperialism of Britain is no better than the imperialism of Hitler. Destruction of imperialism is essential to the preservation of democracy. There must be democracy at home as well as abroad. Negroes have never been free. My organization has always sympathized with India and its struggle for freedom. We sent telegrams to Winston Churchill demanding release of India's leaders and for freedom for India. We must at all times support the movement for freedom for people all over the world.

Negro soldiers are discriminated and segregated by our own government. Our Negro airmen are sent to a jimcrow school in Tuskegee, Alabama. They have the disadvantage of working and training in unison with other racial groups. The Red Cross segregates Negro blood. Negroes can not be officers in the Navy. Negro women can not join the WAVES and the SPARS. Negroes on every hand are the victims of indelible injustice. Paul V. McNutt called off the hearing on discrimination in the railroad industry arranged by the F.E.P.C. This will mean that the Negroes now employed on Southern railroads will shut off trains in the South. At peak there were 6,950 Negroes employed on Southern R.R. The number has declined to 2,400 and those face elimination. Negroes have been shot off trains in the South.

The F.E.P.C. came about as a result of our plans to march on Washington. We postponed it because we felt that it was advisable at the time but this does not mean that we are not going to march. Racial tension is widespread. Injustice and discrimination is evident everywhere. The National Conference called in Chicago in May will take up the questions of time and arrangements for a march on Washington.

There are people in the North as well as in the South who would rather lose this war than to give the Negro his rights.

The National Conference will also project a national civil disobedience non-violent campaign to take place simultaneous with the Conference.

March 31, 43.

"The Related Problems of War and Peace" continued.....

It will be worked out in minute detail for every part of the country so that there can be no mistake as to what we mean and what we to do. I shall personally take part in this campaign. I would not ask anyone to do something that I would not do. Our campaign will differ from the campaign in India because the campaign there is aimed at breaking down the British civil authority. Ours is a protest against injustice and violations of the rights of loyal American citizens. It is an action laws and conditions that violate civil rights.

Attendance:

There were approximately 1,220 persons present. A few white persons attended.



b7D

New York, New York

MMT:EM

April 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: IMPROVED BENEVOLENT PROTEC-  
TIVE ORDER OF THE ELKS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 21, 1943, relative to a meeting held under the auspices of the captioned organization. This meeting was on the related problems of War and Peace, and was held at the Mother A. M. E. Zion Church, 140 West 137th Street, New York City, on Sunday, March 21, 1943. The names of sponsoring organizations and a resume of the discussion by the speakers are reflected in the informant's report.

Two circulars advertising this meeting and two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the New York files for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

✓ Enclosures

CC NY [redacted]

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/1/00

SP-2 ALM/EHC

b7D

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March 23, 1943.

Mass meeting Protest white Press Smear of Harlem Juvenile Delinquency.  
Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.  
Sunday April 4th, 4 P.M.  
Auspices: People's Committee

Topics to be Discussed:

Press smear of Harlem juvenile delinquency; Poll Tax; Anti-Lynching Bill; Austin-Wadsworth Labor Draft Bill; the recent subway police brutality; the extradition of George Burrows by Governor Dewey and the status of the Negro and minorities in the war and the post war world.

Speakers:

Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Chairman Peoples' Committee  
J. Finley Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler, I.B.P.O.E. of W. (Elks)  
Channing Tobias, Member Executive Council National Y.M.C.A.  
Benjamin Davis, Jr., Executive Secretary Upper Harlem Section C.P.  
Charles Collins, Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council  
Walter White, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.  
Dr. Max Yergan, National President, National Negro Congress. ~~Chairman~~

Representatives of other organizations have been invited to participate.

Attached are copies of the action letter sent to all members of the People's Committee. Also a copy of the official minutes of the Board of Directors of the Peoples' Committee.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETHL

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- 221

# "LET MY PEOPLE GO"

*The Peoples Committee*  
PRESENTS

**DR. CHANNING TOBIAS**

**DR. MAX YERGAN**

**CHARLES COLLINS**

*and all the elected leaders in Harlem*

*Plus*

**ADAM C. POWELL JR.**

*who has just returned from a trip across the country....  
Evaluating the stake of the Negro in the war and in the peace*

*No Punches Pulled*

**SUN. APR 4, 4 P.M.**

*Golden Gate Ballroom*

142 ST. and LENOX AVE.

*The People Must Know The Truth !*

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/11/00 BY SP2/ELH/ELH

222 3/28/43  
64 24011

New York, New York

MEM:FK  
100-43415

April 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 23, 1943, relative to a mass protest meeting against the White Press smear of Harlem juvenile delinquency. b7D

This meeting is to be under the auspices of the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE and will be held at the Golden Gate Hallroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City on Sunday, April 4, 1943 at 4:00 p.m. [redacted] has been advised to attend this meeting and report on their program.

There are also being transmitted herewith two photostatic copies of a monthly newsletter to members of the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE, entitled "Act Now", advising the members about the big mass meeting to be held on April 4. The original of the monthly newsletter, furnished by the informant, is being placed in the files of this case in the New York Office.

Also being placed in the files of this case at the New York Office is a copy of the minutes of the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE meeting held Saturday, March 6, 1943, which was furnished by [redacted]

Very truly yours,

*Em*  
E. E. CONWAY  
SAC

✓  
Enclosures  
CC: NY [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY  
8/1/00

SP 2 ALM/EHL

[redacted] 123 b3

March 30th, 43.

**Audley Moore**

I met Audley Moore in 1934. At that time she was a member of the Communist Party. I was introduced to her by Grace Gray who was formerly an active member of the Party in Buffalo, New York.

Audley was never until the last two years considered anything other than mediocre before a number of members dropped out. In fact she was very disliked by the Negro members.

She was active in the National Negro Congress, International Labor Defense and the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party. Her position was nothing more than a rank and file member until there was a dearth of material for leadership among Negroes in New York City. It was this situation that created her rise in power.

At the present time she is considered by the Party as an outstanding Negro woman organizer. Her official position in the Party at the present time is: Chairman of the John Brown Club in the 13th Assembly District, which meets at 321 West 125th Street Room 8, the first and third Tuesdays in every month.

In the last two years the Party has been attempting to build her up in Harlem as an outstanding leader. She has been active in the campaign for lower rents, for price control, job training and numerous other campaigns initiated by the Party.

She is an active member of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, Peoples' Committee and of the National Negro Congress.

I met two of her sisters who are also active in the Party.



b7D

Description: About 5 feet eleven inches tall; weights about 186; brown complexion. About 38 years of age. Address - APT. N51, 1137 Barker, Bronx, N.Y.C.

439940

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/ER



b3



New York, New York

NET:OK  
100-13205

April 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: AUDLEY MOORE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted], dated March 30, 1943 setting out the background information relative to AUDLEY MOORE.


An investigation is presently being made of this subject by the New York Office and the results of this investigation will be furnished to the Bureau by report in the near future.

[redacted] has been advised to furnish any additional information he may be able to obtain concerning this subject.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/1/00

SP2 ALM/ETL

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

✓ CC NY [redacted]

b7D

b3

# The Novel Case of Winfred Lynn

By Dwight MacDonald

Reprinted from The Nation February 20, 1943

Last summer a Negro gardener named Winfred William Lynn was notified by his draft board - Local Board 261 of Jamaica, Long Island - that he had been put in 1-a. He sat down and wrote this letter:

Gentlemen: I am in receipt of your draft-reclassification notice. Please be informed that I am ready to serve in any unit of the armed forces of my country which is not segregated by race. Unless I am assured that I can serve in a mixed regiment and that I will not be compelled to serve in a unit undemocratically selected as a Negro group, I will refuse to report for induction.

Yours respectfully,

Winfred Lynn

This was the beginning of a case which has received almost no publicity, but which is the only legal test case that has yet been made ~~bro~~ the Jim Crow practices by which the military authorities are violating the spirit if not the letter of the basic law under which the present army is being selected and trained. It is also a case that will raise most important constitutional issues when it comes before the Supreme Court later this year.

That this test case is being made at all is entirely due to the fact that Winfred Lynn, in a quiet way, is a very determined person, and that he has a brother, Conrad, not so quiet but equally determined who happens to be a capable lawyer. Until last December, when Arthur Garfield Hays came into the case as trial lawyer, the Lynn brothers carried on their fight practically alone. Winfred Lynn is, or was, a landscape gardener. For the past twelve years - he is now thirty-six - he has been building up a nice little business putting in trees and shrubbery on Long Island estates. He wasn't much interested in politics, and he had no great quarrel with the economic system - "I'll always get by," he used to say. But he did feel very strongly about one thing - racial discrimination. When war came, he couldn't make any sense out of the contradictions between theory of a war for democracy and the fact of a Jim Crow army being raised to fight it. Long before he got his 1-a notice, he used to tell Conrad that, regardless of what happened he wasn't going to be a party to such a practice. Many Negroes talk like that. The Lynns are unusual in that they did something about it, and something effective.

The legal basis of Lynn's case is to be found in Section 4(a) of the 1940 Draft Act: "...in the selection and training of men under this act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color." To the layman this would seem explicitly to outlaw Jim Crow in the army. Actually as everyone knows, Negroes are segregated in all-colored units in this war as they were in the last. The only relaxation of the color line is in the case of officers of Negro units, whom the army permits to be white - in fact, rather insists on it. General Hersey, director of Selective Service, has summed it up:

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP-ALM/CHK

The act says that there is to be no discrimination. But the act also says that no man may come into the army who is not acceptable to the army. The navy, of course is worse, and the marines will not accept Negro applicants. I regret this state, but unfortunately the army gets the final say. What we are doing, of course, is simply transferring discrimination from everyday life into the army. Men who make up the army staff have the same idea as they had before they went into the army.

The Lynn case does not directly raise the question of discrimination in the selection of draftees. The two are, of course, closely intertwined, both in the wording of the Draft Act itself and in actual practice. In all draft districts with a sizable Negro population, including Local 261 of Jamaica, there are separate quotas for Negroes and whites despite Section 4(a) and despite the official Selective Service Regulations, which direct that "in classifying a registrant there shall be no discrimination for or against him because of his race, creed or color." But separate quotas are obviously necessary if the army has separate training facilities, since otherwise too many or too few of one or the other race would constantly be arriving at the camps. Therefore, the New York Selective Service Headquarters begins its periodic calls for men: "(1) Your quota for this call is the first \_\_\_\_\_ white men and the first \_\_\_\_\_ Negro men who are in Class 1-A." Since it is in practice rarely possible to draw on the two racial quotas in exactly ratios, the Lynns contend that discrimination exists, the speed with which a man is being called up depending on his race as well as his draft number.

This history of the Lynn case may be told briefly. Three months after receiving his 1-A classification, and after the local board had failed to persuade him to change his stand, Winfred Lynn was notified to report for induction on September 18. He failed to do so, and two months later he was indicted by a federal grand jury on charges of draft evasion. Conrad believes that the long delays were due to the fact that Washington was not entirely certain how to deal with the case and hoped that Winfred could somehow be persuaded to ("listen to reason"). On November 16 Winfred appeared before Judge Abruzzo, pleaded not guilty, and was held for \$2,500 bail. The next day Conrad asked for a writ of habeas corpus, on the ground that his brother was being illegally detained, since the method of his induction was contrary to section 4(a) of the Draft Act. Judge Abruzzo granted the writ, and the date of the hearing was set - after much postponement - for December 4. The day before the hearing Colonel Campbell Johnson, a Negro aide on General Bersey's staff, came up from Washington and spent an afternoon trying to get Conrad to drop the case. The hearing was held before Federal Judge Mortimer Byers, who took his seat on the bench, read part of the petition and then said: "I have here the writ of habeas corpus, the return to the writ, and the traverse. Writ dismissed." When Mr. Hays, who had entered the case the day before, expressed surprise that the judge should dismiss the writ before any arguments had been heard - apparently an almost unprecedented action - Judge Byers replied that he would hear no man who had refused induction into the army. Hays went on talking and made quite a long and spirited speech, all of which was in flagrant contempt of court. The judge refrained from making an issue of it, however, and adjourned court after Hays stopped talking. The importance the army attached to the case, incidentally, was shown by the fact that the prosecution's table was crowded with officers attending as observers.

In order to get a court test on the main issue rather than on the tangential question of whether a draftee could bring habeas corpus action while resisting induction, Hays and Conrad Lynn persuaded the extremely reluctant Winfred to submit to induction. The fact that he is now in the army does not change the case, since habeas corpus has jurisdiction even over the armed forces; it is the one area of civil law that applies there. The only difference is that it is now Winfred Lynn's colonel, instead of his jailer, who is being charged with illegal restraint of his freedom. On January 4 there was another hearing, before a more sympathetic judge, but with the same upshot: writ dismissed. The judge pointed out that although Colonel McDermott, draft director for New York city, had shown by his testimony that separate Negro and white quotas did exist, this was not proof that Lynn had been called out of his turn or, in fact that he had not been called later than his turn. To which Hays retorted that the Draft Act is based on the theory that it is a privilege, not a penalty, to serve one's country and if Lynn was called up later he was still being discriminated against. This argument did not impress the judge.

The case now goes to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, where it is expected to land early in March, and after that to the Supreme Court. Since habeas corpus cases must be specially expedited, it will probably reach the highest court before the end of the year. Conrad Lynn is now being drafted himself, and his brother's case is now being handled by Mr. Hays and the American Civil Liberties Union.

The Lynn case may turn out to be one of the most important ever argued before the Supreme Court. It raises two big issues:

1. Is segregation in itself discrimination? Webster defines "segregation" as "a separation from others" and quotes in illustration William Wetmore Story's judgement: "The very name of ghetto, signifies segregation and disjunction, is opprobrious". The United States Supreme Court thinks otherwise, however. The line of its decisions in all the classic Jim Crow cases, beginning with Plessy v. Ferguson in 1895 and continuing through Mitchell v. United States in 1941, has been that segregation is not in itself discriminatory so long as equitable facilities, whether in transportation or schools, are provided for Negroes and whites. Writing the majority opinion in Gaines v. Canada (1938) a case erroneously hailed by liberals at the time as a gain, Chief Justice Hughes summarized the traditional doctrine: "The admissibility of laws separate the races in the enjoyment of privileges afforded by the state rests wholly upon the equality of the privileges which the laws give to the separate groups within the state." The novelty of the Lynn case is that it brings up to the court for the first time the question of segregation practiced not by Southern States but by the federal government itself. Jim Crow is integrated so closely into the present social system of the south that it is not surprising that the court, even in its current liberalist phase, has not ventured to disturb it. But it will be quite a different thing to sanction the practice when it is applied by the federal government itself on a national scale to an army drawn mostly from areas where legalized Jim Crow has never existed. "Our Constitution is color-blind," wrote Justice Harlan in his great dissent in the Plessy case. "Whether this was a hope or a statement of fact will become clearer when the court decides the Lynn case."

2. Is a Jim Crow army compatible with a war alleged to be fought for democratic aims? The fact that nothing was said in the last war's draft laws about racial discrimination, while this time Congress voted Section 4(a) into the law indicates both a general awareness of the paradox of a Jim Crow army fighting against Nazi racialism and also the gains the Negroes have made since 1917. There are plenty of legalistic ways in which the court can decide against Lynn: it can reaffirm the doctrine that segregation is not discrimination; it can hold that his interest has not been injured by separate draft quotas, since when he was finally inducted he naturally had a lower draft number than whites inducted at the same time; it can even declare Section 4(a) unconstitutional because it interferes with the control the military authorities must have over civilian rights in training a war-time army (that is, it would interfere if it were respected). On the other hand even the most legalistic jurist must be concerned with the army's present policy of spreading the poison of racial discrimination among millions of draftees from outside the South. When the veterans of our Jim Crow army come back after the war, Negroes and whites alike indoctrinated with mutual life, hostility by the very conditions of their military life, the effects of our society will not be pretty.

Furthermore, an adverse decision will be politically inexpedient in view of the present state of mind of Negroes. It is significant that although the Lynn case has hardly been mentioned in the national press, it has been front-page news in Negro papers all over the country. When Winfred Lynn went to Camp Upton, his fellow-soldiers knew all about the case and insisted on doing his military chores for him. Another Lynn brother, in training down South, was asked by his white captain whether he was related to "this fellow Lynn that's making so much trouble" - which shows that those on the other side of the fence know about the case also. According to Conrad Lynn, at least six Negroes in his brother's draft district have followed his example, without having the means to make a legal test or to do much of anything but to go to jail when it comes to that. He also asserts that a large number of Negroes just don't show up when summoned for induction, and that the authorities usually prefer not to do anything about it. The whole question has been smoldering beneath the surface. The Lynn case brings it out into the open and forces a show-down on whether the 1940 Draft Act means what it says.

{ April 1st, 1943. } c

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting Held March 31st, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Coden Brown presiding.

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Lynn Case:

The Executive Board decided to make the Lynn case a national issue. The local chapters of the March on Washington movement to develop the campaign in their respective communities. (u)

The New York chapter is to hold its mass meeting on April 22 at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142 Street and Lenox Ave. The meeting will be held under the auspices of the N.O.W.M. It will be endorsed by the Civil Liberties Union, Workers Defense League, Brooklyn and Jamaica, L.I. branches of the N.A.A.C.P. (u)

A Committee consisting of A. Phillip Randolph, National Director; Benjamin Mc Laurin, National Chairman; E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary; Layle Lane, Chairman of the Educational Committee is conducting negotiations with various organizations to enlist their support in the campaign. (u)

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has not officially endorsed the Lynn campaign. The participation of branches does not in anyway express the views of the National body. It is not now known what action the parent body will take. (u)

Report of the National Executive Secretary: (u)

E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary attended a meeting in Washington, D.C. of various religious groups prominent among them was the Federated Council of Churches of Christ. They asked the N.O.W.M. to send a speaker to explain the aims and objectives of the N.O.W.M. These religious leaders were informed that the N.O.W.M. planned a march to Washington and that if this were true it would precipitate a race riot in Washington. They had also been informed that the Government was planning to use troops against the marchers. (u)

Pauline Myers explained the non-violent civil disobedience campaign and also that the idea of a march to Washington had not been given up but postponed. The plans for such a march would be worked out at the National Conference in Chicago during the week ending July 4th. (u)

After discussion the body agreed to work with the N.O.W.M. The Federated Council of Churches is to call a National Conference of religious leaders sometime during the Summer to rally them in support of the N.O.W.M. A meeting is going to be held on Saturday April 3 at Howard University, Washington, D.C. This meeting is being called by Dean Nelson for the purpose of setting up a National Advisory Board consisting of religious leaders for the N.O.W.M. (u)

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ON 8/1/00

New York, New York

NET:HAF  
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439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
ON 8/1/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 7, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 1, 1943, concerning the captioned matter. (X)(4)

The Informant's report reflects that the New York Chapter of this organization is to hold a mass meeting at the GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, on April 22, 1943. The main issue to be taken up at this meeting is the WINFRED LYNN Selective Service case. [redacted] will attend the April 22nd meeting. (X)(4)

Two copies of a reprint from the magazine, THE NATION, being distributed by the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT are also being transmitted with copies of the Informant's report.

Informant's report also states that E. PAULINE MYERS, National Executive Secretary, attended a meeting in Washington, D.C. of various religious groups upon the request of these groups to send a speaker to explain the aims and objectives of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT. The religious group represented by the FEDERATED COUNCIL OF CHURCHES decided to call a national conference of religious leaders sometime during the summer to rally them to the support of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT. (X)(4)

One copy of Informant's report is being forwarded to the Washington Field Division for the information of that office, and copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office, along with two copies of the reprint of the LYNN case.

Very truly yours,

ALL INFO CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

E. J. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures 4  
cc Washington Field Division (Enclosure)

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April 4th, 43.

Mass Meeting in Protest Against the Press Smear Campaign  
Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City  
Sunday April 4th, 1943.  
Adam Clayton Powell presiding.

**Purpose of Meeting:**

The meeting was called in protest against the featuring of crime in Harlem by the white metropolitan press and against alleged police brutality in Harlem. The meeting was called by the People's Committee of which Adam Powell is Chairman.

**Speakers:**

Moran Weston, Chairman Civil Liberties Committee, New York State Elm.  
Manning Johnson, former member of the National Committee of the Communist Party.  
Julius Holland, President of the Domestic Workers Union, A.P. of L.  
Benjamin Davis Jr. Executive Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party.  
Dr. Max Yergan, President of the National Negro Congress  
Charles Collins, Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee  
Adam Clayton Powell, Chairman of the Peoples' Committee

**Persons on the Platform:**

Adam Powell, Joseph Ford, Manning Johnson, Thomas Astwood, Benjamin Davis, Jr., Charles Collins, Moran Weston, Julius Holland, Max Yergan, Rev. Ben Richardson and the brother of Elder Micheaux.

**Manning Johnson:**

He spoke on the growing unity of the Negro people. Called for Unity of the Negroes against those who would smear a noble and patriotic people. He said that a Negro can be only one of two things and that is a radical, one who is for democracy for the Negro or an "uncle Tom". He called for the purging of "uncle Toms from the ranks of the Negro people."

**Moran Weston:**

He called for a united community and for a boycott of the Daily News, Daily Mirror, Herald Tribune and the Journal American because they are in their treatment of the news enemies of the Negro people. They are attempting to smear the Negro people and creating racial tension and friction among the people.

**Julius Holland:**

He spoke briefly about reapportionment and how it affects the Negroes in the community contending that it will deny them adequate representation. The smear campaign should be protested against. Unity of the people is vital.

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Peoples' Committee Mass Meeting continued...

April 4th, 43.

Ben Davis Jr.

He stated that the smear campaign was a part of the whole pro- of attacks against the Negroes. The more the Negro achieves the more violent become the actions of those who are against the progress of the Negro. These actions he said are directed by the domestic fascists. He praised the "Red Army" and called for the opening of a "second Front in Europe". The delay in opening the "second front" has resulted in the failure to win the war in 1942 and 1943. The "Red Army" has held the Nazis for two years and the opening of a second front would quickly terminate the war.

Dr. Max Yergan:

Appealed for unity of the Negro people with their many friends among the white people to combat these attacks against the Negro people by the Metropolitan press. The whole smear campaign is a part of the anti-democratic forces. The meeting was considered a symbol of the growing unity of the Negroes to win their rights. There are people in America, he said, that would rather lose the war than to give the Negroes their rights. He also called for freedom for Africa and India. All of which was essential to winning the war.

Charles Collins:

The attack against the Negro by the white newspapers of New York is a part of the whole international plot against those who seek real democracy. It is a part of the failure to give India her freedom. The same forces are the ones who refuse to open a Second Front in Europe. They are a part of the fascist minded individuals in our State Department who are plotting against Soviet Russia and the great Red Army who are really fighting the fascists. We must serve notice on President Roosevelt now that he will have to take a firm stand against these individuals. We must demand a purge of these forces. We must demand a Second Front in Europe now and full citizenship rights for the Negro people.

Adam Clayton Powell:

He stated that he had just returned from Los Angeles Sunday morning and that he did not know that the meeting had been arranged until a few days before his arrival. It was arranged by Joseph Ford. He praised Ford for the splendid job he did during his absence. He also said that he had spoke in Cleveland and Detroit to very enthusiastic crowds which showed that Negroes all over the nation are getting together. The meeting arranged for him in Los Angeles was very large representative and enthusiastic.

April 4th, 43.

## Peoples' Committee Mass Meeting Continued.....

Adam Powell:

He agreed with the suggested boycott of the Daily News, Daily Mirror, Journal American and all other papers that smear the Negro. There is no more crime in Harlem than there is in any other community, in fact he said there was less. The unprecedented police aggregation in Harlem was uncalled for. He read a newspaper story about a group of teen age white girls who were members of a prostitution ring which he said was never existant among Negroes. If they had been Negroes the Metropolitan press would have given it front page news. It was significant that it did not mention race or color. He asserted that he was going to introduce a resolution in City Council barring local papers to refer to people who commit crimes on the basis of color or race. This he said will be considered an encroachment on the freedom of the press but nevertheless he was going ahead with it. He called for picketing of all the news stands in Harlem urging Negroes to boycott the Metropolitan press. When the News Dealers were of strike, he said, you could not get a paper. You got along then you can do so again when the Peoples' Committee calls upon you to boycott them.

Unity, he said, of Democrats, Republicans, Socialist and Communists is essential. He praised the Daily Worker, PM and New York Post.

What we really need, he said was a march on City Hall and that the people will march if this smear campaign does not stop. He called for packing of Madison Square Garden on June 7th. The meeting is being called jointly by the People's Committee, Negro Labor Victory Committee with the backing and support of both C.I.O. and A.F. of L. Unions.

He appealed to all those who did not have jobs to come over to the offices of the People's Committee and they would be sent to jobs with deferred draft status.

On the war, he said, that he had a son that was 17 years old going into the army soon. It may be treason but I say that it is better if he did not fight if he is coming back to an America with lynching, poll tax, discrimination and jimcrow.

He concluded with an appeal for membership on the Peoples' Committee and for a collection.

## Attendance:

Approximately 3,500 a sprinkling of white persons.



New York, New York

MET:HAF  
100-43415

April 8, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: PEOPLES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] concerning a mass meeting in protest against the press smear campaign, which was held at the GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, on April 4, 1943. The meeting was called by the PEOPLES COMMITTEE and ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr. was chairman at this meeting.

The Bureau's attention is directed to the speech made by CHARLES COLLINS, executive secretary of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE, in which he makes reference to fascist-minded individuals in the State Department, who are plotting against Soviet Russia, and he further stated that they must serve notice on President Roosevelt now that he would have to take a firm stand against these individuals. He went ahead to state that they should demand a purge of these individuals.

It should also be noted that a mass meeting is being planned for the MADISON SQUARE GARDEN on June 7, 1943, this meeting to be called jointly by the PEOPLES COMMITTEE and the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE, with the backing and support of both the CIO and the AF of L unions.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report all further activities of this organization.

Two copies of the Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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ON 8/1/00

Enclosures 2

cc NY [redacted]

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April 14th, 43.

June Croll:

I met June Croll in 1933 at a meeting of the National Committee. On numerous occasions I have met her in the National Office of the Communist Party and at National Committee meetings and Conventions.

At the time I met her she was pregnant. She lived with Maude White member of the National Committee. Maude told me at that time that Eugene Gordon, newspaper reporter was the father of June's child. He sent her money regularly from Boston for the care of June and the child. Eugene Gordon is at present reporting for the Daily Worker.

June was connected with the Womens Committee of the Party and was active in the National Office. Occasionally she was sent out of New York for special work.

She is considered and has always been considered one of the most trusted members of the Party and for that reason has handled along with other members of the National office staff with all the technical arrangements for Party Plenums and Conventions.

In addition to her activity in the National Office she worked in Party organization in New York City.

Description:

About 5 feet 6 inches. Weights about 185 pounds. Jewish. Age 35 (Approximately)



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New York, N. Y.

NY:NYW  
100-228

April 18, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: JUNE GROLL  
CUSTODIAL DEFECTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith  
the original and one copy of the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated April 8, 1943 setting out back-  
ground information concerning the captioned individual.

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Two copies are being directed to the  
appropriate files in the New York Office for information  
purposes.

Very truly yours,

*JH*  
S. W. JONES,  
SAC

ENC. - 2  
cc: NY file [redacted] ✓

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April 8th, 43.

March On Washington Movement.  
Meeting held April 7th, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Golden Brown, President New York Chapter presiding.

Dr. Lawrence Ervin: ] (u)

The Regional Director of the Y.O.Y.M. read a speech delivered by Dr. Channing Tobias, National Executive Board Member Y.M.C.A. and member of the National Selective Service Board. He emphasized the five cardinal points in the speech, namely:

1. The end of discrimination in the induction of Negroes into the armed forces. That there will be a claim that such an action at this time will disrupt the war effort but that there is no basis in fact for this contention. The group should insist that all Negroes inducted into the army should be put into mixed units.

2. The Fair Employment Practices Committee should resume the railroad hearings and that it be given independent status and adequate funds to continue the work it began.

3. A campaign should be directed against the Red Cross Blood Bank segregation policy.

4. Every effort should be made to stop the smear campaign of Negroes in Harlem by the Metropolitan press.

5. A campaign on a national scale against the motion picture producers who pursue a policy of presenting Negroes as clowns and buffoons and thereby creating a situation that prevents the backward whites from really understanding the Negro and the get a different concept of him.

All these point Dr. Ervin said were a part of the Y.O.Y.M. program and that the group should and could endorse them. (u)

Lynn Case: ] (u)

A mass meeting is going to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom in support of the Lynn Case. Circulars are attached. Also a copy of the pamphlet issued by the Y.O.Y.M. relative to the case that is being sold for five cents. I am submitting five copies. (u)

Washington Conference: ] (u)

Miss Layle Lane, Chairman of the Educational Committee reported on the Conference in Washington, D.C. at Howard University called by the Federated Council of Churches of Christ. Dean Nelson presided. The Conference set up an Advisory Committee with Dean Nelson as Chairman. The group will work out a complete program of non-violent direct action for the National Conference. (u)

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April 8th, 48.

March On Washington Meeting continued.....

Washington Conference: ] (u)

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This is the new name for the "Non-violent Civil Disobedience Campaign" that the M.O.W.M. gave considerable publicity to. They plan which this group work out will be submitted to the conference for discussion and adoption. Dean Nelson stated that he was taking the position temporarily until the Conference. The trend is toward getting religious groups involved in the Movement. (u)

Benjamin Mc Laurin: ] (u)

He stated that more than 200 letters have already been sent to the President of the United States from railroad workers relative to F.E.P.C. Groups all over the country are sending in letters. There are delegations in Washington waiting on President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt relative to F.E.P.C. He read a letter which he said was sent to him from President Roosevelt assuring action on F.E.P.C. He also stated that there is some difficulty getting a chairman for F.E.P.C. that the person asked to serve refused because the conditions that he made were in disagreement with those of the President. (u)

Chicago Conference: ] (u)

All the local chapters are being urged to get the widest representation of delegates to the Conference. Arrangements according to Mrs. Blocker are being made to charter busses to the Conference. No action was taken on this report. (u)

Dollar A Month Club: ] (u)

A Dollar A Month Club has been formed for the purpose of raising funds they hope through this method to stabilize their finances. (u)

Street Meetings: ] (u)

Golden Brown announced that as soon as the weather permits a series of street meetings will be held in Harlem. (u)

Parade: ] (u)

There will be a parade in the form of a poster walk to advertize the Lynn mass meeting. Persons were assigned to cover churches, organizations and distribute circulars in the apartments. (u)



(u)

CONFIDENTIAL

New York, N. Y.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 14, 1943

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELC

Director, FBI ON 8/1/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] concerning a meeting of the March On Washington Movement held April 7, 1943 in New York City. (u)

The Bureau's attention is called to the report made by LAYLE LANE, Chairman of the Educational Committee, as reflected in the informant's report on the conference in Washington, D. C. at Howard University which was called by the Federated Council of Churches of Christ in which she advised that the conference set up an advisory committee with Dean NELSON of Howard University as Chairman to work out a complete program for the Non-Violent Civil Disobedience Campaign. This campaign is being hereafter referred to by the March On Washington Movement as the Non-Violent Direct Action Campaign. (u)

In regard to future activities of the organization, [redacted] points out that GOLDEN BROWN, President of the New York Chapter, announced that as soon as the weather permits, a series of street meetings will be held in Harlem. A monster mass meeting was also announced, to be held April 12, 1943 at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City. (u)

The informant advised that a few members of the War Resisters League were present at this meeting, distributing literature. Two copies of the literature being distributed, which is in the form of an open letter, was obtained by the informant. One copy is being enclosed and one copy is being retained in the files of this case in the New York Office. (u)

The informant also obtained four copies of the circular advertising the April 12nd mass meeting and four copies of a pamphlet published by the March On Washington Movement entitled THE WAR'S GREATEST SCANDAL, depicting the story of JIM CROW IN UNIFORM. Two copies of each are being transmitted with copies of informant's report and two copies are being retained in the

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NY 100-36792

Director, FBI

April 14, 1968 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Silence of this case in the New York Office along with copies of informant's report. ~~(u)~~

[redacted] has been advised to attend all meetings of the March On Washington Movement and report on their activities. ~~(u)~~

Very truly yours,

*JMA*  
R. D. GORMAN,  
SAC

cc: NY file [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 11th, 43.

Eastern Seaboard Conference on the Problems of the War and the Negro People  
Held Saturday and Sunday April 10th and 11th, 1943  
Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City.  
Auspices: National Negro Congress.

Sunday Sessions:

Report of Panel Discussions.

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Report of the Panel on Manpower:

Winifred Norman, Chairman National Council of Negro Youth reported:  
A national campaign should be developed immediately for the re-establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Committee; that it should be given adequate funds to carry on its work; Resumption of the hearings on discrimination in the Railroad Industry. Endeavor to get unity of all groups on this issue and to get organizations to adopt resolutions and to send telegrams demanding the restoration of F.E.P.C. Effort should be made to get the Congress of the United States to pass a resolution for the restoration of F.E.P.C.

The War Manpower Commission in every city and locality should be utilized. All cases of discrimination should be taken to it. We should demand that War Manpower Committees on Discrimination should be set up with Negroes serving on such Committees.

Adequate training of Negro women for industry. Child Care Centers and nurseries are essential for the full utilization of manpower.

All trade unions should be urged to pass resolutions against discrimination of Negroes in the armed forces. Negro soldiers should be taken out of labor battalions and given immediate combat duty. Organized a campaign against the discrimination practiced by the NAACP, NAACP and SPARS.

Demand that Negro Nurses and Doctors be used in the armed services. Resolutions and telegrams to be sent to Army and Navy officials on this matter.

A national campaign is to be developed calling upon Negroes to join the Labor Unions and for full support of them.

Report of the Panel on People's Victory - A People's Peace:

This is a People's War and must end in complete victory for the people. Our entire forces must be thrown into the struggle to win the war. The winning of the war depends upon the opening of a Second Front in Europe now.

There must be full utilization of all the resources of the United Nations. There are millions of anti-Fascist forces all over the world that must be utilized. At the present time they are not being used. Full manpower in our country is not being used and the same situation prevails all over the world.

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[Redacted]

-235

April 11th, 43.

**National Negro Congress:****Report on the Panel on People's Victory - A People's Peace continued.....**

There are many obstacles to the utilization of India. Obstacles to India fighting for freedom and against the Axis. The United Nations must give India universal free education; free trade union movement; free India's leaders; arm the people and permit them to form a provisional National Government.

Africa is not integrated into the war effort. The arming of the African people is a vital necessity. There are millions in South Africa that are willing to fight if granted their freedom. The major obstacle is the present colonial policy.

The 55,000 republicans, members of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade that fought in the Spanish Civil War now held in concentration camps should be released for participation in the war.

The West Indies, Puerto Rico and other nations are struggling for freedom and want to be assured that the provisions of the Atlantic Charter applies to them.

In Soviet Russia there are 130 different nationalities all integrated. Our destiny is linked with theirs. There is a oneness of interest. Their victory over the Axis and for freedom will mean freedom for the Negro.

We must utilize all of our resources for victory and be certain of a people's peace.

**Thyra Edward, Managing Editor People's Voice.**

There must be complete integration of Negroes into the armed forces, WAVES, SPARS. Negroes in large numbers should apply for membership to break down the discriminatory barriers that prevail.

We must fight the discrimination in the Red Cross blood bank. We must fight locally discrimination generally and particularly in industry.

We must support the campaign for the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill.

An effective campaign must be developed to combat the smear campaign against Negroes in New York that has been developed by the Metropolitan press. This campaign, she asserts, depicts Negroes as common criminals. The local papers that engage in this campaign should be boycotted.

The trade union and the Negro press should explore the press attacks on President Roosevelt's war program which, she contended, was aimed at embarrassing the President and to discredit his conduct of the war. The enemies of the President are against his liberal attitude toward the Negro and against the all out program to win the war.

April 11th, 43.

**National Negro Congress continued.....****Report of the Panel on Democratic Action:**

Louise Mc Donald stated that the Panel discussed the positive role of the church in the full mobilization of the people for the extension democratic rights at home.

There are many groups that may disagree on the method used to attain the Negroes democratic rights. They may not always agree as to how they may be won but they can get together and agree that the Negro must attain them.

The struggle for Negro rights is bound up with the world victory of the United Nations. The attainment of these rights depend upon the opening of a Second Front in Europe immediately.

Hitler used the vicious propaganda of Red baiting to conquer one country after another. He succeed in every instance until he attacked Russia. A Second Front is needed to help Russia and guarantee victory.

Protest against films that show Negroes as clowns and insist that the true picture of the Negro be shown.

Samuel Lee, George Marshall, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties and Robson Reynolds spoke at the Panel.

George Marshall called for the opening of a Second Front. Reynolds called for action to effect the passage of the Anti-Fell Tax Bill.

**Report of the Panel on Wartime Living Conditions:**

Professor Harry A. Villawson stated that the Panel agreed that the issue is that of confronting the reactionary farm block in Congress. This can be done in two ways, 1. the mobilization of the people for direct consumer action; 2. Direct and telling political action.

Initiate the calling of local Consumers Action Conferences that will deal with price ceilings, price control and methods of exposing those who shirk. Consumer education is essential. The program in consumer education should deal with rationing.

The reactionaries, he stated, have given their own interpretation of rationing which is opposed to the real and correct meaning of rationing. The opinion of the reactionaries is picked up and re-schooled by many people through their ignorance of the vital need of rationing.

Cooperative buying clubs and other cooperative organizations should be set up. Women's Auxiliaries in the Trade Unions such as Warehouse Workers Union Local 65 in New York City has formed. It is he said doing some of the things along these lines.

The voice of the people must be heard in the legislatures. Unqualified support should be given the President and his 7 point economic program. Express to him our appreciation of his veto of the Bankhead Bill and his recent Executive Order.

April 11th, 43.

National Negro Congress continued.....

Report of the Panel on Wartime Living Conditions continued.....

The people must insist upon rigid price control; grade labeling, and the passage of the Kilgore - Pepper Bill. The Black market, he said, is flourishing and this would be a means of combatting it.

Successful channeling of consumer and political action will greatly facilitate the war effort.

#### MINUTE OF COMMITTEES

Committee on Program and Action. Attorney Charles A. Heller Reporting:

The following resolutions were presented and adopted: 1. Democracy on the Home Front by giving the Negro full citizenship rights. Abolition of the Dies Committee. 2. Foreign Policy. The United Nations apply the Four Freedoms to all the small nations and colonial peoples. 3. Flight of the Jews. That arrangements be made to give asylum to them. 4. Discrimination in the Armed Forces. Negroes to be integrated into to all branches of the Armed Forces. 5. Warpower. Full utilization of Negro manpower. 6. Rationing. Full support of the President's policy of rationing. 7. Price Control. Support of rigid price control of all commodities. 8. Second Front. Opening of such a front in Europe immediately to aid Soviet Russia who has borne the brunt of the war against Germany. 9. Re-establishment of N.A.A.C.P. It should be an independent body with power of subpoena and to impose fines. Circulation of petitions for a million signatures for restoration of N.A.A.C.P. 10. Rescheduling of the railroad workers. Extension of the area of N.A.A.C.P. to enable it to deal with discrimination in the Nations Capitol. 11. Call that to support and work for the passage of H.R. 7 at the present session of Congress.

Committee on Communications and Organization. Louis Sacatelli, Asst., N.C. reported.

In the past we were content with merely mailing telegrams and letters to the President and members of the legislature from different organizations and members of these organizations. This is not enough. The people in the neighborhoods must be reached. The best and most effective way is to form Community Clubs. The National Negro Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are City-wide organizations. They can not reach the masses of people in the Community. The Community Club will enable us to reach the people.

The delegates present at the Conference should take the initiative in setting up Community Clubs in their respective neighborhoods. These clubs can take up such subjects as rationing, child care etc. We should utilize the N.A.A.C.P. without mechanically taking over their set-up.

Committee on Finances: Elizabeth Tate Reported:

A budget of at least \$4,000 was needed to carryout the work. Printing of petitions, 10,000 posters, newspaper ads, 50,000 two-page folders on N.A.A.C.P. and other activities.

Don Young explained that this was on for the National Board the budget for National organization was \$4,000. A collection was taken up.

April 11th, 45.

National Negro Congress continued.....

Credential Committee. Ruth Banks reported: (Partial report)

386 Delegates registered.  
 40 or 50 more to be registered.  
 More than 500 came from New York City.  
 11 New York State.  
 19 Pennsylvania.  
 56 Washington, D.C.  
 36 Connecticut.  
 17 Virginia  
 10 Maryland  
 3 New Jersey  
 8 Massachusetts

## Composition of delegates:

187 male delegates.  
 138 over 35 years of age.  
 39 under 25 years.

182 female delegates.  
 128 over 35 years of age.  
 69 under 25 years

## Representation:

One million or more people.



b7D

Actively directing the conference were James A. Ford; Ron Davis Jr. Edward Strong, Dorothy Mann, Hope Stevens, Howard "Stretch" Johnson Aubrey Moore, Larry Washington, Dr. Bonomi, Samuel Patterson and a number of other leading and rank and file members of the Communist Party. It was strictly a Red meeting.

April 11th, 43.

Eastern Seaboard Conference Press Meeting.  
Auspices National Negro Congress.  
Sunday April 11th, 43.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City.  
Max Yergan presided.

Attendance approximately 1,500.

Speakers:

Max Yergan, President National Negro Congress.  
Thelma Dale Administrative Secretary, National Negro Congress.  
Edmonia Grant, Member National Council, Y.N.C.A.  
James P. Carey Secretary-Treasurer, Congress of Industrial Organizations  
Vito Marcantonio, Congressman.

Persons on the Platform:

Ferdinand Smith, Secretary, National Maritime Union.  
Edward Strong, National Secretary, National Negro Congress.  
Hope Stevens, Legislative Representative, National Negro Congress.  
James Pinckton, Germany District Leader 17th Assembly District.  
Also the speakers listed above.

Max Yergan:

From the inception of the National Negro Congress it has sought co-operation with all groups in the struggle for democracy and for the defeat of fascism. The organization has always been against those things that limit and handicap the Negro. The N.N.C. sought unity behind the war effort by seeking to eliminate the limitations placed on Negroes the removal of which are essential winning the war. We cited such things as the anti lynching campaign, abolition of the poll tax and all other evils that beset the Negro.

All our energy is being concentrated in the direction of winning the war through the opening of a Second Front now. The opening of the Western front is absolutely necessary now. The Soviet Union, its powerful Red Army is bearing the full burden of the fighting.

F.T.P.C. must be revitalized. We shall ally with labor and other forces to revive F.T.P.C.

Thelma Dale:

The aim of the Conference is to fully integrate the Negroes into winning the war. The National Negro Congress was formed in 1936 at the meeting in Chicago. Since that time the N.N.C. has been in the forefront in the fight for freedom. Victory is on the side of freedom and progress.

The war effort is being hampered. It is being hampered by the efforts of Congressmen from the South.

This is a representative Conference, the delegates come from 9 states and the District of Columbia. There are approximately 500 delegates present.

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April 11, 43

National Negro Congress meeting continued.....

Thelma Fale continued:

They were unanimous in demanding the opening of a Second Front in Europe; passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill and the restoration of F.E.P.C.

Edmonia Grant:

Negro women must play a vital part in World War II drawing inspiration from such great Negro women like Phillis Wheatley, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and Mary Mc Cloud Bethune. The opportunities now are very great for Negro women to extend democratic rights.

The fight on the home front is vital now. It is more important than what Negroes are doing on the war front. It is more difficult to fight on the home front than to fight on the war front.

Japan raised the question of race. They stated that the United States and Great Britain do not intend to extend democracy to the darker races. We must give the Japanese our answer by abolishing discrimination in order that democracy may survive.

Negro women must be integrated into industry with equal pay for equal work. They should seek membership in the Labor Unions. They should go in for Defense Training and when they are trained to do everything to get jobs not merely as beginners but with opportunities for upgrading.

The social welfare of Negro women is essential. Establishment of child care centers, recreation centers, camps and hot lunches in the Public Schools.

Support the National Negro Congress and its legislative program.

Ponder the outcome of the present conflict. It must end in freedom of black colonials of Africa and the Negro people of the United States. We must join with the darker races in every effort for freedom. We are pledged to save democracy and to make it work.

James B. Carey:

We do not recognize democracy as a peaceful process. It is a constant conflict of opinions. To ask for an end of discrimination; to ask for representation in Government is consider unpatriotic. Some people say it is not the time. But I say now is the time.

We have many Negro leaders in the C.I.O. Among them Ferdinand Smith and Willard Rossend, member of the Executive Council, C.I.O. They are there not as a token but because they are qualified by virtue that they won their spurs.

We do not want a negotiated peace. We do not want a compromise peace. There must be complete full victory for all the people.

There will be mass unemployment after the war. We must prepare to meet that situation by proper planning now. To recommended social security, breaking down of discrimination and monopoly control.

The prejudices that divide the people must be abolished they must be overcome



April 11th, 43

National Negro Congress Mass meeting continued.....

Vito Marcantonio:

I wish to report on what is taking place in Congress. First, the report on the fight for the anti-Poll Tax Bill. There were five Bills originally. According to House rules only one can be acted upon. It was agreed that the five sponsors of Bills get together behind one Bill. Thus a coalition of all these Congressmen was formed around the Bill introduced by Marcantonio.

There are 161 signatures on the discharge Petition. 218 are needed to bring the Bill on the floor for debate. I requires 25 legislative days get these signatures. 57 more are needed. The balance we expect to get in the next two or three weeks. Hope to get a vote on the Bill by May. No Bill has been introduced in the Senate. Members are signing because of the nationwide campaign supported by the Railroad Brotherhoods, A.F. of L. C.I.O., religious and fraternal groups and Negro groups writing to Congressmen. See that the Congressman in your District signs the petition.

How feel: we celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the death of Thomas Jefferson. There is very little of the teachings of Jefferson in the House today. The Hobbs Bill puts shackles on organized labor. The Waxal plan to transfer the tax load onto the poor was almost passed. The placing of a ceiling on salaries at \$25,000 was lifted. Congress has eliminated everything essential to winning the war. There is a coalition of Poll Taxers, white supremacy advocates, reactionaries and vicious opponents in Congress. Congress is not representative.

Hitler has taken one front at a time until he invaded Russia. Russia has not crumbled. She is defended by the powerful Red army. The immediate opening of a second European front is vital.

They have placed a tax on our ally. They placed a tax on Soviet Russia. Doubts and suspicions are placed on this ally. This is the game of the sponsors and of the fascists. This game is being played in the House and the Senate. It is a scandalous and tragic situation. We are holding back the Second Front - sabotaging it.

The 7 point economic program is being scuttled by these same scheming and conniving individuals. The Farm Bloc are interested in the farmer. They are interested in the big financial interests.

Rickenbacker was called a reactionary and accused of blaming absenteeism on labor. He failed to point out that workers travel 40 and 60 mile to work because of the housing situation; dislocations in production, sickness and disease. This is the fascist game of labor baiting, Red baiting and Negro baiting. Our soldiers will not accept a government of these individuals when they return. The Coxes, the Barkins and the Dies are on the down grade.

New York, N. Y.

LET:HW  
100-3633

April 15, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of two reports of [redacted] on the Eastern Seaboard Conference held by the National Negro Congress in New York City on April 10th and 11th, 1943.

Because of the informant's present employment, he was unable to attend the Saturday session of this conference. He attended the Sunday conference and his two reports are concerning the reports of conference committees and the victory mass meeting which was held subsequent to the reports by the committees.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report on further activities of this organization.

Two copies of the informant's reports are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
W. D. COMBOS,  
SAC

ENCLOSURES - 2  
cc: NY file [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/1/00

NYC offices.

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March 7th, 1943

**Peoples' Committee**

Meeting of Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A. Saturday March 6th, 1943.  
Adam Clayton Powell, Chairman presided.

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DATE 8/1/00 BY SP3 ALM/EHL

**Report of the Administrator:**

Joseph Ford, Administrator, People's Committee reported on the activities of the People's Committee since the last meeting. His report follows:

1. A delegation headed by Adam Powell and Harrison Jackson met with the President of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company relative to jobs for Negroes. The conference revealed according to Adam Powell that the Company has \$800,000,000 in policies covering Negroes. There not one Negro employed by the Company. The request for the employment of Negroes was rejected. The Company offered, through the President, a counter proposal to organize a all Negro insurance company, turn over to it all the policies held by Negroes; defray the expenses for the transfer and train the personnel to handle the affairs of the Company. All personnel to be Negroes.

There divergent opinions expressed on the subject. Some felt the proposition merited consideration others felt that it was contrary to the policy of the Peoples' Committee which is integration and against jimcrow. A committee of five was appointed to bring in a report and recommendations at the next meeting which will be held the first Saturday in April.

2. Councilman Powell introduced a Resolution in the City Council against discrimination against Negroes by the WAVES and the Spars. The Resolution was passed unanimously. Since then the WAVES and the SPARS have stated that they have no objection to Negro women joining.

3. Councilman Powell introduced into the City Council a Resolution setting aside March 5th as Crispus Attucks Day. The Resolution was passed and approved by the Mayor. On this day each year services honoring the hero of the Revolution of 1776 will be held in all public schools and colleges.

4. Adam Powell introduced a Resolution to re-establish the Juvenile Aid Bureau. A compromise arrangement was reached to appoint a committee to investigate juvenile delinquency. Any taken will be based upon the committee report. The Committee has already been appointed. Any recommendation growing out of this investigation for the re-establishment of the JAB will be referred to the Board of Estimate.

5. Conference with the New York Central Railroad resulted in an agreement to give Negroes jobs as typists and clerks in NYC offices.

March 7th, 43.

**Peoples' Committee continued.....**

6. American Smelting Company reached an agreement with the Peoples' Committee to employ Negroes. Many have already been employed.

7. Arrangements have been made with a clothing concern to give employment to 300 Negro girls as pleaters, stitchers and sewers. Inexperienced girls will be given training. During the training period they will receive \$16 a week after which they will be placed in jobs ranging from \$33 to \$35.

The report of the Administrator was adopted.

**Anti Poll Tax Conference:**

The National Conference for the Abolition of the Poll Tax called by the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax that is to be held in Washington, D.C., March 9th and 10th was endorsed by the group. Quite a large delegation from groups all over the country are expected to attend. Adam Powell stated that he will not be able to attend because of important meetings in New York. Harrison Jackson will attend. It was reported that a movement is on foot to get all the Congressmen who introduced Anti Poll Tax Bills to get behind the Bill introduced by Vito Marcantonio. The Marcantonio Bill, HR 7 they contend is among the first Bills coming up before Congress whereas the other Bills have higher numbers and will not come up before late in the fall with little chance before adjournment.

**Saturday Evening Post:**

Adam Powell stated that in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post there was an article that stated in essence that if the white men now fighting on the battlefields of the world thought that they were fighting for equality for all the people of the world that they would cease fighting and return home. A telegram of protest to be sent to President Roosevelt, with a request that he repudiate such statements. The S.E.P. was condemned for publishing such statements.

**National Negro Congress:**

The Peoples' Committee endorse the regional Conference called by the National Negro Congress for Saturday April 10th and 11th. The Conference is to be held at the Y.M.C.A. In addition to delegates from the Peoples' Committee all affiliated organizations were urged to send delegates. The recommendation was adopted.

**Committee for the Care of Children During War Time:**

The decision of Mayor La Guardia to abolish all nurseries will be protested at a mass meeting to be held Monday Night March 8th at the Harlem Boys Center. The P.C. endorsed the meeting and urged all present try to get persons to attend and to give

March 7th, 43

Peoples' Committee continued.....

It was estimated that at least \$5,000 was needed to do the work of the Committee during 1943. Arrangements were made for Harrison Jackson head of the Coordinating Committee to transfer all the funds that CC has on hand to the Peoples' Committee. Harrison Jackson and Genevieve Chinn handle the matter. The report and recommendations were adopted.

#### Discrimination of Negro Teachers:

A complaint was filed with the PC relative to alleged discrimination against Negro substitute teachers. The complaint is that Negro substitutes are not permitted to teach outside the Harlem area. It was decided that Joseph Ford turn the complaint over to the organization handling matters pertaining to the school system. Permanent Committee for Better Schools will be supported by PC in the investigation of the complaint and in any action they decide to take after the investigation. E.S. Demetri member of the PCBS and member of the Board of Directors has not been able to attend meetings. He will be requested send substitute.

#### John Harman:

He spoke briefly about the advantage that merchants are taking of Negroes in Harlem regarding prices of every thing they buy. He said that the merchants are charging more than the ceiling prices established by CPA. Legal action can be taken against such merchants. He urged the starting of a wide educational campaign on price ceilings and how to combat chisling and exorbitant prices. A meeting will be held Monday March 8th at Consumers Council, West Harlem Civilian Defense Office, ~~Room~~ 422 East 125th Street at 8 PM. for heads of organizations.

John Harman is at present employed by the Civilian Defense Council legal staff. He was formerly a field organizer for the International Workers Order. Active in all Communist front groups.

#### Persons Attending the Meeting:

Adam Powell, Joseph Ford, Mrs. Louise Pitner, Genevieve Chinn, Charles Collins, Rev. Trigg, Mac Davies, Manning Johnson, Olivia Stokes, Julius Holland, Lorenzo F. Davis, Thelma Dale, Harrison Jackson, Rev. Eugene Adair. There were four others whose names I was unable to get.

#### Secretary Peoples' Committee

Earnest Johnson, Secretary of the Peoples' Committee resigned. He is now working in the Washington, D.C. offices of National Associated Negro Press. Miss Victoria Best was elected to fill the vacancy.

March 7th, 43.

**Peoples' Committee continued.....**

full cooperation to the Committee for the Care of Children During War Time under whose auspices the meeting is being held.

**C.I.O. Regional Conferences:**

The Greater New York Industrial Council of the Congress of Industrial Organizations is planning several regional conferences in New York City. The Harlem Conference will be held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church on March 27th. The purpose is to develop greater trade union support and consciousness among Negroes; urge them to join the C.I.O. and to discuss related community problems. The Conference was endorsed and full support pledged.

**Race Relations Conference:**

A Race Relations Conference will be held on March 20th under the auspices of the Race Relations Committee of the Independent Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks. (Negro fraternal organization) The Conference was endorsed full support pledged.

**Negro Labor Victory Committee:**

Charles Collins was designated by the Negro Labor Victory Committee to meet with Adam Powell and to discuss the holding of a mass meeting in Madison Square Garden on the 24th of May. The holding of such a meeting was approved by the body. It will be held under the auspices of the Negro Labor Victory Committee; Peoples' Committee and Trade Unions. The technical arrangements to be worked out jointly by Adam Powell and Charles Collins. Charles Collins stated that such meeting was necessary because there was a group of Negroes that constituted a "Negro oligarchy" attempting to organize Negroes along racial lines in opposition to the policy of integration of Negro and white. This Negro "oligarchy" must be opposed. (His reference to Negro oligarchy was a crack at the March On Washington Movement Leadership though he did not mention any individuals or organization). The mass meeting, he stated, will consider the abolition of the Poll Tax; P.E.P.C. complete utilization Negro man and woman power and full citizenship rights for Negroes.

**Financial Report:**

Mrs Genevieve Chinn, Treasurer of the Peoples' Committee gave a report on income and expenditures. The report showed a balance of approximately \$120. Adam Powell stated that arrangements had been made the manager of the Savoy Ballroom to have a big affair at the Golden Gate Ballroom. Music by one of the top notch bands. All proceeds will go to the P.C. He estimated two or three thousand dollars can be made from such an affair.

NEW YORK, N.Y.

MET:MTC  
100-43415

March 20, 1943

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original, and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 7, 1943, relative to a meeting of the Board of Directors of the captioned organization.

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It will be noted that according to Informant's report, the following meetings are planned for New York City:

The National Negro Congress has planned a Regional Conference to be held in the Harlem Y.M.C.A. in New York City on April 10th and 11th, 1943. This conference has been endorsed by the People's Committee.

A protest meeting against Mayor LaGuardia's decision to abolish all nurseries was held on March 8, 1943 at the Harlem Boy's Center, New York City, by the Committee for the Care of Children During War Time.

The Greater New York Industrial Council of the C.I.O. will hold a conference at the Abyssinian Baptist Church on March 27, 1943.

A Race Relations Conference will be held on March 20, 1943 in New York City under the auspices of the Race Relations Committee of the Independent Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks. According to Informant, the Communist Party has endorsed this meeting.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee, the People's Committee, and certain tradeunions are reported by Informant to be planning a mass meeting to be held at Madison Square Garden on May 24, 1943 to consider the abolition of the Poll Tax and the Federal Employment Practice Committee.

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NET:MTC  
100-43415

March 20, 1943

Letter to the Director

[redacted] was unable to attend the meeting of the Committee for the Care of Children During War Time held on March 8, 1943. He has been advised to attend the other meetings mentioned herein.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Field Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

ENCLS.

CC: [redacted]

Copy

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March 5th, 43.

E. L. Dimitri

I first met Dimitri in 1935. He was very active in the Harlem Section of the Communist Party. I worked with him in Party front organizations and in united front groups until 1939. During period I met in numerous fraction meetings that took up problems of these organizations and worked out the tactics in carrying out the Party line.

I have since met him in meetings of Communist controlled groups.

In 1937 he was assigned by the Harlem Section of the Party to form the People's Party. A conference was called it functioned about a year then folded up because of lack of support. He had offices on 125th Street at that time.

He was later assigned to organize the Permanent Committee for Better Schools. Protest meetings were organized against conditions in the schools. Resolutions adopted; delegations were sent to the Mayors office and numerous other activities conducted under his leadership.

He was active in the work of the National Negro Congress, Spanish aid group and League Against War and Fascism and other front groups.

He is at present a member of the Board of Directors of the Peoples' Committee.

He is working in the Brooklyn Navy Yard at the present time.



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NEW YORK, N.Y.

MEMPHIS

March 20, 1943

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: R. L. SMITH, Negro,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original,  
and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated  
March 5, 1943, relative to the captioned individual.

In view of the information to the effect that  
SMITH is a member of the Communist Party and has been accused by the  
Party to organize various front organizations, a case has been opened  
on this subject and appropriate investigation will be conducted.

The Office of Naval Intelligence is being advised  
that subject is presently reported to be working in the Brooklyn Navy  
Yard.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained  
in the files of this case in the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

R. E. CONROY,  
SAC

REC.

CC: [redacted]

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March 11th

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax  
Press Building, 14th and F. Streets, Washington, D. C.  
Tuesday and Wednesday March 9th and 10th, 1943.

Registration of Delegates:

There was a registration of delegates in the Auditorium of the Press Building from 10 am until the Conference started. The registration was conducted under the direction of Sylvia Beitscher, Executive Secretary, National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.

Opening Session:

Mrs. Virginia Foster Durr, Executive Vice Chairman, National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax introduced Jennings Perry, Chairman of the National Committee who presided over the Conference. After a brief speech by Jennings Perry, Mr. A. E. Whitney, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen was introduced as the keynote speaker.

Report on Plans for Action:

The reports on plans for action were presented by Virginia Foster Durr, Executive Vice Chairman and Sylvia Beitscher, Executive Secretary.

Speakers at Opening Session:

Walter White, National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples.  
Nathan Cowan, Legislative Representative of the C.I.O.  
Russell Saville, Townsend Plan  
Robert Handschin, Farmers Union  
Edward Strong, National Secretary, National Negro Congress.  
Viena Johnson, Minnesota Farmer-Labor Association.

Discussion on:

- 8 Congressional Action.  
Role of National and Local Organizations.  
Lobbying on Wednesday  
Finances.

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Evening Session:

Public mass meeting was held in the Press Club Auditorium, 8:30 PM.  
Speakers were:

Congressman Joseph Clark Baldwin, New York.  
Congressman George Bender, Ohio.  
Congressman Vito Marcantonio, New York.

The speech of Congressman Bender was broadcast.

Wednesday March 10th, Session:

Delegations to visit Congressmen. This started at 9 am and continued

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March 11th, 1943

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

until 2:30 P.M.

Delegations reported at 2:30 P.M. at a meeting held at 10 Independence Avenue, S. W. Room 304.

Father John Ryan:

He was scheduled to bring greetings to the Conference but was unable and for that reason sent Father Higgins to pinch hit for him.

Father Higgins stated that the principle of Christianity and Americanism are unalterably opposed to the Poll Tax. The Poll Tax, he said, is oppressive especially against the Negro.

Jennings Perry:

Mrs. Durr in introducing Perry stated that mainly through his efforts the Poll Tax was abolished in Tenn.

Mr. Perry stated that at last Tennessee is back in the United States, since the repeal of the poll tax. The poll tax is a vote tax. People ought not to be taxed for the right to vote. The situation in Tenn., he said, was cumulative. The people lost interest in voting and there was no popular expression. His newspaper showed that lack of faith in the political processes was due to the poll tax. The poll tax issue was fought county by county and three times in the state legislature of Tenn., before it was finally repealed. The major obstacle to political indifference and lethargy has been removed.

Poll tax was made a political issue in Tenn. It almost split the Democratic Party. Let's get back to democracy even if we split the Democratic Party. There is a tendency to submerge controversial issues during war time. The fight against the poll tax is a fight for human freedom. The right to vote is not a privilege but a right. The states will not repeal the poll tax law because of insuperable obstacles. The law can only be done away with by an amendment to the Federal Constitution.

If you do not have universal democracy in any part of our country that part can not be called democratic. The fight in Tenn., was won as a result of a coalition of the League of Women Voters, Newspapers, Railroad Brotherhoods and other groups.

A. F. Whitney:

Legislative bodies of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen in every state adopted resolutions against the poll tax. These resolutions called for repeal of the poll tax because it is reactionary, and oppressive. A fee to vote in elections, he said, is unconstitutional. No truly democratic citizen can have any other view.

March 11th, 43

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

A. F. Whitney:

The type of people who come from the poll tax states to Congress are reactionary. The districts these Congressmen come from are the swamp-lands of democracy. They have maintained themselves in power by defiance of democracy. Corruption is widespread in the poll tax States. The poll tax itself is a racket. The legal defenders of the poll tax reason in a vacuum. They hide behind States rights. States rights for a hundred years has been a fox hole for every demagogue and reactionary to hide. Quoted U.S. Constitution Sec. 4 Article 4 on States rights. Lincoln also was quoted on states rights.

The poll tax states send machine made people to make the laws for all the people of the U.S. They are houghty, blatant, because they can not be brought to account for their actions. They are budding fascists, seeking domination of the legislative branch of our government.

The poll tax violates the rights to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness. People pursue happiness through voting. The poll tax perpetuates caste and class distinctions. Quoted Jefferson "the mass of the people is the best depository of human rights".

73 out of 78 of the Poll tax Congressmen voted for the continuation of the Dies Committee. Dies Committee, he stated, is subversive. Nazi activity goes on while Dies shouts.

The delegates were urged to spend more time agitating among the people and less time buttonholing Senators and Congressmen, drawing up of briefs and use of the courts. An aroused populace or electorate is necessary to make our government a bonified democracy. Our representative government is not secure as long as poll tax States bor within. A democratic peace impossible unless we abolish the poll tax. Democracy in America is the keystone of the democratic peace for which we strive.

Virginia Foster Durr:

She gave a brief history of the struggle for the passage of the anti-poll tax Bill. Tried to get some Congressman from the South to introduce the Bill but without success. Finally they were able to get Congressman Geyer to introduce it. He carried on the fight despite ailing health, against the advice of his physician and against many obstacles. The Conference was asked to stand in tribute to the now departed Congressman Geyer.

The Bill was passed in Congress and killed in the Senate. A law banning payment of poll tax by men serving in the armed forces was accomplished. We succeeded in abolishing the poll tax in Tenn. The passage of the anti poll tax Bill in this session of Congress is vital to moral. There should not be any price tag on the right to vote. The men elected through this method do not represent the people

March 11th, 43.

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

Virginia FosterDurr:

They attack the rights of the people, labor and the Negro. We must prove to the world that we mean what we say when we speak of democracy and the Four Freedoms. There were several anti poll tax Bills introduced in the House. The Committee was confused as to which one to support. They were able to get the Congressmen together to support one Bill. This Bill is continuations Bill H.R.7. A recommendation was made that the Conference support the coalition Bill HR7. The recommendation was unanimously adopted.

Sylvia Beitscher:

The delegates here represent all America. They have represent farm, labor, church and other groups. Today we lay the foundation for rallying the people behind the coalition of Congressmen for early passage of the anti poll tax Bill.

#### In Your Organization

1. Adopt a resolution calling upon your Congressman to sign Discharge Petition number 3 and to actively support the campaign for early passage of H.R.7. Send resolutions to your Senators urging their support for anti poll tax legislation. Send all copies to the President and to the office of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax.
2. Hold a meeting on the poll tax. The National Committee will be glad to send material to any speaker you designate.
3. At the meeting each member should write to his Congressman urging him to sign Discharge Petition Number 3 in order to bring the Bill to the floor of the House for vote.
4. Join the "Bundles for Bilbo Club". Order bundles of the Repealer each month for regular distribution to your membership. Send us one dollar and we will send you a bundle of 100 Repealers for you to distribute among your friends, to members of your organization, in the neighborhood.

#### In the Community

1. Take steps immediately for city-wide and State-wide conferences to include all groups - labor, farm, Negro, women, church and prominent individuals to mobilize the greatest unity and activity for successful passage of H.R.7. The National Committee will be glad to help in any way possible.
2. Get your City and State legislative bodies to adopt a resolution requesting Congress to pass the anti-poll tax Bill H.R.7. Send a delegation to a friendly legislator--ask him to introduce a resolution. Such action in support of poll tax repeal will give your Congressmen and Senators dramatic proof of the overwhelming support of the Bill. Such resolutions have already been adopted in several State legislatures. Send a copy of the resolution adopted to the National Committee.

March 11th, 43.

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

3. Publicize your activities and status of the campaigns, through the local newspapers, letters to the editors, radio stations. Radio time can be obtained free in your community. Enlist the support of a prominent leader in your city and arrange a series of broadcasts on the vital urgency of passing the anti-poll tax legislation.

#### Role of National Organizations

Address a letter to each Congressman requesting him to sign the Discharge Petition Number 3 and to support the passage of the anti poll tax legislation.

2. Inform your affiliated groups weekly of the progress of the campaign on Discharge Petition Number 3.

3. List the Congressmen who have not signed the Discharge Petition in your National newspaper or legislative bulletins. Urge your members to immediately contact their Congressmen to secure his signature on Discharge Petition.

4. Those national organizations with legislative representatives in Washington, D. C. should personally contact the Congressmen to obtain their support for this legislation.

5. Send the National Committee a list of the legislative Chairmen or Presidents of your affiliated organizations so that the National Committee can communicate directly with them.

#### Legislative

1. The National Committee keeps in constant contact with the Congressmen and Senators to secure their support for anti-poll tax legislation.

2. Through Executive Board meetings once a month, all legislative representatives of national organizations with offices in Washington participate in discussions on how to speed the campaign.

3. Contacts the organizations in those communities where additional pressure is needed to secure the support of Congressmen and Senators.

#### Organizational

1. A large correspondence is maintained with all the organizations and individuals throughout the country.

2. The Poll Tax Repealer is printed once a month which goes to a mailing list of 15,000 and is constantly being expanded. The Repealer gives the status of the campaign, suggestions for activities, and educational features on the poll tax.

March 11th, 43.

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

3. The National Committee is recognized and respected by the people of America. The committee will fight with untiring energy to unite all forces, to bring the greatest pressure on Congress to pass anti-poll tax legislation this year.

Finances

1. The National Committee was able to carry on its work last year as a result of the contributions received from individuals and organizations. Attached is a copy of the financial report.

2. May we request all organizations present today to seriously consider the question of making contributions to this Committee and to its affiliated bodies to do likewise.

3. The National Committee plans with your continued support to carry on an intensive campaign this year. To do this, we must receive your financial support.

Lobbying

Wednesday March 10th will be devoted entirely to lobbying. Interviews with Congressmen were important in securing passage of the anti-poll tax Bill last year. The morning and early part of the afternoon will be spent lobbying. Report results at a meeting in the Labor Building, 10 Independence Ave. S. W. at 2:30 P.M. Attached is copy of instructions for lobbying.

Walter White:

Our enemies are trying to make the poll tax a Negro issue. They are also trying to create racial tension. The fight against the Poll tax is not for one group but for every American. The blood of our boys that is being shed all over the world for democracy is futile unless we win democracy at home. America must do away with the poll tax and the "white primaries".

He read Section 14 U.S. Constitution. Bilbo can not get around that section because it is unmistakably clear. The representatives of the poll tax States seek domination of the legislature, destroy all social gains and dominate the peace.

The poll tax denies 10,000,000 Americans the right to vote-- 6 million are white and 4 million are Negro. The poll tax exists in 7 Southern States. There is talk of secession in the South.



March 11th, 43.

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax Continued.

Walter White:

It might be alright either to let them secede or force them to do so.

Nathan Cowan, Legislative Representative C.I.O.

Mr. Cowan was unable to be present but sent a short statement which was read by Mr. Cotten representing the National C.I.O.

Democracy can only flourish by full expression at the polls. Any restrictions must be abolished. To sell democracy to the world we must have it at home. America now engaged in a total war can not now continue the poll tax. The entire membership of the CIO is committed to the abolition of the poll tax.

Miss Viena Johnson

Passage of the anti poll tax Bill will unify the people behind the war effort. Visited my Congressmen and the results are very gratifying. Abolition of the poll tax will help humanity all over the U.S. A very successful Conference was held in Minnesota at which the delegates discussed the Four Freedoms, abolition of the poll tax. We must show the people that this war is different from the last.

Russell Saville:

The Townsend organization has given full support to the campaign; sent letters and telegrams to Congressmen last year. We will do so now in support of the present effort. The little people must enjoy the Four Freedoms. Be on guard that conditions after the war will not be the same as after the last world war. Victory in the fight against the poll tax depends upon the extension of the movement into every State. The American people must win the right to vote unbridged.

Robert Handschin:

We pledge to do more this year than before. Our organization has taken a firm stand against the poll tax. Our organization is 40 years old. It has always been against the poll tax. It was built out of Populist Movement.

Restrictions against voting has been removed by the people in all but 8 States. The people must be organized in those States. Lack of economic democracy lies at the foundation of lack of political

March 11th 43

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

Robert Handschin:

democracy. We are trying to organize the farmers. The sharecropping system in the South is economic feudalism. Success can only be achieved through organization of the people in these states. The absence of any substantial organization in these states is mainly responsible for the deplorable state of affairs.

Edwar Strong:

The issue affecting the common man will be decided in this great global conflict. The present war will determine our future for years to come. There is a small cynically speak against the anti poll tax bill and say that it shall not pass. Free India--free China are stupid. We will they say rule or destroy the nation. We must pass the anti poll tax Bill that America may remain democratic. The passage of the anti poll tax Bill will have a healthy reaction among the darker races of the world who are very much concerned with what happens here.

Participants in Discussion

Immediately following the foregoing speeches and reports the floor was opened for discussion the following persons participated:

J. R. Garrett, Federation of Clubs, Buffalo, New York  
Nathan Johnson, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, Washington, D. C.  
W. C. Houston, I.B.P.O. Elks, Washington, D. C.  
James Claire Taylor, Washington, D. C.  
Gerald Harris, Birmingham, Alabama. Alabama Farmers Union.  
George Weisel National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.  
Louis Kahn Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Milton N. Kennitz, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.  
Joseph Evans, Alph Phi Alpha.  
Clifford Mc Avoy, Legilative Representative of Greater N.Y.C.I.O.  
Mr. Sands, A.F. of L. Washington, D.C.  
Frank Gallager, Camden, New Jersey.  
Lewis Burnham, National Negro Youth Council, Birmingham Alabama.  
Rev. Talbert, New Haven, Conn. Conference to End Discrimination.  
Mr. Brown Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, Washington, D. C.  
Miss Salor, United Electrical and Radio Workers, C.I.O.  
Saul Mills, Secretary Greater New York C.I.O. Industrial Council.  
Ruth Jett, National Negro Youth Council.  
LyndonHenry, Manager Fur Dyers Union Local88 New York City.  
Mr. Osborn Detroit Michigan.  
Miss Leiberman, Detroit, Michigan

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March 11th, 43

National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

Participants in Discussion

Representative of the Indiana State C.I.O. Industrial Union Council.  
" " " Connecticut, CIO Industrial Union Council  
National Congress Women Auxiliaries.  
Representative of Locomotive Firemen of Tennessee.

Motions

That a Committee be appointed to visit Senator Pepper to get him to introduce an anti-poll tax bill in the Senate. Passed. Committee appointed consisted of Clifford Mc Avoy, Mrs. Durr, Walter White, Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Salor.

All delegates present be selected as temporary chairmen of anti-poll tax committees in their respective communities. Passed.

Evening Session

A public hearing, Press Auditorium, Tuesday March 9th 8:30 P.M.  
Attendance approximately 300. 95% white persons. 5% Negroes.

Speakers

Congressman Joseph Clark Baldwin New York.  
Congressman George Bender Ohio.  
Congressman Vito Marcantonio, New York.  
Jennings Perry presided.

Joseph Clark Baldwin:

The passage of the anti poll tax Bill H.R. 7 is of great importance. It is a people's bill. It is inseparably bound up with the two great documents the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms. We must not just merely pass it in the House but to roll up an overwhelming vote and thus prove to the world that the U.S. means what it says. If more people would live for democracy less people would have to die for it.

George Bender:

America can not exist with democracy in 41 States and feudalism in 7. The abolition of the poll tax an essential part of our war program. He then read the joint statement all six Congressmen who succeeded in getting together behind one Bill now known as Coalition Bill H.R.7. This Bill he asserted has joint sponsorship. The speech was broadcasted.

Vito Marcantonio:

March 11th, 43.

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

Vito Marcantonio:

Some people say it is not the time. To bring up the Bill in war time brings about division and disunity. I disagree with that argument. The poll tax is cause of disunity. It creates two classes of citizenship. Puts ten million people in a special class by a tricky scheme they are deprived of the right to vote. This creates disunity.

Men in our fighting forces will return to find themselves deprived of the right to vote. India and Puerto Rico who believe that the U. S. means what it says, can be strengthened in that faith by now extending democracy to every man, woman in America.

There is going to be a lot of name calling and "Red baiting" to perpetuate a feudal system.

Abolish the poll tax now. It is an essential win the war measure. Restricted elections makes toward reactionary representation. Cutting down appropriations, disruptive so called investigations to embarrass the war leaders all can be laid at the door of the men from the poll tax states. The first step to eliminate reactionary representation is to eliminate the poll tax.

#### Lobbying

From 9 A.M. till 2:30 P.M. was spent by the delegates visiting Congressmen. After each visit the form copy of which is attached was filled out and submitted to the National Committee.

#### Final Session:

The final session of the Conference was held in Room 304, Labor Building, 10 Independence Ave., S.W. The reports revealed that some 30 Congressmen had agreed to sign the Discharge Petition and work for the passage of the Bill. There was some difference of opinion expressed. The representative of Methodist Church and the representative of the Y.W.C.A. national office said that many of their members felt that we should not press for legislation of this kind at the present time because it weakens the war effort and embarrasses the administration. They were not so sure whether the information gathered at the Conference was sufficient to convince them to go along however they would try. Mrs. Durr called upon Edward Strong to speak on this matter. Strong said that President Roosevelt is face with the same situation that Lincoln was faced with before the Proclamation of Emancipation.

March 11th, 43.

National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax continued.....

Final Session.

He must act boldly to defeat copperheads. Letters should continue to pour into the White House to show that the people are behind the President. The Administration is for the abolition of the poll tax we must strengthen the hand of the Administration.

Senator Pepper declined to introduce the Anti poll tax Bill in the Senate this year. He stated that he comes up for re-election next year and that the fight last year did not strengthen his position with the electorate.

Senator Downing agreed to sponsor a coalition Bill in the Senate.

A anti poll tax Conference will be held in Detroit the latter part of April or the first of May. Elaborate preparations are being made.

Harrison Jackson delegate of the People's Committee stated that he would ask Adam Powell to introduce a resolution in the City Council in New York City memorializing Congress to pass H.R.7. Similar action will be taken in the New York State Legislature through Assemblyman K. Hulan Jack, William T. Andrews and Daniel Burrows.

Attendance:

There were approximately 200 delegates attending. There were approximately 25 Negro delegates.



NEW YORK, N.Y.

MEY:MTC  
100-41224

March 22, 1943

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO  
ABOLISH THE POLL TAX,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original, and one copy of the report of [redacted] relative to the conference of the captioned organization which was held in Washington, D.C. on March 9th and 10th, 1943.

Informant went to the Washington meeting as a delegate from the People's Committee of New York City. HARRISON JACKSON from the People's Committee accompanied the Informant to Washington. Informant's report gives a brief resume of the discussions that took place during both days of the conference and sets out the names of the persons participating in this conference.

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to the Washington Field Division for their information.

There is being transmitted herewith to the Bureau the following exhibits obtained by Informant:

- 2 Photostatic copies of Instructions to Delegates on Lobbying.
- 2 Photostatic copies of the Financial Statement for the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax from January 1, 1942 to February 28, 1943.
- 2 Photostatic copies of a letter on the stationery of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, reflecting the names of the officers and sponsors.
- 1 Copy of statistics on the 1942 Congressional Election, showing the percentage of population voting by states in Poll Tax and Non-Poll Tax districts.

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MBT:WTC  
100-41224

March 22, 1943

Letter to Director

The original of each of the above, as well as two copies of Informant's report, are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

ENCLS.

A. E. CONROY,  
SAC

✓ CC: Washington Field Division  
CC:

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March 28th 43.

Community War Conference  
Held Saturday March 27th, 1943.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church.  
Saul Mills, Secretary-Treasurer, Greater New York Industrial Council, C.I.O.  
presided.

Attendance approximately 200 . Majority were white persons.

Speakers:

Ferdinand Smith, Secretary, National Maritime Union.  
Channing Tobias, Member Executive Board, National Y.M.C.A.  
Assemblyman Julian Jack.

On the Platform:

Charles Collins, Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council  
Lyndon Henry, Manager, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union Local 88, C.I.O.

Ferdinand Smith:

He called for active participation on the part of the people in the community in politics. Dewey and Bennett were selected and elected because of the failure of the people to participate in politics. Paul V. McNutt was able to call off the railroad hearings and wreck the Fair Employment Practices Committee because of the failure of the people to participate in politics. We must, he asserted, resurrect F.E.P.C. from the grave in which McNutt has placed it by participation in politics. The anti-poll tax Bill was defeated because the people did not participate in politics.

The winning of the war demands that the people take a more active part in politics. They must demand a Second Front in Europe now. The troops now in the British Isles are do not have standing room. They should be used now.

He said that the appeasement forces are active mentioning by name Hamilton Fish and Martin Dies.

He urged support of the President's 7 point economic program which includes stabilization of wages, prices and rationing. Rationing is running wild and prices are running rampant he asserted.

Dr. Channing Tobias:

I wish to pay a word of tribute to the National Maritime Union. We then quoted at length from a publication called the Franciscator published in Texas. The article was ~~xxxxx~~ called, "Steamboat Pulpit". It was written, he said, by a Georgia born white man who caught the spirit of brotherhood and overcome his prejudices to such an extent that he is able to understand the union problem.

The peoples front is the answer to the Negro problem. Men like Marshall Fields are friends of the Negro. The Negro is missing his best bet by limiting everything to the racial fold. Your best bet, he said, to

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[Redacted Box]

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March 28th, 43.

Community War Conference continued.....

Dr. Channing Tobias:

place your interest in the best interest of the country. The fight for the anti poll tax bill revealed that more White persons than Negroes are disfranchised. Claude Pepper of Florida was praised for the stand he took on the poll tax. The Marcantonio Bill, H.R. 7 is assured of passage. It is the responsibility not alone for the Negro but for all citizens to fight for its passage. People are playing with dynamite in race relations by playing up muggings in Harlem. Smearing of the Negro can easily lead to smearing of other racial groups. I will eventually embarrass somebody else.

When Japan walked into Manchuria; when Italy marched into Ethiopia little did the statesmen of the world realize that some day they would face the same threat to their independence. Ironically Dr. Benes presided over the League of Nations when Italy was given the green light to go ahead in Ethiopia. His country has since been overrun by these same hordes. If white people sit by in smug complacency and say that the problem in Harlem is a Negro problem it will spread to affect other groups.

Hulan Jack:

Appealed for unity of Negroes and Jews. They have a common problem. Praised the C.I.O. for its fair treatment of Negroes. He also urged support of President Roosevelt and Russia.

I have sought the advice of those people, he said, who are interested in the Negro problem. I have taken advice from Bella Dodd. (Bella Dodd is a Communist that was recently exposed by the Hays-Coudert Committee investigating subversive activities in the school system of New York State.) (She is Legislative Representative of the Teachers Union which was expelled from the A.F. of L. for Red activities.) I have also sought and received advice from Congressman Vito Marcantonio and Clifford Mc Avoy Legislative Representative of the C.I.O.

I introduced a Resolution in the State Legislature memorializing Congress to pass the Anti-Poll Tax Bill. This Resolution was passed.

There should be unity of Democrats, Republicans, American Labor and Communists for these things in the interest of the people. I am against those seek the overthrow of the United States Government but for those who are for the interests of the people of the State of New York.

Bella Dodd and Clifford Mc Avoy have considerable influence in Albany. He concluded with an appeal for full support of the C.I.O.

Harlem Community Council:

The Harlem Riverside C.I.O. Community Council was formed. A meeting of those elected was held immediately after adjournment. The following persons were elected:

Lyndon Henry, Fur Pressers and Dyers Local 88, C.I.O.  
Ireal Parrott, United Transport Service

March 28th, 43.

Community War Conference continued.....

**Harlem Community Council:**

Lillian White, Warehouse Workers Union Local 65, C.I.O.  
Al. Bland  
J. Reed, United Transport Service.  
Ethel Mainford, United Office and Professional Workers, C.I.O.  
Thomas Jasper, Assistant Manager Fur Floor Union, C.I.O.  
Walter Bourke  
William "Bill" Caulden, Fur Dressers and Dyers Local 88, C.I.O.  
Bernice Seldon, Newspaper Guild  
Goldfrank  
Alexander

**Discussion:**

During the discussion one of the delegates arose and protested against the failure of the sponsors of the meeting to open the Conference with prayer inasmuch as it was being held in the House of God.

Carl Lawrence, member of the Executive Board of the Newspaper Guild challenged the list of persons that Saul Mills claimed were sponsors of the Conference. He stated that the the list was a phony, demanded that the alleged 200 names be read to the Conference. The chairman refused to do this on the grounds that it would take too much time. Lawrence demanded to see the list. When he looked at the names listed under the Newspaper Guild he said that as an Executive Board Member not one of the persons listed from the Guild were authorized either represent the Guild or to use its name.

Carl Lawrence has been actively combatting the Communist in the Newspaper Guild. He is employed by the Amsterdam Star News, a Negro Weekly in Harlem.

**Composition of Meeting:**

The Conference was strictly Communist Party organized and controlled. Among those taking part were Benjamin Davis, Jr. Olga Gold, Edward Strong, Herman P. Osborne.

**Motions:**

A motion was made to adopt the 5 point program submitted to the Conference. The motion was carried.

MET:JLW

New York, N.Y.  
April 5, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: COMMUNITY WAR CONFERENCE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted], dated March 28, 1943, relative to the COMMUNITY WAR CONFERENCE, held March 27, 1943, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church. SAUL MILLS, Secretary-Treasurer of the Greater New York Industrial Council, C.I.O., was Chairman at this meeting.

It will be noted that FERDINAND SMITH, in speaking at this meeting, requested that a demand for a second front in Europe now be instituted. According to informant, the present program of the Communist Party is to intensify their demand for a second front in Europe.

Informant further advised that from his observation, the conference appeared to be strictly Communist Party-organized and controlled. Informant had received no information as to whether or not this group was to become a permanent organization. He has been advised to follow and report further activities.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the New York file for information purposes.

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Very truly yours,

RECORDED  
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*DM*  
D. E. CONROY,  
S.A.C.

Enclosures - 2

C/c [redacted]

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April 19th, 43.

Communist Party members in the Trade Unions. (Partial List) New York City.

Louis Weinstein, Secretary-Treasurer, District Council No. 9 Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, A.F. of L.

Arthur Ogan, Manager, United Wholesale and Warehouse Workers of America, Local 65, C.I.O.

Max Perlow, Manager, Local 76-B, United Furniture Workers of America, C.I.O.

Henry Sechman, Business Agent, Bakery and Confectionary Employees Union Local 3, A.F. of L.

Sam Burt, Manager, Joint Board, Fur Dressers and Dyers, C.I.O.

Frank Butto, Organizer, Bakery and Confectionary Workers, Local 1, A.F. of L.

Harry Capell, General Organizer, Local 129, United Shoe Workers of America C.I.O.

Morris Gagnor, President, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, Local 905, A.F. of L.

David Green, Executive Secretary, City Central Committee, International Workers Order.

William Caulden, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union Local 88, C.I.O.

Herman Goffer, Business Agent, Pocket Book Workers Union.

Sam Kramberg Secretary-Treasurer, Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302, A.F. of L.

Jay Ruben, Secretary, Hotel Trades Council Greater New York A.F. of L.

Harry Reich, President, Cooks Union Local 89, A.F. of L.

James Lustig, District Organizer, United Electric, Radio and Machine Workers of America, District No. 4, C.I.O.

Alex Sirota, Manager, Local 140, United Furniture Workers of America, C.I.O.

Leon Sverdlove, Recording Secretary, International Jewelry Workers, Local 1, AF of L.

Conrad Rave, Secretary-Manager, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, A.F. of L.

Dr. Bella V. Dodd, Legislative Representative Teachers Union.

Bora Jones, Organizer, Domestic Workers Union, Local 149, A.F. of L.

Michael J. Obermier, President, Hotel and Club Employees Union Local 6, A.F. of L.

Henry Mc Gregor Executive Board, Red Carriers Local 147, A.F. of L.

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Received 4/19/43  
M.E.T.



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April 18th, 43.

**Communist Members in the Trade Unions continued.....**

Charles Collins, Business Agent, Hotel and Club Employees Local 6, A.F. of L.

Ferdinand Smith, Secretary, National Maritime Union, C.I.O.

Joseph Curran, President, National Maritime Union, C.I.O.

Lyndon Henry, Manager, Fur Dressers and Dyers Union, Local 88, C.I.O.

Michael Quill, President Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.

Douglas L. McMahon, Transport Workers Union C.I.O.

Austin Hogan, Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.

Ben Gold, Fur and Leather Workers.

George E. Brown, International Vice-President, Hotel and Restaurant Employees A.F. of L. Business Manager Mining Car Local 370, A.F. of L.

Abram Flaxer, President, State County and Municipal Workers of America, C.I.O.

Sabina Martinez, Organizer, Cleaners and Dyers Union, Local 329, A.C.N. of A.C.I.O.

Thomas Jasper, Assistant Manager, Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks Union, Local 128 C.I.O.

Dorothy Funn, Executive Board Teachers Union.

James Alston, Business Representative, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America. A.F. of L. Local 623.

Martin Cody, Secretary-Treasurer, Hotel and Club Employees Local 6, A.F. of L.

Gertrude Lane, General Organizer, Hotel and Club Employees Local 6, A.F. of L.

Emory C. Guinier, President, New York District, State County and Municipal Workers of America, C.I.O.

Saul Mills, Secretary-Treasurer, Greater New York Industrial Council, C.I.O.

Lewis Merrill, President, United Office and Professional Workers of America, C.I.O.



New York, New York

RE: EOB  
100-26639

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: NEW YORK AND CIO UNION  
COUNCIL  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

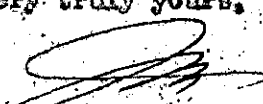
Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 19, 1943, setting out a list of Communist Party members in the Trade Unions in New York City.

The informant has advised that he can furnish some additional information concerning a number of the individuals on this list and he is presently working on a report setting out all information he can furnish concerning each of these individuals.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
W. A. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc: NY file [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/1/00

SP2 ALM/EHL

[redacted]

247  
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April 16th, 43.

Richard Wright, Author.

I met Richard Wright at the Suitcase Theatre that was located on 125th Street between 8th and St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City. The affair was given in honor of Richard Wright.

Among those who made speeches on tribute were:

Benjamin Davis Jr. Executive Secretary of the Upper Harlem Section.  
Samuel Patterson, National Executive Committee I.W.O. Columnist  
People's Voice.

Abner W. Berry former Executive Secretary Upper Harlem Section.  
Louise Thompson, Organizer I.W.O. (Now Patterson)

The affair was held as best as I can recollect in the latter part of 1937. It was attended by about 200 people mostly Party members and sympathizers.

The Suitcase Theatre was an organization formed by the Party to garner Negro actors, actresses, writers and other Negro professionals for social and political purposes. It was disbanded in 1938 because of lack of support.

Since that time Wright has been participating in various front movements of the Party.

Squires

I was informed by Josephine ~~HEINER~~ that Richard Wright is a member of the Communist Party. This information was given to me today during a conversation.

He came originally from Chicago, Ill. Member of the John Reed Club moved after the Communist Author that wrote "Ten Days That Shook The World". The John Reed Clubs were composed of revolutionary writers, artists etc.

He is a University graduate. He attended North Western University. He is married.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Received 4/19/43  
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New York, New York

MEM:NCB  
100-41674

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/1/00

RE: RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION (C)  
SUBSIDIARY


Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 18, 1943, setting out information concerning the captioned individual.

An investigation of the activities of this individual is presently being conducted by the New York Office and an investigative report setting out the results of this investigation will be submitted to the Bureau in the near future.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
E. L. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc: NY File [redacted]

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msB



Saturday April 17th, 43.

Communist Party New York State.

**"Second Front Campaign:**

I have been reliably informed that the Political Bureau of the National Committee sent instructions to all leading Party members to begin the development of a nationwide campaign for the immediate opening of a "Second Front in Europe".

Mass meetings, trade union gatherings, churches, mass and fraternal organizations are to be enlisted in this campaign. Resolutions are to be adopted and telegrams sent to the President. The objective is to develop a bigger campaign for the Second Front than there was developed before the opening of the African campaign.

The campaign for a Second Front in Europe was launched officially among Negroes at the Eastern Seaboard Conference of the National Negro Congress. It has been raised prior to that time in the speeches of Charles Collins, Benjamin Davis Jr., and Ferdinand Smith and others.

**Harlem Mass Meeting:**

The Upper Harlem Section of the Party called a mass meeting on Saturday April 17th, 4 P.M. at 141 Street and Bradhurst Ave., New York City. According to information approximately 300 people were present.

A Resolution was adopted calling for the immediate opening of a Second Front in Europe. This resolution to be sent to President Roosevelt.

All the speakers dealt with the need of opening a Second Front to aid Russia who, as they contend, are bearing the brunt of the war against Hitler. Considerable praise was heaped upon the Red Army and it is exploited. The opening of this front, they contend would hasten the end of the war.

The alleged "smear campaign" conducted by the Metropolitan press was roundly assailed. The audience was asked to boycott the Journal American, Daily News and the World Telegram. These papers they contend are enemies of the Negro people who feature crime stories for the purpose of smearing the Negro people and to create disunity.

The film Tennessee Johnson was roundly assailed as an anti-Negro and un-American film. The film is now being shown at the local Loews Theatre. The audience was asked to boycott the theatre.

**Speakers at the Mass Meeting:**

Benjamin Davis Jr. Executive Secretary Upper Harlem Section Party.  
Rose Caulden, Organizer Upper Harlem Section.  
Larry Washington, Y.C.L. member and member of Fur dressers and Dyers Union, Local 88, C.I.O.  
Al Bland, Business Agent Fur Floor Boys and Shipping Clerks, C.I.O.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/KHC  
Received 4/19/43  
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-250

New York, New York

MEM:WCB  
100-26603  
26603

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

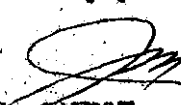
RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA,  
DISTRICT #2, NEW YORK FIELD  
DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated Saturday, April 17, 1943. This report sets out information concerning a Second Front campaign held under the auspices of the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party on Saturday, April 17, 1943. Speakers participating in this rally are set out in informant's report, as well as resolutions adopted.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

✓ cc: NY File [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETHC  
ON 8/1/00

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251

April 16th, 43.

Conrad Kaye, Secretary-Manager Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, A.F. of L. Local 623.

I met Conrad Kaye in 1933 when I was National Negro Organizer for the Trade Union Unity League. TUUL was the Communist trade union center through which the Party was attempting to build revolutionary or "left wing" trade unions. Kay was connected with the Food Workers Industrial Union affiliated with the T.U.U.L.

The Communist at that time was laying considerable stress and importance to concentration on the Packing Industry. One of the main tasks of the Party in Chicago was concentration on the stock yards. This was in line with its general policy.

In 1934 in line with the decision of the Political Bureau of the Party the Unions affiliated with the T.U.U. L. were instructed to effect mergers with the unions of the A.F. of L. on the best terms possible. The Butcher Workers Union headed by Conrad Kaye successfully arranged to merge with the A.F. of L.

In 1935 the Harlem Section of the Communist Party insisted upon a drive unionize Negro workers in Harlem. Kaye's local Union responded. James Austen, member of the Party was put on as an organizer. By 1935 practically all the Negro butchers and helpers as well as the white butchers were unionized in Harlem.

Kaye has been a member of the Party according to my knowledge since 1933. From that time until 1939 we attended Party Fraction meetings, special gatherings of leading Party Trade Unionist at which Jack Stachel spoke on important current issues.

Local 623 has participated in nearly all the United Front groups initiated by the Party. It has taken part in May Day Parades and other demonstrations called by the Party at various times.

Kaye is also head of the National Fraction in the A.M.C.B.W. of N.A.

He is to be inducted into the U.S. Army the latter part of the month.

**Description:**

Jewish. Height 6 Feet. Weight 195 pounds. Age about 35. Complexion medium. Hair dark.

**KAYE**

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP3 ALM/EHL

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Received 4/19/43  
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252

New York, New York

MEM:HCB  
100-26359

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: CONRAD HAYE  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 16, 1943, reflecting information concerning the captioned individual.

This subject is presently being investigated by the New York Office and an investigative report reflecting additional information obtained as a result of this investigation will be submitted.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
S. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc: NY File [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/1/00

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100-26359-453

April 16th, 45.

Eastern Seaboard Conference  
Saturday and Sunday April 10th, 43.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church.  
130 West 138th Street, New York City.

Supplementary Report.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

**Manpower Panel:**

The discussion was lead by: Charles Collins, Executive Secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee; Ferdinand Smith, Secretary National Maritime Union; Edward Lawson, Regional Office War Manpower Administration; Herman Smith and Mabel K. Stangers, National Association of Graduate Nurses.

**A People's Victory - A People's Peace Panel:**

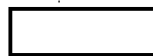
The discussion was lead: Thyrn Edwards, General Manager of the People's Voice (Negro Newspaper); Fred V. Fields, Council for Pan American Democracy; Liu Liang - Ho, Y.M.C.A. of China; Kumar Goshal, Indian lecturer and columnist, People's Voice; Herman P. Osborne, West Indies National Council.

**Democratic Rights Panel:**

The discussion was lead by: Attorney Hope Stevens, Legislative Representative, National Negro Congress; Louise Mc Donald; Rev. H. P. Medford, Federated Council of Negro Churches of Christ in America; Benjamin J. Davis Jr. Executive Secretary Upper Harlem Section Communist Party; Henrietta Buckmaster, Author; George Marshall National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

**War Time Living Standards:**

Estelle Massey Riddle; Prof. Dorey A. Wilkerson, Howard University; Edward S. Lewis, Urban League; Miss Vivian Sampson; Clifford M. Avey, Legislative Representative of the Greater New York C.I.O. Industrial Union Council.



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Received 4/19/45  
L.S.  
M.E.P.



-254

New York, New York

MEM: EUC  
100-3633

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the report of [redacted] dated April 16, 1943. This report is the supplementary report to one previously furnished by the informant concerning the Eastern Seaboard Conference held under the auspices of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City on Saturday and Sunday, April 10 and 11, 1943.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

✓ Enclosures  
cc: NY File [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED ON 4/27/79 by SP-7

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April 13th, 43.

**People's Committee**

132 West 138th Street, New York City.

Meeting of Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen.

Sunday April 13th, 1943. 6 P.M.

The People's Committee will meet on Sunday April 13th at 6 P.M. at the offices of the People's Committee 132 West 138th Street, in rooms 1 and 2.

**Order of Business:**

1. Carrying out ~~the~~ the program to abolish "Crime Wave Squad".
2. To lay plans for the Gigantic Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden, June 7th.
3. To integrate each member into ~~the~~ working with the People's Committee.

**Harlem Sugar Campaign:**

Adam B. Powell was scheduled to introduce a resolution in City Council Wednesday April 13th on the Harlem Crime Wave. I do not now have any information as to what transpired.



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PS I will cover the meeting on the 18th.

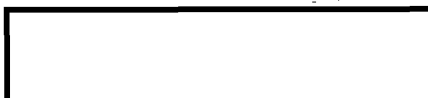
**Officers of the People's Committee**

Adam Powell Jr. Chairman.  
Joseph Ford, Administrator.  
Victoria Best, Secretary.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/EAL

Received 4/16/43

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- 256

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New York, New York

NET:NCB  
100-43415

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 13, 1943, announcing a meeting of the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE to be held on April 18, 1943.

Informant was not able to attend this meeting because of illness. He has advised, however, that he will attempt to obtain information relative to the business carried on at this meeting, and report same to the New York Office.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. A. CONROY  
SAC

✓ Enclosures

cc: NY File [redacted]

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ON 8/1/00

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April 13th, 43. } (u)

March On Washington Movement.  
New York Division.  
Meeting held Wednesday April 13th, 43.  
Presiding: Coder Brown.

(u)  
CONFIDENTIAL

Mass Meeting: } (u)

The preparations for the mass meeting on the Minired Lynn Case, to be held Thursday April 22nd, Golden Gate Ballroom, was discussed. All the members were urged to distribute circulars. (u)

On Saturday April 17th there will be a poster bill through Harlem advertising the meeting. This poster bill will be laid out directed by the Educational Director, Laylo Lane. All members were urged to come to the headquarters of the L.O.O.B. on Saturday at 3 P.M. to participate. (u)

Speakers: } (u)

Arthur Garfield Hays, Counsel, American Civil Liberties Union.  
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director March On Washington.  
Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary, National Association for the A.C.L.  
Arthur Gilbert, Attorney, handling Lynn Case.  
Dwight Mac Donald, Member Executive Board, Workers Defense League.  
Winfred Kerr, Member Executive Board, Brooklyn, N.A.A.C.P.  
Samuel B. Jack, Labor Relations Consultant. (u)

Senator Cowey's Proposal: } (u)

Senator Meridian Cowey of California, proposed to the Military Affairs Committee that a Sub-Committee be appointed to investigate the status of the Negro and other minority groups to determine the extent of compliance with the Selective Service Act's prohibition of racial discrimination. All the members were asked to support the actions of the Senator and to send telegrams and letters to the Military Affairs Committee supporting the recommendation for an investigation. (u)

Austen Madsen Bill: } (u)

The group was urged to speak out against the Bill by sending letters to their Congressmen stating their opposition to it. Laylo Lane lead discussion on the Bill stating that such a measure was not necessary when there was so much unused Negro manpower that is anxious to get into war production but are barred by discrimination. The nature of the Bill was labelled "fascist" on the grounds that the intent and purpose was to strip Americans of certain democratic rights. (u)

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DATE

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SP-104 7/19/90

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Received 4/19/43  
F.I.C.  
M.E.G.

-258

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New York, New York

MEM: NCB  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated April 13, 1943. This report sets out information concerning the meeting of this group on Wednesday, April 13, 1943, and also reflects a list of speakers who have been engaged to speak at the mass meeting on the Winfred Lynn case to be held on Thursday evening, April 22, 1943, at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City. [redacted] has been advised to attend and report on this meeting. (u)

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/1/00

✓ Enclosures

✓ CC: BY File [redacted]

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FOUNDER  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/9/90  
SP-104 7/9/90  
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ALL INFORMATION  
UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

mc13  
-259

April 12th, 43.

Josephine "Pauline" Squires.

Josephine has been a member of the Party according to my knowledge since 1937. She was always active in the downtown Section.

About 3 years ago she went to Panama to work for the War Department. She worked there for three years. She returned to the States about 6 months ago.

*Squires* At the time of her return she had some difficulty with her passport. According to her explanation she left the States and worked under the name of Pauline Squires. Her birth Certificate reads Josephine ~~Squires~~ *Squires*. There were some complications that were straightened out by Congressman Vito Marcantonio.

Since her return she has been employed by the War Department in the O.D.B. in Newark, New Jersey. I was informed that she was contemplating resigning.

Her Party name is Nelson.

Description:

Italian and Gypsy. Height about 5 feet 2. Weights about 110 pounds. Speaks Spanish and English. *age 28, hair brown, comp. dark rose - long & sharp. P.O. box 41 station C*

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/1/20 BY SP2 ALM/ENL

Revised 4/16/43

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-260

New York, New York

DET:RGE  
100-34417

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 31, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: JOSEPHINE SQUIRES, alias  
Pauline Squires  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION (C)

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 12, 1943, setting out information concerning the above captioned individual.

A review of the New York Office files reflects a confidential memorandum in New York File 100-34417 furnished by the Investigative Department of the W.P.A. in New York City, indicating that JOSEPHINE SQUIRES was known to that Department as a Communist Party member.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office. No further action toward investigating this subject is being taken by the New York Office at the present time. However, [redacted] has been requested to furnish any additional information he may be able to obtain concerning this individual.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc: BY File [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/1/00

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April 12th, 43.

Olga Gold

Olga has been in the Party for more than 13 years. I met her in Buffalo, New York in 1931. At that time she was working with Peter Chaunt who at that time was the District Organizer. Her job was that of organizational Secretary. In 1933 she was transferred to New York.

She has worked in the Party in New York ever since. She is a very capable organizer but has had difficulties working with other leaders of the Party.

At the present time she is, according to information I received, an investigator in the Work Relief Bureau.

She is also an Air Raid Warden in the 28th Precinct, 123rd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues.

Description:

Height about 4 feet 8 inches. Weights about 120 pounds. Jewish. Slightly deformed. Age approximate 42.

*(2 shoulders - one  
shoulder forward  
and twisted)*



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/ehc

Received 4/16/43

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New York, New York

MEF:ECB  
100-24417

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
April 21, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: ~~OF DA GOLD~~  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION (C).

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 12, 1943, setting out information concerning the captioned individual.

The New York Office is not taking any further action toward investigating this subject at the present time. However, [redacted] has been requested to try to obtain additional information concerning this individual.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. J. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

✓ cc: NY File [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ETHL  
ON 8/1/00

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-Y63 7008

March 22, 1943.

William L. Patterson

Patterson has been a member of the Party since 1931 according to knowledge. I met him at the first meeting of the National Committee at which I attended.

He was National Secretary of the International Labor Defense and Editor of the Labor Defender the official organ of the I.L.D.

He actively participated in the Scottsboro Case. He led the Scottsboro March to Washington, D.C. in 1933. Participating in that March were James W. Ford, J. Fitzgerald, alias William F. Cummings, Richard B. Moore, Steve Kingston, Frank Spector, Louise Thompson, Samuel Patterson all of whom are leading Communists.

He is a member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee and as such participated in the formulation of Party policy among Negroes.

He worked for approximately three years in Moscow for the Communist International as an adviser on the Negro and colonial questions. He returned in either 1937 or 38. He was sent to Chicago, Illinois where he has been active ever since.

He is a lawyer and a very capable speaker.

Description:

Dark Complexion. Height about 5 feet 10. Weights about 180 lbs wears glasses. age 47, American Negro, married

*to Louise Thompson, Nat'l. Organizer for the I.W.O. Subject now living in Chicago, Ill and member of State Committee of C.P.*

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

-264

WET:JLW

New York, N.Y.  
April 6, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: WILLIAM L. PATTERSON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 22, 1943, setting out background information concerning the captioned individual. Informant advised that the subject is presently living in Chicago, Illinois, and that he is a member of the Illinois State Committee of the Communist Party.

One copy of Informant's report is being forwarded to the Chicago Field Division for the information of that office, and two copies are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

M. E. CONROY,  
S.A.C.

Enclosures - 2

C/O - Chicago Field Division  
NY File [redacted]

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8/11/00

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March 22nd, 1943.

J. Fitzgerald alias William F. Cummings.

Fitzgerald has been a member of the Communist Party according to my knowledge since 1932. At that time I met him at a meeting of the National Committee of the Party held in Winn Hall, 126th Street near 5th Avenue in New York City. At the time he was active in the work among Negroes in the Harlem area.

He was very active in the International Labor Defense. Actively campaigned in behalf of the Scottsboro Boys.

He was also active in the work among the unemployed.

At a meeting of the National Committee he made the recommendation for the organization of the National Negro Congress which was accepted. He also actively worked with the initial group that launched the organization.

It was upon his request that the Political Bureau of the Communist Party agreed to send James W. Ford into Harlem as the organizer.

Because of certain differences with Ford he became inactive in 1939 but did not sever his connections with the Party. Until 1933 he was a member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Party and participated in the formulation of Party policy among Negroes nationally. He was at one time accused of having strong nationalistic views.

At the present time he is in Los Angeles, California. He is a reporter for the Peoples' Voice, a Negro Newspaper published in New York.

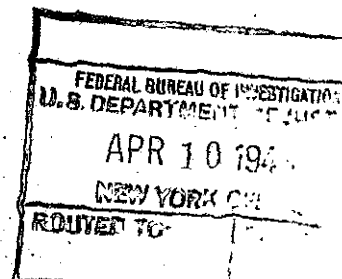
Description:

He is about 5 feet two inches. Weights about 162 pounds. Dark complexion. *age 32. British West Indian Negro*



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL



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WET:JLW

New York, N.Y.  
April 6, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: J. FITZGERALD, alias William F. Cummings  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 22, 1943, setting out background information concerning the captioned individual.

b7D

Informant advises that FITZGERALD is presently in Los Angeles, California, working as a reporter for "The People's Voice", a New York Negro newspaper, and that it is reported he is going under the name of WILLIAM F. CUMMINGS.

One copy of Informant's report is being forwarded to the Los Angeles Field Division for the information of that office and two copies are being retained in the files of this office.

Very truly yours,

D. D. CONROY,  
S.A.C.

Enclosures - 2

C/C - Los Angeles  
NY File [redacted]

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SP2 ALM/ETH

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March 23rd, 1943.

Robert "Bob" Alexander.

I had a long talk with Robert Alexander and he informed me that he was at present employed at night in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. He said he is working there as a chipper.

He has been an active member of the Communist Party in Harlem for more than five years according to my recollection. He was not considered a leader. He was merely a rank and file member that distributed leaflets and agitated among Negroes for support of the Party and its program.

He claims that he is a British subject. This is doubtful. He boasted in conversation that he was born in Australia.

**Description:**

He is tall. About 6 feet. Weights about 200 lbs. Dark Brown skin and wears glasses.

**Other occupations:**

Worked as a counterman for several years at 125th Street and Lenox Avenue. Peddled lowed pictures. Goes in for amateur photography.



b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/02 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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MEP



268

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MEF:JLW

New York, N.Y.  
April 6, 1943

Director, F.B.I.

RE: ROBERT "BOB" ALEXANDER  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:-

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 23, 1943, setting out information concerning the captioned individual. Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the New York Field Division files.

b7D

The Office of Naval Intelligence has been furnished with the information supplied by Informant concerning this individual.

No investigation will be conducted by the New York Field Office, unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

E. H. CONROY,  
S.A.C.

O/C - [redacted] ✓

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8/2/00 SP2 ALM/EHL

Enclosures - 2

[redacted]

269

April 11th, 43.

Angelo Herndon

I met Angelo Herndon, Editor of The Negro Quarterly at 148th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, New York City. He stated that he had just returned from Philadelphia, Pa.

The purpose of his trip was to establish Philadelphia offices for The Negro Quarterly. He stated that such offices temporarily have been set up in the Philadelphia Tribune Offices.

He also stated that there is considerable sentiment among Negroes in Philadelphia against the war. He criticized the leaders among Negroes in Harlem. He stated that they have no idea of what the true situation is among Negroes because of lack of contact with the Negro people and failure to develop the struggle for Negro rights practically and concretely.

The National Negro Congress in Philadelphia is practically dead. It exists in name only. The very name of the Eastern Seaboard Conference and the topics for discussion show the desperate effort of the Party to try to rebuild the Congress. He said, that in his opinion they would not succeed because they have no program. They are, he said, using a program that has already been espoused by other groups. He was ~~against~~ <sup>name</sup> the "Eastern Seaboard Conference On The Problem of the War And The Negro People". He said that it should be just the opposite "The Negro People and the Problems of the War." He suggested the putting of the problems of the Negroes secondary.

He also stated that he is getting considerable criticism from all sides relative to The Negro Quarterly. The Party members say that it is far too intellectual and for that reason lack popular appeal. He deplored this criticism.

He lives at the present time on 148th Street between Amsterdam and Broadway.

The offices of The Negro Quarterly are located at 308 Lenox Avenue, New York City.



b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

New York, N. Y.

MEET: MVW  
100-11149

April 15, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: ANGELO HERNDON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] reflecting the information furnished to him by ANGELO HERNDON, Editor of the NEGRO QUARTERLY.

According to the informant's report HERNDON advised him that he had recently made a trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of establishing an office of the NEGRO QUARTERLY in that city. The office is to be located in the Philadelphia Tribune Office Building.

One copy of the informant's report is being sent to the Philadelphia Field Office for the information of that office. Two copies are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc. - 2

cc: Philadelphia *m.m.*  
NY file [redacted]

fol 439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/LEHL  
ON 8/2/00

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April 18th, 43.

Charles Bronson alias "Carl Brodski".

Bronson was a member of the Party in 1931 according to my recollection. I first met him in 1932 at a meeting of the District Committee. He had been working in Utica, New York. He had been sent there by Peter Chaunt, District Organizer to Utica to direct the Party organization. Arrangements had been made for the local comrades to subsidize Bronson.

There were some differences between Bronson and the Comrades in Utica over question of funds for his support consequently he requested a transfer to Buffalo. It was granted. He was brought to Buffalo where he became active in the Unemployed Council, taking up cases of home relief and organizing demonstrations before the home relief bureau and City Hall on issues involving relief administration and appropriations.

He was sent during 1932 to various parts of Western and central New York to work with the local leaders of the U.C. He led strikes during this period in Lackawanna, Rochester. Campaigns of men employed on the relief projects.

In 1931, 32 he participated and took a leading part in the organization of the Hunger Marches to Washington and Albany.

His Party activities have been confined according to my knowledge, to Western New York. He had been active there prior to 1931. When I became active in 1931 he out of New York State. He returned sometime about the middle of 1931.

I worked with him until I was transferred to New York City by the Political Bureau of the National Committee.

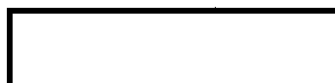
He is an exceptionally good speaker and agitator. The last know address that I have is:

Carl Brodski  
c/o Luckashvich  
503 Tilden Avenue,  
Utica, New York.

**Description:**

Age about 33. 5 feet 4. Weight about 120 pounds. American. Complexion medium. Hair black.

He is known to Luckashvich as Bronson and Brodski. He was arrested on one occasion in Utica.



272

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP-9 MRM/KW

Received 4/17/43  
g  
m 27

New York, New York

MET:EAM

May 1, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: CHARLES TROWSON, alias  
Carl Brodski  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 18, 1943, setting out information concerning the activities of the captioned individual.

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to the Albany Field Division for the information of that office and two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc. (2)

cc - [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL

ON 8/2/06



April 27, 43.

March On Washington Mass Meeting  
Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Ave., New York City.  
Thursday April 22nd, 1943.  
Golden Brown presiding. (u)

Attendance approximately 1,500. About 25 white persons (u)

Speakers: (u)

Dwight Mac Donald, Member Executive Board Workers Defense League.  
Albert Gilbert, Attorney, Lynn Case.  
Roy Wilkins, Editor Crisis, Assistant Secretary N.A.A.C.P.  
Winfred Kerr, Member Executive Board Brooklyn, N.A.A.C.P.  
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director March On Washington.  
Arthur Garfield Hays, Counsel, American Civil Liberties Union. (u)

Dwight Mac Donald: (u)

The treatment of Negroes in the army is a shame, and a disgrace.  
This is a profound moral issue. We have heard a lot about democracy  
and democratic war aims. The O.W.I. describes the war against the  
Axis as brutal. They say that the enemy is brutal enemy but not a fa-  
cist enemy. It shows what is going on behind the scenes. If the war is  
not for the Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter we should be told  
so. (u)

The war can not be won by a jim-crow army. Is this a war for democracy  
or a jimcrow war. Negroes can not win the war for justice without the  
support of large sections of the white population. Negroes will be the  
first victims of post war fascism. Any movement of fascism strikes at  
the trade unions, liberal groups etc.. (u)

The Negroes problem is not racial but social and economic. The pro-  
judices against the Negro are in the interest of the the powers that  
be that is the urban groups in the South in particular. Despite the  
gains of the Negro and the militancy that he has displayed there is  
a counter current seeking to nullify all these gains and to hamper  
progress of the Negro. (u)

Gandhi and the other leaders of India have been jailed by the Bri-  
tish. The British has made no move to consider the problems raised by  
the Indian leaders. (u)

Fascist minded French leaders and Generals are in control in North  
Africa. De Gaulle and Geraud are both fascist minded. What I am concern-  
ed with is the Arabs and the natives of North Africa. (u)

The Poll Tax filibuster was a disgrace. (u)

The action regarding the Fair Employment practices Committee was a  
scandalous deal made between the politicians of the South and the  
President. The deal was aimed at maintaining the support of the  
Southern Democrats. There is a strong tide of reaction today. (u)

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ON 8/2/00  
Received 4/26/43  
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274

[April 22, 49.] X(u)

March On Washington Mass meeting continued.....

Dwight Mac Donald: ] X(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Negroes must fight against Jim Crow. The Winfred Lynn case is a good beginning. If Negroes assert themselves they will get concessions. The threat of a march on Washington brought about the F.E.P.C. X(u)

We may be accused by the American Communist Party of being traitors and defeatists because of the stand we take but if this is a war for democracy let the leaders come out and say so. X(u)

Albert Silbert: ] X(u)

I commend the March On Washington Movement for this meeting in the interest of the Lynn Case. If we fail to make this case an issue in America, regardless of what the courts decide, we will have failed in our mission. X(u)

Negroes have live under the conditions of Jim Crow for years. They have always been deprived of their rights. Yet they have been loyal and given much to American democracy. It is a sad commentary, that on the one hand the Negro is asked to fight and to make the munitions for defense and is denied the elementary rights of American citizens. Man's inhumanity to man is responsible. The man who is down is always kicked around. X(u)

The American Federation of Labor presented resolutions against mixed units and groups according to the New York Post. The American Bar Association bars an outstanding Negro lawyer. Arthur Garfield Hays and Judge John J. Goldstein resigned in protest. X(u)

Roy Wilkins: ] X(u)

I am disappointed because the hall should be packed with white people. They should be here to hear what we have to say. The Lynn Case raises the issue of whether segregation on such means discrimination. There are two schools of thought on this subject. One deals with discrimination and the other with segregation as not related one to the other. The United States Supreme Court rules that segregation is not discrimination. X(u)

Segregation is discrimination. Discrimination in the selection of selectees for military service is a challenge to the Selective Service Act, the methods of selection and induction into the armed forces. X(u)

The air corps promised to admit Negroes. They did admit Negroes but in a segregated unit at Tuskegee. They have been utilizing this fact to say that there are Negroes in the air corps. Judge Hastie resigned because of the discrimination in the set up at Tuskegee. Only trained with fighter planes. Their training is limited. They are not given bomber training. They are not now in actual combat service. Segregation itself means discrimination. X(u)

The Army Medical Corps discriminates against Negro Doctors and nurses. X(u)

April 22, 43. (u)

March On Washington Mass Meeting continued.....

Roy Wilkins: (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

There are over a half million Negroes in the Army and there is only 165 Negro nurses. They do not want Negro nurses to care for the white boys. They are perhaps afraid that the Negro nurses will poison them. Positions of this nature are in line with promotion. They do not wish to promote Negroes. Promotion and integration would necessarily follow use of large groups of Negro doctors and nurses and they are against this. A white staff will not stand for a Negro surgeon operating on a white soldier. (u)

We can win or lose the Lynn Case by standing behind the lawyers. We must combat reaction that is now entrenched in the War Department. (u)

Wilfred Kerr: (u)

Certain Negro groups in Brooklyn spoke for the creation of a separate New York State Division of the National Guard composed entirely of Negroes. I opposed this and insisted upon integration. Jim Crow in the Army must go. (u)

It is foolish to think that we can bring democracy to a war torn world with jim crow guns and bayonets. Segregation is not a moral and political necessity but an absolute necessity. Wilfred Lynn was jailed because of jim crow induction - the policy now practiced in the army. He tested this law. (u)

A. Phillip Randolph: (u)

The local press is conspicuous by its absence. This is an unusual case. The March On Washington Movement has a definite thesis. Negroes are passing through their darkest hour. (u)

There are some who say that the Negroes believe in appeasement and that they should not be vociferous during war time. We say that Negroes must struggle to win their rights. In a revolutionary period Negroes must take revolutionary methods in order to achieve a revolutionary goal. When the war is over it will be too late. Now is the hour not only for ourselves but to purge the soul of America of discrimination. (u)

President Roosevelt is balancing pressure. The State moves according to the amount of pressure exerted and directed. Odell Wallere was sacrificed on the altar of collusion with reactionary element in the South. We spoke to Mrs. Roosevelt about the formation of a National Committee to investigate the case but were informed that it was an intra-state affair and consequently beyond the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. We cited the Mooney Case in which President Wilson appointed a Committee to investigate but to no avail. The group that can bring the most pressure is heard. What we lacked was power to bring pressure sufficient to make the State move.. (u)

[April 22, 43.] X(u)

March On Washington Movement Mass Meeting continued.....

A. Phillip Randolph: ] X(u)

The Fair Employment Practices Committee was sacrificed on the altar of prejudice. When Pres. Roosevelt went to North Africa, Paul V. McNutt issued an order calling off the hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry. A secret contract was negotiated between the carriers and the Railroad Unions with a clause that no non-promotional persons shall be hired. Negro firemen can not be promoted. Therefore they can not become firemen. Relative pressure is weighted to determine who exerts the most. It is not decided on the basis of right or wrong but on the basis of the greatest pressure that is who has the most power. The F.E.P.C. is now inactive. X(u)

The Dies Committee has undertaken a campaign to smear outstanding Negro leaders such as William P. Peters and Mary Mc Cloud Bethune. X(u)

Trade Unions refuse to admit Negroes into membership such as the Boiler Makers, Machinists and others. They have provisions in the by-laws and Constitution and rituals barring Negroes from membership. X(u)

The American Bar Association discriminates. It barred an outstanding Negro attorney from membership. X(u)

Negro soldiers travelling through the South are not allowed to eat in the dining car. Uncle Sam's uniform is an invitation to mob violence. Negroes are shot and brutalized. The Army is reeking with discrimination. X(u)

The Federal Government is instrumental in swaying the pattern of discrimination. As long as discrimination and segregation exist the Negro's status will be that of 2nd class citizenship. There is no democracy in the U.S. relating to Negroes. X(u)

The M.O.W.M. is not against the war. It is for the total defeat of the Axis but democracy can not live with British imperialism and totalitarianism. The Atlantic Charter says nothing about the darker races. X(u)

The Republicans and the Democrats are not the friends of the Negro. The two parties are twiddle dee and twiddle dee. The Socialist Party is weak and ineffective. It is sill for the Negro to join the Communist Party because they pledge allegiance to an alien power. It is bad enough to have the obstacle of race prejudice without adding the additional burden of being labelled Red. X(u)

The Negro is loyal to the Government. This loyalty should not be questioned but we can question the loyalty of the Government toward the Negro. X(u)

Anti-semitism is rising in America. Negroes must fight it as hard as they fight anti Negritude. We must fight the tide of fascism that is growing in America. X(u)

April 22, 43. X(u)

March On Washington Mass Meeting continued.....

A. Phillip Randolph: X(u)

On July 1,2,3,4, in Chicago the M.O.W.M. will deliberate on two vital questions the march on Washington and the Civil liberties campaign. X(u)

We are in favor of a mixed regiment of white and Negro soldiers. If President Roosevelt had the moral courage to do so he would form such units the people will accept. We will keep on fighting to make Pres. Roosevelt see the need of it. X(u)

Samuel Zack, Labor Relations Consultant, W.M.C.A. Radio Station. X(u)

Bullets do not draw a color line. Men who die in war time should be recognized in time of peace. If they do not recognize Negroes in time of peace they should not be asked to go to war. X(u)

I called up a number of unions relative to mixed units and they were in favor of it and pledged their support. They are against segregation in the armed forces. X(u)

I have arbitrated many cases involving Negroes relative to wages and employment. I had Ashley Totten and Dr. P.M. Savory placed on the Board of Arbitrators. X(u)

Resolution, read by the speaker, resolved that President Roosevelt be asked enforce the non-discrimination section of the Selective Service Act of 1940. X(u)

Arthur Garfield Hays: X(u)

I wish to pay a tribute to Clarence Darrow and praise him for his stand in the interest of the Negro. He read a poem from the Negro poet Countee Cullen. X(u)

I have been before the courts on discrimination by hotels, railroads and many others. I collected \$4,000 for Rev. Jett who was beaten while travelling on a train through the South. I represented The Sweets in the Case in Detroit Michigan. X(u)

The American Bar Association refused to admit Francis Rivers noted attorney and as a result I resigned. Judge Jona J. Goldstein also resigned. The New York County Bar Association and other Bar associations all over the Country are in revolt against the action of the ABA. X(u)

My objection to segregation is not because people are kept apart but from a social point of view. Boys should be trained together to know each other. There are prejudices on both sides among white and Negro people. Artificial laws and customs keep people from understanding each other. It is a mistake to train people separately. All should have the right to serve in his turn in selection for the army. The color of ones skin should not be the deciding factor. X(u)

Prejudice is instilled in the people. X(u)

April 22, 43. ] X(u)

M.O.W.M. continued.....

Arthur Garfield Hays: ] X(u)

ROONEY X

The Draft Board called upon the local Draft Board to fill its quota of 156. They were not chosen in turn. This is discrimination. X(u)

The first Judge who sat in on the hearings regarding discrimination raised by Winfred Lynn refused to listen to the evidence. The second Judge was polite but the results were the same. I don't know how the appeal is coming out. Judges are reluctant to interpret laws involving the Army during war time. X(u)

People who are oppressed always fight for freedom. A master race is fascism. When you fight fascism abroad you must at the same time fight it home. Criticism is lawful. Insist upon your right to criticize and for equal rights under the law. X(u)

Golden Brown: ] X(u)

He read a resolution to be sent to President Roosevelt regarding the re-establishment of F.E.P.C. X(u)

Dr. Lawrence Ervin: ] X(u)

Appealed for collection which netted \$164. X(u)

Merritt Hedgeman: ] X(u)

Rendered three solos. X(u)

Attendance: ] X(u)

L. 500. Sprinkling of white persons. X(u)

[ ] X(u)

b7D

RECEIVED X

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:EAM  
100-26792

May 1, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] concerning the WINFRED LYNN MASS MEETING held under the auspices of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT in New York City on April 22, 1943. ~~(u)~~

b7D

Informant has been assigned to continue to follow and report on the activities of this organization. ~~(u)~~

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/2/00

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc. (2)  
cc - [redacted] ✓

b3

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-1 on 7/9/90  
REASON FOR  
FCIM 2  
DATE FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/9/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

275

April 23, 43.

Labor for Victory Mass Meeting  
Sunday May 2nd at Yankee Stadium, New York City.

**Labor For Victory Rally:**

This rally is organized by the Communist through its leaders in C.I.O. and a number of so-called progressive Unions of the A.F. of L. All indications are that the usual May Day rally will be scrapped for the victory demonstration in New York. However, there will be May Day Demonstrations in other cities. The New York rally is the May Day Celebration.

**Objectives:**

The main objective is to reach thousands of New Yorkers with the call for the opening of a "Second Front" in Europe now. All the other issues such as world trade union unity, passage of the anti-Poll Tax Bill, and of Negro discrimination and anti-semitism revolve around the hub - the Second Front.

**Speakers:**

Joseph Curran, President National Maritime Union.  
Adam Clayton Powell, City Councilman.  
Senator Claude Pepper, Florida.  
Paul Robeson, Singer  
Dr. Wei Tao-ting, Chinese Ambassador  
Margaret Bonfield, British Labor Leader.  
Genevieve Tabouis, Editor, "Pour la Victoire"  
Mayor Fiorella La Guardia, Mayor City of New York.

**Labor For Unity and Victory Committee:**

<sup>y</sup>  
Harry Weinstein was the Director of the United May Day Committee in New York City during 1941. The Executive officers of the United May Day Committee were, Louis Weinstein, Chairman, Max Perlow, Secretary-Treasurer; Arthur Gaman, Vice Chairman. All Communists.

He was Director at the 2nd United May Day Conference, held Saturday April 19th, 1941 at Webster Hall.

Labor For Unity and Weinstein is Administrative Secretary of the ~~United May Day Committee~~ Victory Committee. The headquarters of this group is 80 East 11th Street. This incidentally is the same building where the United May Day Committee had its offices.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

b3  
b7D



New York, New York

MET:EAM  
100-47142

May 1, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: LABOR FOR UNITY AND  
VICTORY COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of a report of [ ] dated April 23, 1943, calling attention to the plans being made for the May Day Rally to be held on May 2, 1943 at the Yankee Stadium, New York City.

Informant has been advised to report on the activities of the Communist Party relative to this matter.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
8/2/00

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc (2)

cc - [ ] ✓

[ ] - 277

April 24th, 43.

Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.

Genesis of the Transport Workers Union:

During the Early party of 1934 the New York District of the Party established as one of their central tasks the organization of the Transportation system in New York City.

Various Units or cells of the Party were assigned to concentrate subway terminals, power stations for the purpose of making contacts among the employees. Large quantities of literature drawn up by the Party Unit in transport was distributed among the I.R.T. and B.M.T. employees.

The original plan for the organization of the transport system worked out in consultation with Jack Stachel, head of the Trade Union Commission of the National Committee at that time. The plans worked out in conference with Stachel was taken up at a meeting with the Party group in transport. The meeting with Stachel was held in the National Office of the Party.

Rose Kortis, at that time head of the Trade Union Commission in New York, gave the report on the meeting with Stachel. Present at this meeting was Rose Kortis, Sam Resin, Austen Egan, John Santo, Horie, Manning Johnson, and a girl named Betty.

The Trade Union Unity Council, affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League had the responsibility of working with the Comrades in transport and to assist them in their work. We met in the offices of the T.U.U.C., which was located at 799 Broadway. Rose Kortis as head of the T.U.U.C. presided over these meetings, Sam Resin and Manning Johnson participating in discussion.

At these meetings we discussed the progress of the drive with the Party members in transport, advise them on how to work in the Company union, that is to use it to reach the subway employees and at the same time not permit it to become weapon against us. The Company according to reports was the only organization among subway employees.

We also discussed question of affiliation. We decided that it would not be advisable for the small and newly formed nucleus of the Transport Workers Union to affiliate with the T.U.U.C. because it would be labelled "Red" and with such a label it would be impossible to organize large sections of the Irish who are steeped in Catholicism and definitely opposed to Communism. It was decided that the group remain independent.

We also discussed the building of the Party among the employees as necessary pre-condition for success in the drive. ~~Among the new recruits according to Jon Santo was Michael Quill whom he did not at that time want to invite to the meetings in the T.U.U.C.~~

Received 4/27/43  
JF  
MEY

- 278

April 24th, 43.

Transport Workers Union continued.....

Street meetings in Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx around subway terminals and in neighborhoods where large numbers of subway workers live were held during the drive.

The Transport Workers Lodge grew until it had several thousand members. It was decided that it affiliate with the International Association of Machinists A.F. of L. Their stay in the International Association of machinist was short lived. Dissention arose from threats of jurisdictional claims over various sections of the transport workers by the various craft Unions of the A.F. of L. In May 1937 the members voted to leave the I.A.U. and to affiliate with the C.I.O.

#### All Phases of Transportation:

The drive in the subway system was merely the starting of an intense drive to unionize the entire transportation system in New York. Interboro Rapid Transit Company was the first subway system that was organized. A referendum was held and the T.W.U. certified as the bargaining agency. On crest of this wave of success came the B.M.T. Elevated Lines, Street Car Lines, bus and taxicab companies. By the latter part of 1937 approximately 45,000 were organized in New York City.

During the period from 1935 and 1941 there were numerous strikes in taxicab field. The drive to unionize the taxi fleets was under to direction of Joe Gilbert and Forie both of whom were members of the Party. Manning Johnson, National Committee man was active with Gilbert in the Harlem area attempting to organize Negro cab drivers. Meetings were held in and around the garages and considerable literature distributed.

There have been threats of strike in the transit system. The most serious strike was in the bus drivers strike which tied up all bus transportation in New York City.

#### Independent Subway System:

Serious efforts have been made to unionize the Independent Subway System. There is, according to information, considerable opposition from employees who are all civil service employees. Considerable opposition comes from the Negro employees who get their skilled and semi-skilled jobs without the aid or assistance of the T.W.U. The Negro group meets from time to time in Harlem and are opposed to the T.W.U.

The opposition to the T.W.U. started in 1938 when a Negro by name of Bath demanded union support of his effort to get a skilled job in the I.R.T. power house, a job for which he was qualified. I was instructed to assist Comrades Quill, Hogan and Santo to straighten the matter out. A meeting was held in the offices of the T.W.U. Present at this meeting were representatives of the Urban League who took up the case of Bath. The widespread publicity given this case caused considerable fear in Party circles that it might work adversely among the Negroes. Present at this meeting was Quill, Bath, Santo, Hogan, Manning Johnson,

April 24th, 43.

Transport Workers Union continued.....

~~Editor~~ in addition to Collier and another representative of the Urban League.

Party Leaders in the T.W.U.

Michael J. Quill  
Douglas L. Mac Mahon  
Austen Hogan (now in the Army)  
William Grogan  
John Santo (Resigned from T.W.U.)



b7D

New York, New York

MET:EAM  
100-2935

May 1, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION IN  
TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION, CIO  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 24, 1943 setting out information relative to the original steps taken by the Communist Party in the organization of the transportation system in New York City. Informant has been requested to furnish additional information concerning this organization.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enc. (2)

✓ cc - [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/2/00

[redacted]

-279

March 5th, 43.

A. W. Berry

Abner W. Berry was active in the Communist Party in Kansas before he was transferred to New York. He lived with a Jewess while he was in Kansas. They had one child. They came to New York in accord with a decision of the Pol-Buro. Berry and this Jewess separated about three years ago.

I met Berry for the first time in 1935. At that time he was attending a meeting of the Negro Commission of the National Committee. I worked with him until 1939.

He replaced James M. Ford as Section Organizer of the Harlem Division of the Party.

He served as a member of the National Committee also the New York State Committee of the Party.

He was also secretary of the Negro Commission of the National Committee.

Member of the Executive Board of the National Negro Congress and played a leading part in formulating its policy and organizational forms.

He attended all meetings of the Pol-Buro, National Committee and Conventions of the Party to my knowledge until 1939. According reliable information he was present at these meetings up until his induction into the army.

In 1942 he was staff reporter for the Daily Worker.

He was never liked by the Negro Communist in Harlem. He was considered an "Uncle Tom". He was often accused of not fighting for Negro rights in the Party. He worked very closely with Theodore Bassett. The two of them were called the "siamese twins".

He was inducted in the army about four or five months ago according information. It is stated by a Party member that he is in Fort Bragg. He was inducted, according to the same informant, from the Draft Board at 125th Street and Lenox Ave.



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ALL INFO. CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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APR 20 1943	
N. Y. C.	
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G  
MEJ

NEW YORK, N.Y.

MEMPHIS  
100-21638

March 20, 1943

MEMPHIS, P.E.T.

RE: ARTHUR L. RABBY, known  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original,  
and one copy of the report of [redacted], dated  
March 5, 1943, setting out background information relative to the  
captioned individual.

The office of Army Intelligence has been advised  
of this subject's induction into the Army.

The subject in this case has previously been  
investigated by this office and two copies of Informant's report are  
being placed in the files of this case in the New York Office for  
information purposes.

Very truly yours,

ENC.

cc: [redacted]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
F. E. COLEBY,  
SAC

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281

March 14th, 43.

Sam Brown. (Samuel Brown)

I have known Sam Brown since 1935. I met him at numerous meetings at the offices of the Harlem Division of the Communist Party on Lenox Avenue.

He was active in the Upper Harlem Section of the Party. He was an active member of the National Negro Congress, worked with the International Labor Defense. Distributed Communist literature and generally agitated persons whom he came in contact with to support Communist Party campaigns. He was exceptionally well as an agitator.

He has participated in every parade and demonstration held by the Party and front organizations for several years. He took an active part in the March 19th riot that swept Harlem. Assisted in holding street meetings in Harlem in support of Party program and appealed to persons to join.

He was inducted in the Party about five months ago. According to information I received he was inducted from the Draft Board on 7th Avenue and 127th Street.

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DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELC

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F. B. I.  
APR 26 1943  
N. Y. C.  
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J  
MEG



NEW YORK, N.Y.

NY:WFO  
100-21725

March 20, 1943

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: SAMUEL BROOKS,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original, and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 14, 1943, in which he sets out background data concerning the captioned individual.

This case is presently being investigated in the New York Field Division and the copies of Informant's report are being placed in the files of this case for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

cc.

✓ cc: [redacted]

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283.0

March 14th, 43.

Louis Burnham

National Negro Youth Council ( National Council of Negro Youth)

#### Introduction:

I had a talk with Louis Burnham during the National Conference to Abolish the Poll tax that was held in Washington, D.C. on March 9th and 10th. He stated that he had just come in from Jackson, Mississippi. The work among Negro youth in the South is progressing rapidly and that they plan the calling of a Conference of Southern youth sometime during the summer.

He stated that he was having quite a bit of difficulty staying one step ahead of the law. The conditions under which they work are everything but ideal.

At the present time he is an organizer of the youth in the South operating out of Birmingham, Alabama.

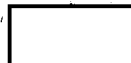
He passed out an "Open Letter To The People Of Jefferson County" as a example of some of the work they are doing in the South. The letter is an appeal for "courtesy on Common Carriers". A Comm called the "Citizens Committee for Equal Accommodations on Common Carriers" has been formed. It has offices at 526 Masonic Temple Building, Birmingham, Alabama. The Committee was formed around alleged brutalities suffered by a Miss Mc Adory at the hands of policemen after an altercation with the driver of a bus in Birmingham, Alabama. The Committee is now suing the bus driver and the police officer for damages.

#### Young Communist League:

He has been an active member of the Young Communist League for several years according to my knowledge. He has worked with Edward Strong in the preparation and organization of the Southern Youth Congress. He has been active in all youth movements for the last five years.

#### Description:

Short. Medium build. Brown eyes, Brown complexion. Has a very pleasant personality.

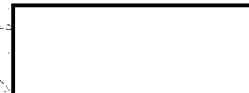


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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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#### Correction:

In my report on the National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax I erred in my spelling of Burnham name. Please correct.



284

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L  
9/18/43

NEW YORK, N.Y. 2

NET:HTC  
100-3633

March 22, 1943

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: LOUIS BURNHAM, Negro,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original, and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated March 14, 1943, relative to the captioned individual.

b7D

Informant talked to BURNHAM at the National Conference to Abolish the Poll Tax held in Washington, D.C. on March 9th and 10th, 1943, at which time BURNHAM advised the Informant that he was an organizer of the youth in the South, operating out of Birmingham, Alabama and that just prior to coming to Washington, D.C., had come from Jackson, Mississippi.

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to the Jackson, Mississippi and Birmingham, Alabama Field Divisions for information purposes.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the New York Office file.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

ENC.

CC: Jackson, Mississippi  
Birmingham, Alabama  
[redacted]

b3

285

March 30th, 43.

Louise Thompson (Negro)

I met Louise Thompson during the Scottsboro Campaign. She was going to Washington D.C. with Ruby Bates (girl in the Scottsboro Case) Mother Patterson mother of one of the Scottsboro Boys and a large delegation consisting mostly of communists. That was during the Summer of 1933.

I had been informed by Harry Haywood, former member of the National Committee, member of the Political Bureau that Louise Thompson had been in Russia with a group of Negro actors that were supposed to make a propaganda film. The project fell through and caused considerable bitterness in Negro circles. The Negro papers at the time severely criticized the Russian Government for abandoning the project.

Louise Thompson has been also very active in the National Negro Congress. She participated in the formulation of the plans for organizing it; and contributed to the hammering out of policy for the N.N.C.

She is a member of the Negro Commission of the National Committee of the Party.

She attended numerous meetings of the National Committee. She was a member of the Upper Harlem Section of the C.P.

She is Vice President of the International Workers Order (National Official). She also worked as a National Woman Organizer for the I.W.O. It was from the latter job that she received a salary.

At the present time she is in Chicago, Ill. Actively working among Negroes in Chicago's Southside.

Her husband is William L. Patterson, Communist.

Description:

Height about 5 feet 5 inches. Weight about 138. Light brown complexion. Very good agitator and organizer.



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New York, New York

MEM:HAJ

April 7, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

RE: LOUISE TUCKERSON  
(Negro)  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted], dated March 30, 1943, setting out background information concerning the captioned individual.

Inasmuch as the subject is reported to be presently residing in Chicago, Illinois, a copy of the Informant's report is being sent to the Chicago Field Division. Copies are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures 2  
cc Chicago (Enclosure)  
cc NY [redacted]

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287

Apr 28th, 43.

**Communist Party members State of New York:**

These individuals have been active in the Communist Party for many years and have actively worked for the interest of the Party in all campaigns physically and financially.

**Names and Addresses:**

Sam Abbott, Artist, 234 South Albany Street, Ithaca, New York. He for a number of years directed the Party organization there.

George Griffiths, 413 East State Street, Ithaca, New York. He was connected with the Cosmopolitan Club, Cornell University.

Beatrice Hemanios, 527 Green Street, Ithaca, New York.

Mrs. Rose Brunson, 534 North Albany Street, Ithaca, N.Y.

Mrs. Mary Payne, 206 East Street, Ithaca, New York.

Chase Brothers Farm, Trumansburg, New York. They are staunch supporters and members of the Party contributing monthly and sending regularly their Party dues.

Brown, 718 South Mc Bride Street, Syracuse, New York. Active leader in the Party organization there.

Ester Dwofsky, Rouff, Doroff, Hart, Ryan and Barok whose first names I do not remember but who have been active in the Party for many years in Syracuse, New York. I do not at the present time have their addresses.

Sam Belkowitz, Ray Meltzer, Lempi Makola, Harry Carlin also of Syracuse New York. Address unknown.

Virginia Dix, 310<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Monroe Street, Syracuse, New York.

W.C. Ryan, 619 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, New York (Polish)

Herman, former head of the Party organization in Rochester, N.Y. Office address was 580 St. Paul, Rochester, New York.

Lena Ray, 421 Joseph Ave., Rochester New York.

Ben Gerjoy 38 Union Square, New York City. C/O Kartesz. He has been a member of the Party for many years, Director of the Party Training School in Van Etten, New York, Active in the Trade Unions.

Mary Rubenstein, 3 Lyell Ave., Rochester, N.Y.

Irja Rostedt, Route 1, Erin, N.Y.

Earl Adams, P.O. Box 2 Celeron, N.Y.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELU

Received 5/3/43  
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288

April 29, 43.

Party members in New York State continued...

L.C. Brooks, 291 Main Street, Binghamton, New York.

M. Marian, cigar manufacturer, 3 Halford Street, Binghamton, N.Y.

Sofie Schachter, 7 High Street, Binghamton, New York. She lived with a family by the name of Fine. There was also were two women by the name of Adeline and Natalie who were also active in the Party movement there.

B.E. Nash, Engineer railroad, 166 Konefrick Ave, Buffalo, N.Y.

Z. Jambrowski 96 Perry Street, Buffalo, New York.

Channing Burns, Wilmot Road, Scarsdale, New York.

Emma L. Briggs. P.O. Box 73, Carbutt, New York.

Mike Brankowski, 45 How Street, Buffalo, New York.

T. Berger, 349 Victoria, Buffalo, N.Y.

Homer Carns, Collins, N.Y.

Paul and Volly Cherry, 1479 Jefferson, Buffalo, N.Y.

Drozen. Used to own a grocery store on William Street near Walnut Street in Buffalo, N.Y. He was a contributor to the Party. His daughters members of the Y.C.L.

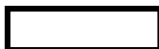
C. Dudich, 119 Madison Ave., Elmira, New York.

Mike Dudich, 263 Corton Place, Buffalo, New York.

Anna Marylow, 20 8th Ave, North Tonawanda, N.Y.

Caroline Decker whose real name is Caroline Dwofsky daughter of Esther Dwofsky of Syracuse, N.Y., was ~~xxxx~~ active in Pittsburg, Pa. The only address that I have of her is 2203 Center Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

This is a partial list.



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288

New York, New York

MET:LCM  
100-26603

May 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
DISTRICT #2, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C


Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 29, 1943.

Informant's report contains a list of names of persons known to him to have been active in the Communist Party in various districts throughout the State of New York. These individuals were known to Informant at the time he was active in the Communist Party in Buffalo during the early 1930's. Subsequent to that date, Informant advises he has known some of these individuals to be active with the Party. However, at the present time, he is unable to furnish any information as to the extent of their activities, or whether or not they are engaged in the Party activities.

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to the Albany Office and one copy to the Buffalo Office for their information. Two copies are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures - 2  
CC Albany (1 Encl)  
CC Buffalo (1 Encl)  
CC NY File [redacted]

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

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[redacted] 289



May 2, 43.

United Labor for Victory Rally.  
Yankee Stadium, New York City.  
Meeting held May 2, 43. Started 2 P.M.  
Presiding Joseph Curran, President, National Maritime Union, C.I.O.

**Preliminaries:**

The meeting was opened with the singing of the National Anthem. This was followed by a Salute to the United Nations. Members of the National Maritime Union carried the colors of the United Nations. Special tribute was paid to China and Russia. Russian sailors carried the Red Flag with the hammer and sickle. This was followed by a dance group dressed in Russian costumes that did a White Russian and Ukrainian dance.

**Ferdinand Smith, Secretary, National Maritime Union:**

In the name of the United Labor for Victory Committee I welcome you to this great people's meeting. This is a people's war. This is a unity meeting. Meetings of this kind are quite disturbing for the defeatist and reactionary elements of our country.

The following four points were cited as the basis of the meeting: 1. The immediate invasion of Europe by the United Nations. 2. Full support to President Roosevelt. 3. Closer co-operation and greater unity among the United Nations. 4. Working together of the trade unions of the world thus effecting international trade union unity.

He then introduced Joseph Curran as the chairman of the meeting.

**Joseph Curran:**

The reactionaries are opposed this meeting. The attendance is an answer to their actions. The only ones disappointed are Hitler, Goebbels and Heydrich. We then paid tribute to the working people of Leningrad who kept war production going under the rain of shell and bomb, to the people of England, China and the occupied countries. They have written a proud page in the history of the workingman.

The people in the occupied countries are anxiously awaiting the opening of a second front. We want to use this meeting as a clarion call for the immediate invasion of Europe.

Denouncing Hearst and Goebbels for "red baiting," he stated that there are at this meeting people of all political faiths who are determined to win the war. We must be aware of saboteurs, not ones that blow up industrial plants but the ones who play politics, who fight Roosevelt. The leading newspapers are the saboteurs that I am speaking of.

Trade Unions are our front line. Without them ships would not sail on time. Planes would not get out in time. The welfare of the entire world depends upon strong labor unions nationally and internationally. Phillip Murray, C.I.O. President is in favor of international Trade Union unity.

The President's 7 point program must be put into effect. There are self-is forces who seek to freeze wages without rolling back prices. Prices must be rolled back.

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 8/2/00 BY SP-8 AKM/ETH

Received 5/3/48

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[Redacted Box]

-290

May 2, 48.

United Labor for Victory Rally .....

Joseph Curran:

This meeting would be union if we did not pay tribute to the fliers who were executed by the Japanese; to the soldiers and sailors; to the merchant seamen; the men and women on the home front; the Soviet Union; the Chinese and to Britain. He concluded with the assertion that the meeting was a demonstration of unity.

Rev. A. Clayton Powell, City Councilman:

This meeting is a witness that no force in New York will divide the people. The people have a rendezvous with destiny. We will not stop fighting until we have a peoples victory and a peoples peace. We are going to fight at home and abroad until all fascists are destroyed.

Silent Tribute:

Curran asked the audience to stand in silent tribute for one minute for those who have given their lives in this war.

Senator Claude Pepper, Florida:

I am grateful to the Committee for the invitation to share in meeting. Men of little vision are sabotaging unity. Labor is demonstrating it.

During the speech of J. Stalin he said, I like that part specifically that deals with the unity of the United Nations. A bitter conflict lies ahead. The hope that the master of Europe Hitler be destroyed Russia and the other United Nations. The division between Poland and Russia was brought about by the Axis. A despicable lie was accepted by the gullible. We must not let propaganda divide good will of nations in a titanic struggle.

Denouncing John L. Lewis, he said, One leader of labor threatens not only unity of labor but also the winning of the war. F. D. Roosevelt is a true friend of labor. He has been for more than 10 years. Lewis scornful the friendship of Roosevelt is attempting to unleash the destructive forces of inflation.

He called for a permanent peace not a peace of the politicians and that our aim should be to raise the standard of living of labor all over the world in order to avoid economic competition.

Jerry Duffy, President Hotel Trades Council, A.F. of L.: (Formed by Communist)

He brought greetings from the 25,000 members of the Hotel Trades Council. Called for labor unity for a quicker possible victory among our armed forces. I regret the absence of the high leaders of labor from this meeting.

Wages have been frozen. High prices are a nightmare to workers. Prices have not been rolled back to the 1942 levels. This he said must be done.

May 9, 45.

**United Labor for Victory Rally:**

**Fiorella La Guardia, Mayor City of New York:**

Asked the audience to repeat after him the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. During the course of his speech a plane flew over head so low that it disturbed his speaking. When the plane had passed he said, those are the boys who are going to do the job for us.

He denounced John L. Lewis, calling him a vagabond whose personal feud with the President has driven him to harming the war effort. His actions is a black eye for labor. He expressed hope that the miners return to work and appealed to John L. Lewis to save his organization rather than lose all that he has built up by ordering the miners back to work.

**Michael Quill, President Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.**

Called for the immediate opening of an invasion of the European continent. He said that the people are waiting for the Tolstoy, Roosevelt, Churchill agreement for the opening of the Second Front to be carried out, now is the time. He also called for international labor unity. Unity of the trade unions of America, Britain and Russia.

**Bella Todd, Legislative Representative, Teachers Union:**

Appeal for the collection stating that the money would go for the various war relief agencies such as the USO, Russian War Relief etc..

**Edward Johnson:**

He gave an excerpt from the play "The Patriots" in which he is starring.

**Paul Robeson, Negro Singer:**

After a brief comment on the aims and objectives of the meeting he sang three workers songs.

**Horris Carnevaly:**

Read what appeared to be excerpts from the play "Counter Attack" in which he is starring.

**James Waterman Wise:**

My organization is ready and willing to unite with any group that is for the immediate invasion of Europe. The people in America worry about the Communist front when they should be worrying about the fascist front. He thanked the United Labor War Victory Committee for its support of the campaign for the Jewish victims of fascism.

**Margaret Bonfield:**

The difficulties of England at the beginning of the war and the difficulty of making Britain a Commonwealth of free and independent nations.

May 2nd, 43.

**Labor Unity for Victory Rally continued.....**

**Vito Marcantonio:**

Called for the immediate opening of a Second Front in Europe. The only ones who will oppose it will be the fascists, the appeasers, poll-taxers, Negro baiters etc. He denounced those who had come out against the Yankee Stadium meeting. He called them "red baiters". He appealed for unity nationally and internationally of all labor for a peoples victory, a peoples peace and a peoples world.

**Concaviova Tabouia:**

Spoke about the conquest of France; the activities of the French underground movement against Hitler. The attempted assassination of Pierre Laval whom she characterized as a representative of Hitler. Called for unity to destroy Hitler and restore freedom to the occupied countries of Europe.

**Awards of Merit:**

Joseph Curran presented Awards of Merit to Nick Hoogendon and Bill Izzi and also to a blind lady who was proclaimed as the foremost blood donor by the American Red Cross in New York. I did not get her name.

**Attendance:**

Estimate made by Station Guard was approximately 45,000  
Joseph Curran announced that the turnstiles show 51,740.

**Admission Prices:**

55 Cents and \$1.20 for reserved section.

I met such outstanding leaders of the Party as Charles Christiano and his wife; James M. Lord, Theodore Rosset, Michael Cherniav,



b7D

New York, New York

MET:LCM  
100-26603

May 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI


RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
DISTRICT #2, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 2, 1943 concerning the UNITY FOR VICTORY rally, held in the Yankee Stadium, New York City, on May 2, 1943. b7D

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures - 2

CC [redacted] b3

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/HL  
ON 8/2/00

[redacted] 291

April 28th, 43.

Dr. R. Cohen (Reuben)

I met Dr. Cohen in Buffalo, New York in 1933. I was introduced to him by Peter Claunt, District Organizer at that time. He was introduced as a confidant and contributor to the Party. He made regular monthly contributions to the Party and when the Party was in a pinch for funds he could always be relied upon to help out.

During 1932 and 1933 I visited his offices regularly for contributions. His contribution was a part of the monthly budget. It enabled us to operate, that is it contributed toward the conduct of Party activity in Western New York.

I was informed by him that he had been a contributor for several years.

During 1933 and 1933 he was the recipient of "Confidential Mail" from the Technical Department of the National Committee. His address was used because he was not at anytime suspected of having connections with the Party to say nothing of pro-Communist sentiments. During that time numerous letters from J. Peters, Garba, Stachel and Browder of an extremely confidential nature passed through his hands.

When ever he received such a letter he immediately contacted me. He merely stated in his message that it was important to see me. The methods of sending "Confidential Mail" has already been submitted. He always destroyed the enveloped addressed to him and gave to me the specially wrapped inner letter.

#### Profession;

Cohen is a foot specialist catering to a middle class clientele. I always visited him after office hours because he was afraid that some might recognize me or object to my presence at the office. His office was located at;

485 Main Street, Buffalo, N.Y.

This contact was given to Henry Saperd, Negro, Organizer of the Party in the latter part of 1933.

#### Description:

About 5 feet 10 inches tall. Medium complexion. Wears glasses. Weights about 180 pounds. Hair brown. Jewish. *age 45-50*

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ACM/EHL

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292

New York, New York

NET:LCM

May 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: DR. RUBEN COHEN  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated April 29, 1943 which reflects information concerning the above-captioned individual.

This individual, according to Informant, was the recipient of confidential mail from the Technical Department of the National Committee, during the time Informant was active with the Party in Buffalo, during 1932 and 1933. Informant advised that he did not know whether or not COHEN still acted in the same capacity.

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to the Buffalo Office for their information and two copies are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. B. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures - 2  
CC [redacted]  
CC Buffalo

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

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[redacted]

May 2nd, 43.

March On Washington Movement.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On Friday Evening April 30th about 8 P.M. I had a lengthy conversation with Miss Carrington who is the office secretary for the National Office of the U.O.W.M. She handles all correspondence between the National officers and the local divisions of the U.O.W.M. She types the minutes of all Executive Meetings and plans for action.

She informed me that the conference in Washington could consider:

1. The getting of a large and representative delegation from the Eastern Seaboard to attend the National Conference of the U.O.W.M.
2. Approve the recommendations for the organization of the National Confab.
3. Discuss the non-violent, non-cooperative program and the contemplated march to Washington.

Richmond Division of the U.O.W.M. is very anxious to get started on the non-violent civil disobedience campaign according to Miss Carrington.

The Conference in Washington is the first of 3 regional conferences that will be held in preparation for the National Confab.

She also informed me that Layle Lane was doing a number of things that the members did not subscribe to. For example she is mailing copies of the pamphlet on the Wilfred Lynn case to soldiers in uniform of the A.S.A. She mailed a copy to Lynn. This was done without the approval of the U.O.W.M.

b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED  
REASON  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION

SP-2 ALM/LEHL  
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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/LEHL  
8/2/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Received 5/3/43  
MEP

294

b3



April 29th, 43.

March On Washington Movement continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Walter Harden:

The white workers reacted against the Negro because of his lethargy. This situation we have overcome.

In the Fisher Body plant the white workers went on strike because 16 Negroes were given employment there. B.J. Thomas, President U. A. E. ruled against the strike. This is the attitude which the leaders take relative to the Negro.

At the Wyland Park Plant where the best American tanks are made the majority of the employees are Negroes. There are 400 Negroes working there. They could close the plant if they went on strike. The same is true of the Cadillac Motor and the River Rouge Plant of the Ford Motor Company.

In response to a question relative to Communist influence in the U. A. E. He stated that in the beginning the Communist had considerable influence. During the formative stages of the union they played a prominent role. At the present they have very little influence and this is in the main among Negroes in Detroit, Michigan.

The cost of organization of the Ford Motor Company was approximately \$300,000.00. He also cited a few difficulties with the Negro clergy and others who received benefits from Ford officials.

Harden is a Negro. About 6 foot tall. Weights about 210 pounds. Black complexion. Wears tortoise shell eyeglasses. Speaks quickly.

Washington Conference:

There will be a Seaboard Conference of the M.O.W.N. in Washington, D.C. on Saturday ~~XXXX~~ May 1st. The Conference will be held at the Negro Y.M.C.A. located at 12th and T Streets, N.W. The Conference will begin at 12 noon.

(4) X  
The purpose of the Conference is to make preparations for the National Conference of the M.O.W.N. that will be held in Chicago in July. Every effort will be made to get a wide representation of the Eastern Seaboard at the Chicago conclave.

Aldrich Turner, Treasurer, M.O.W.N.

He stated that the Cocktail Party given on Easter Sunday broke even. The mass meeting at the Golden Gate had a deficit of more than \$300.



b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 29th, 43.

March On Washington Movement.  
Meeting held Wednesday April 28th, 43  
Y.Y.C.A. Harlem Branch, New York City.  
Colden Brown presiding.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2A-ALM/ELC  
ON 8/2/00

Layle Lane:

Layle Lane stated that House of Representatives Bill, H.R. 96 should be defeated. The import of the Bill is to freeze Negroes in the locality in which they live. It will mean that Negroes who have always wanted to leave the South to better their conditions will not be allowed to do so under the provisions of the Bill. If they seek permission they will have to appear before a County Agent who will pass on the request. She urged that letters be sent to Congressmen calling for a vote against the Bill. The recommendation was accepted.

Colden Brown:

Brown sent letters to the following departments of the Government:

- a. War Manpower Commission relative to F.H.P.C.
- b. Adjutant General's Office relative to discrimination in the Armed Forces.
- c. Senate Committee on Banking and Currency relative to discrimination in the Armed Forces.

He received a reply acknowledging receipt of the letter and that the subject matter would be considered.

Walter Eardent:

He is a representative of the National Office of the United Auto Workers C.I.O. a former employee of the Ford Motor Company. Participated in the sit-down strikes in Detroit and participated not only in the working out, but also the active work of organizing the Ford plants.

He stated that he was in full agreement with the aims and objectives of the N.O.W.M. and pledged full support. He stated that he was going to take up the question of affiliation with the March on Washington Movement with the President of the United Auto Workers. The affiliation of the U.A.W. with its 63,000 Negro members and thousands of progressive white members would be of incalculable value to the N.O.W.M.

Touching on how the Negro problem is being solved in the U.A.W., he stated that the Conventions of the Union passed general resolutions which they concretely applied when they saw that America was involved in the War. They conducted discussions on Negro relations which resulted in the setting up of inter-racial committees in all the local unions. These Committees were approved by the Chicago Convention. At the present time there are 100 Inter-racial Committee functioning all over the country.

The greatest problem that we have to confront is the Negroes indifference. They never took part in the Union affairs until the shoe pinched.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Classified by SP2A/K/ee on 7-10-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
Revised 7-10-90

(u) X

(u) X

ROUTED TO	APR 18 1943	FILE
	N.Y.C.	
	RECEIVED	

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:LCH  
100-26792

May 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the reports of [redacted] dated April 29 and May 2, 1943. (u) b7D

The April 29th report is concerning the April 28th meeting of the Harlem Branch of the captioned organization. (u)

The May 2nd report reflects information obtained by Informant from Miss CARRINGTON, who is the Office secretary in the National Office of the March on Washington Movement. According to this information LAYLE LANE is reported to have been mailing copies of the pamphlet entitled, "WAR'S GREATEST SCANDAL" which depicts discrimination against the Negroes as members of the Armed Forces. Informant advises that this is being done without the approval of the M.O.W.M. (u)

Two copies of Informant's reports are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office for information purposes.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report all future plans and activities of this Organization. (u)

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
ON 8/2/00

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Enclosures - 4

CC [redacted]

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED  
REASON FOR  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7-10-90  
SP-1 [redacted] on 7-10-90  
2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SP-2 ALM/KHL  
8/2/00

May 12, 1943

REPORT ON MEETING AT ADVERTISING GUILD MONDAY May 10 FOR ELECTION OF  
B M U OFFICIALS

This meeting was held at the headquarters of the Newspaper Guild Club at 40 E 40 The St. at 7:30 May 10. All members of the Advertising Guild received cards to attend - I enclose the one sent me - and all divisions of the Book Makers Union were to be present for the purpose of nominating officers. To clarify the situation on the various divisions and groups within the United Office and Professional Workers of America of which the Advertising Guild is a part, the following is the situation: Originally within the UOPWA there were many groups covering every phase of office and professional work. Among these groups was the Advertising Guild, the Book Makers Union, the Newsstand and Warehouse Workers Union and the Free Lance Comic Strips Artists Union. Because of the small number of members in each of these divisions, it was decided to merge these groups into one division of the UOPWA. This has now been done and the name of the merged group is still the Book Makers Union (because this was the largest group of the four merged). The total membership is now 3,083 and this meeting was called for the purpose of nominating officials of the newly merged union.

Before the meeting I paid my April dues and enclose receipt for same herewith. During the course of the meeting I sat next to Reba Souchis (alias Ruth Scott) a member of my branch in the Communist Party, and the one who arranged my joining of the Advertising Guild. She was formerly art editor of New Masses and now does art layouts for Esquire Magazine. Chairman of the meeting was Jane Benedict who is at present President of the Book Makers Union. Before the business of nominations came up there were several reports given on the status of union activities ~~gkxgkx~~ by the incumbent officials. (I inquired of Reba Souchis how long Benedict had been president of the BMU and was told that she had been as long as Souchis could remember. It is unusual to have a woman president of a union but Benedict seems to be extremely capable efficient and popular with the union members.)

Present also at this meeting was Charles Morris who conducted a class in Victory and After for our branch in the Communist Party. He came from our section. He seemed surprised to see me at the meeting. I believe he is now working for the Viking Press - mainly because in front of him at the meeting sat three or four young girls I know work at Viking - he constantly leaned forward and gave them instructions on who to nominate, what to say, etc, although he himself said nothing. He also teaches at the Workers School.

Before nominations were made, the Treasurer made a report to the union. It seems that during the last year he has with his committee cleared up a debt of \$1000 but he didn't state in the meeting what the debt had been for.

Jane Benedict made a report on the accomplishments of the union and the work of the Executive Board during the last 6 months. I felt at a bit of a disadvantage since I knew nothing about the activities of the union (having just joined) and therefore cannot make a complete report on what Benedict said. She spoke for at least one and a half hours but it was difficult for me to take notes on what she said because Miss Souchis was seated next to me throughout the meeting and it would have seemed suspicious for me to take notes.

5-18-43  
B-16.2.5

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However I was able to take down the names of the various nominees because as I explained it was necessary for me to take the names down or I wouldn't know who to vote for.

Elections on people nominated at this meeting will be held in June. The offices for which candidates were nominated at this meeting are as follows:

President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, Director of Organization, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Sergeant-at-arms, Trustees, CIO Council members, Executive Board members and election committee members.

All except members of the Election committee were nominated, members of the election committee were elected. Elections will be held in June and between now and then the election committee are to look up the backgrounds of the ~~various~~ various people ~~nomina~~ and make reports on them to the membership of the union so that ~~every~~ every member will be familiar with their qualifications. There are many references to the bylaws and constitution of the Union during nomination, and I shall try to get a copy of these bylaws as soon as possible.

#### NOMINATIONS

President: Jane Benedict  
Vice-President: Allen McCormick  
Duane Barry  
Exec Sec'y: Jane Benedict  
Director of Organization: Aaron Schneider  
Treasurer: Murray Lesack  
Recording Sec'y: Leona Biel  
Wilson Morris  
Sergeant-at-arms: Lillian Lustig  
Trustees: Ann Andrea  
Bob Waterman  
Organizers: Margaret Fenning  
Henry Chedakoff  
Rudie Messing  
Roda Lewis  
Abe Rose

CIO Council Members: Jane Benedict  
Abe Rose  
Roda Ordman  
Harriet Sacks  
Bill Griffin  
Leona Biel  
Alec Susser  
Sidney Charney  
Slin Rabinowitz  
Allen McCormick

Executive Board: Pat Martin  
Rudy Bass  
Ruba Souche  
and about 75 ~~others~~ others—it was impossible to get all names.

WES:GWA  
100-4449

NEW YORK, N.Y.

May 20, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE UNITED OFFICE  
AND PROFESSIONAL WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] These reports dated May 12, 1943 pertain to a meeting of the Advertising Guild held on May 10th for the election of the book and magazine officials affiliated with the above captioned organization.

The enclosed postal card entitled: "Dear Mr. President" was obtained by Informant at instant meeting and the enclosed postal card entitled: "CONNECTION" and "REINDER" was received by Informant through the mail.

Informant advises that she is enclosing the April dues receipt of the above captioned organization. This receipt is being retained in Informant's file of the New York Office.

A copy of Informant's report is being designated for the New York investigative file pertaining to this case.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
Special Agent in Charge

Enc: 4

cc: [redacted] ✓

439740

SP2 ALM/EHL

8/2/00

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My 13th, 43.

March On Washington Movement.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A., New York City.  
Golden Brown presiding.

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

Layle Lane:

Reported on efforts of Congress to Amend the Oriental Exclusion act to grant citizenship to Chinese. She requested that the I.O.F.M. go on record against such an amendment because it excludes other Orientals. She advocated the abolition of the entire act. During the course of questions, one asked Miss Lane if she felt that the Japanese in America should be given citizenship rights the reply was "yes". The New York Division went on record against the exclusion of any Orientals from citizenship.

Reporting on a conference with the New York Housing Authority relative to alleged discrimination in housing facilities provided for Negroes, Miss Lane stated, that the Chairman of the Authority in New York said that the Negroes constitute only one sixth of the population and that they have over 15% of the apartments available. He further stated that some representatives of the Negro people asked for 25% and if she was in favor of that request. I stated that I was against establishing such a figure and insisted that all applications regardless of race should be accepted on their merits. She condemned Frank Crosswaite the first and only Negro on the New York Housing Authority on the grounds that she did not like his attitude.

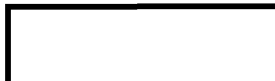
Some of the members expressed the opinion that the action was not in accord with the decision of the Local Division which was to invite Mr. Crosswaite to speak but not to select a delegation to the N.Y. Housing Authority.

Pressure and Pressure Groups:

Charles Lawrence student at Columbia University is writing a thesis on pressure and pressure groups. He was invited by the Educational Committee to speak on this subject. He gave a few negative and positive aspects of the Iyan mass meeting. The speakers he said were good attendance poor, should have had mass singing; refusal of press to attend meeting; insufficient work put in to make meeting a great success. He advocated the use of some of the methods of the Communist Party regarding organization.

A. J. Johnson:

Johnson is chairman of the Dollar a Month Club. He gave a brief report on the progress the club is making regarding new members and urged the members to pay their dollar and urge their friends to contribute.



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Received 5/14/43  
JME

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100-26792  
MET:PS

New York, New York

May 17, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 13, 1943.

b7D

Informant's report sets out matters discussed at the meeting of the New York Branch of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT held Wednesday evening, May 13, 1943, at the Harlem Branch of the YMCA, New York City.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further concerning the activities of this organization.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. B. Conroy  
Special Agent in Charge

CC: [redacted]

439740

8/2/00

SP-2 ALM/EHL

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Enclosure



May 18th, 43.

People's Committee Square  
Freedom Rally meeting to be held at Madison/Garden.  
Presiding Frank Griffin.

Edward Smith:

Delegates of the National Maritime Union, N.M.U. asked the chairman what was being done to get the Puerto-Rican people involved in the Madison Square Garden meeting. He said that there are both white and black Puerto-Ricans and that every effort should be made to involve them in the meeting.

Dorothy Mann:

Dorothy Mann said that every effort was being made to get the people of Queens involved in the Garden meeting and that there was a meeting of the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the N.A.A.C.P. to rally the people of Queens to participate in the meeting.

Frank Griffin:

Every effort is being made to contact Puerto-Rican leaders for support of the meeting. We met with them once but without success. We are continuing our efforts. One of the central demands that will be raised at the Garden meeting is for the independence of Puerto-Rico.

Present at the meeting was Audley Moore and Moran Western. The gathering was dominated by the Communist Party.

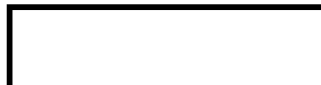


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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Received 5/15/43  
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May 14th, 43.

**People's Committee**

Meeting Held Thursday May 13th, 43.

Abyssinian Baptist Church, 133 West 138th Street, New York City.

**Presiding Frank Griffin:**

The meeting was opened by the chairman Frank Griffin who spoke briefly about the preparations for the mass meeting at Madison Square Gardens on June 7th, 43. Every effort should be made to pack the Gardens and to have thousands on the outside.

Frank Griffin is a member of the Communist Party. He has been for more than 9 years. He was for a number of years organizer for the International Labor Defense in Harlem. He was jailed in Cuba for attempting to work with Communist elements against Benedicto and Batista. He was finally deported from Cuba. He has been active in the Harlem Section and is a member of the Party there.

**Speakers:**

The speakers at the Madison Square Garden meeting will be:

Rev. A. Clayton Powell  
Representative Vito Marcantonio  
Charles A. Collins  
Dr. Channing Tobias

**Drama by Langston Hughes:**

A drama "For This We Fight" will be presented directed by Dick Campbell.

**Other Participants:**

Paul Robeson, W.C. Handy, Pearl Primas, Canada Lee.

Leaflets were given out for distribution also posters and each person was assigned a specific area to cover. Dorothy Dunn, General Secretary Negro Freedom Rally sold and distributed tickets.

**Headquarters:**

Negro Labor Victory Committee  
67 West 125th Street, New York City

Brooklyn Committee  
422 Franklin Ave., New York City

People's Committee  
133 West 138th Street, New York City.

Dorothy Dunn stated that they have not been so successful in getting work going in Queens. The Queens Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. is working with the Negro Labor Victory Committee. They will meet Saturday Nite.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELC

Received 5/14/43  
F. J. NEY

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100-43415  
MET:PS

New York, New York

May 17, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

RE: PEOPLES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 14, 1943, concerning the captioned case and a supplemental report dated May 15, 1943, dealing with the same matter.

There is also being transmitted herewith two circulars advertising the Negro Freedom Rally to be held at Madison Square Garden on June 7, 1943. The Bureau's attention is called to the paragraph on this circular entitled, "End Jim Crow in the Armed Forces". Consideration should be given to the furnishing of this circular to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for their opinion as to whether or not such statements constitute a violation of the Sedition Act.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further concerning the activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report, as well as one copy of the circular mentioned, are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

439740

8/2/00

SP-2 ALM/EHC

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy  
Special Agent in Charge

CC: [redacted] ✓

Enclosure

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May 16th, 43.

Upper Harlem Section Communist Party  
Street Meeting held Saturday May 15th, 43.  
126th Street Lenox Ave., New York City.

*O* Mary Batiste:

Spoke against the closing of the Savoy Ballroom which is one of the oldest recreation centers for Negroes in the Harlem area. The pretext for closing the Savoy was a complaint made by the Army. It is an obvious attempt to break up the inter-racial affairs that were held from time to time at the Savoy. They did not like to intermingling of races. Negroes are not welcome in the dancehalls downtown. The police department on a flimsy excuse closed the finest center of recreation for Negroes in the Community. She urged that letters and cards and resolutions of protest be sent to the authorities, namely Commissioner Valentine and Mayor La Guardia protesting against the closing of the Savoy and demand that it be reopened.

The hotels, dance halls and public places in white communities reek with prostitution and all manner of vice why don't they clean up those communities? They are attempting not only to smear Harlem but to take away those few places where they can find recreation.

A Negro woman was raped in Brooklyn by seven white men. They were dismissed for so called lack of evidence. This sort of thing goes on. Negro women have been raped by white men ever since they were brought to this country that is the reason our race is so mixed. They brought diseases of every kind among the Negroes that were never known to them before.

She said that she had fought for the rights of Negroes for many years. A fight which I began when Negroes were on relief. I have a son in the army. I am against Jim Crow in the army. I will continue to fight for my people.

*O* Larry Washington:

Member of the Fur Floor Boys Union, C.I.O. Has been a member of the Party about 3 years. Speaks very well on the platform. He called for the passage of the anti-lynching Bill; the anti-poll tax Bill and urged the audience to write their Congressmen urging them to pass these Bills. He called for support of the Madison Square Garden Rally on June 7th and a mass trial for "so-called mugging in Harlem" that will be held next Sunday. Leaflet attached.

Literature was sold at the meeting.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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Received 5/17/43  
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MEY

- 302

New York, N. Y.

439740

100-26603  
MET:DW

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

May 19, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: STREET MEETING, SATURDAY, May 15, 1943,  
UPPER HARLEM SECTION COMMUNIST PARTY  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, relative to a street meeting held by the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party on Saturday, May 15, 1943, at 126th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City. This informant has been advised to attend and report on Communist Party street meetings which may be held in Harlem during this summer.

Informant also submitted to the New York Field Office an advertisement for a meeting at the African Orthodox Church Auditorium, 122 West 129th Street, New York City, on Sunday, May 23, 1943, at 4:00 P.M. This meeting is sponsored by The Lincoln-Douglass Club of the Communist Party, 428 Lenox Avenue, New York City. According to the circular the discussion at this meeting will be concerning unnecessary brutality by the police force, and the smear campaign by the white press against the Negroes of Harlem.

[redacted] also furnished a circular advertising a Peoples Rally for Victory and Freedom to be held at the Beulah Baptist Church, 41-43 West 140th Street, New York City, at 3:30 P.M., on May 23, 1943. This meeting is sponsored by the Civil Liberties League, I.P.B.O.E. of W. and the following is a list of the speakers for this meeting:

CHARLES COLLINS, Negro Labor Victory Committee  
LUDLOW WERNER, Editor of Age  
THYRA EDWARDS, Editor of Peoples Voice  
SARA P. SPEAKS, Elks Civil Liberties Attorney  
H. MORAN WESTON, State Civil Liberty Chairman

The topic for discussion at the above meeting will be Civil Liberties in Wartime - End Jim Crow in Armed Forces.

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100-26603

May 19, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] has been advised to attend  
the above mentioned meeting at the Beulah Baptist Church.

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Two copies of the Informant's report and the previously  
mentioned circulars are being retained in the appropriate files  
in the New York Field Office.

Very truly yours,



S. W. CONROY  
SAC

Encs. (2)

CC: ~~NY~~ [redacted]

b3

May 18th, 43.

William "Bill" Dunn:

During my conversation with Otto Hall On Saturday Evening May 15th after a meeting of the Union Square Section of the Com- called for support of the Madison Square Garden Rally on June 7th; he stated that Bill Dunn was at the present time working in the Brooklyn Navy Yard as an electrician. This was Bill's old trade before he became active in the Western Federation of Miners.

Bill was a member of the National Committee for many years, according to my knowledge since 1931. He was removed from the National Committee and the Political Bureau of the National Committee, as far as I can recollect in 1935 for irresponsibility and drunkenness. He was sent to various parts of the Country to assist the Party Comrades in their trade union problems, he would get drunk and would not show up for several days after the appointment. He was brought up on charges and removed from all leading committees.

He was Editor for the paper issued by the Western Federation of Miners. He worked with the Trade Union Unity League during its effort to organize the miners, steel workers, textile and other groups.

He is considered one of the most brilliant members of the Party and was at one time considered for the position that Browder now held but on account of his persistent drinking and irresponsibility all consideration of him was dropped. Often at meetings of the National Committee and Conventions fellow members used say what a brilliant mind that fellow has, he should be head of the Party. His political judgement and analysis was seriously pondered by all leading Communists. He participated in the Hunger Marches to Washington organized by the Unemployed Councils.

Description:

About 5feet 10 inches in height. Weights about 220 pounds. Speaks english brilliantly in conversation and on the platform. Well versed in labor history. Dark hair. About 55 years of age.

Otto stated that he has not touched a drink now in nearly four years.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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Received 5/17/43

7/1/43

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New York, New York

MET:DAL

May 20, 1943

In reply please refer to file #100-19420

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: WILLIAM F. DUNNE  
Custodial Detention C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated May 16, 1943 concerning the captioned individual. Informant advises that DUNNE is presently working as an electrician in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The Office of Naval Intelligence has been advised of DUNNE'S present employment.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Office.

Very truly yours,



F. E. CONROY  
SAC

ENCL.  
CC; NY

[redacted] ✓

DECLASSIFICATION IS ON 8/30/79

BY SP-3

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[redacted] 100-19420-21



May 16th, 48.

Mattie Wallace:

I met Mattie Wallace in 1933 the latter part of the year. At that time she was a member of the Party and is at the present time.

In the early part of 1934 there was a case of discrimination in the Bronx Cooperative Houses (a communist institution). I was called in by the New York District to give a series of lectures on the Negro question every Sunday morning for 10 weeks for Party members and sympathizers for which I was given 10 a lecture. Mattie at that time was one of the students.

She has been active for years in the Party around the Coop and in the Williamsbridge Section. In Williamsbridge there is a small Negro community that the Party has been attempting to penetrate. Meetings have been arranged there to get them involved in the Party activities directly and through front organizations. Very little success has been achieved because most of the Negroes there are what the Party considers middle class because they have above the average jobs.

In addition to her membership in the Party, she was a member of the National Negro Congress, Scottsboro group.

Her last known address was Cooperative Colony, 2700 Bronx Park East.

Description:

Age about middle forties, complexion brown. Height about 5 feet five. Weight about 125 pounds.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP 2ALM/EHL

Received 5/17/43

W E G.



306

New York, N. Y.

100-34461  
MET:DW

May 18, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: MATTIE WALLACE  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 16, 1943, setting out background information relative to the captioned individual.

MATTIE WALLACE is presently the subject of an investigation in the New York Field Office and the Bureau will be furnished with an investigative report concerning this matter in the near future.

Very truly yours,

  
E. H. CONROY  
SAC

Enc.

CC: [redacted]

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8/2/60 SP-2 ALM/EHL

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[redacted]

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DW

May 16th, 43

Otto Hall:

I had a lengthy conversation Saturday evening May 16th with Otto Hall. We met during a street meeting called by the Upper Harlem Section of the Communist Party at 128th Street and Lenox Avenue.

I was informed by Otto that there was considerable opposition in the Party upper circles regarding Ford's leadership. He made serious mistakes on the Negro question particularly during the Finnish-Soviet War. His position was that all issues including the Negro issues should be temporarily shelved for the greater issue of winning the war and that on this basis the Negroes should be rallied. This line he pursued until Earl Browder was released from prison.

When Browder was released, he scathingly denounced the position of Ford, taking the position that the small issues of struggling for the rights of the Negroes was an integral part of the win the war program and that the broader issues could not be solved without winning the rights of the Negroes. This resulted in the loss of considerable prestige for Ford.

The old policy of the Party was to remove leading Communist who make serious political mistakes of this kind. The new policy of not "destroying" Comrades politically was evolved after Browder's release. This saved Ford. While they did not destroy him politically they have stripped him of a great deal of his power.

The evolution of the new policy resulted from the expulsion of Richard B. Moore and Cyril Briggs. Browder told Ford in no uncertain terms that there was no reason for their expulsion, that there were no issues that could not have been solved if effort had been made. The loss of so many leading members of the Party during Browder's incarceration caused considerable alarm and brought about Browder's political criticism and rebuke of Ford's political line.



b3  
b7D

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

Received 5/17/43  
g  
MEP



308

New York, N. Y.

100-9364  
MET:DW

May 19, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

Re: JAMES W. FORD  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C


Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated May 16, 1943. Informant's report sets out information furnished to him by OTTO HALL relative to criticism of FORD's leadership among the Negro Communists.

b7D

[redacted] has been advised, if possible, to obtain additional information from OTTO HALL in regard to the present status of FORD as the Negro Communist leader.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enc.

CC: NY [redacted]

439740

EXAMINED BY

SP 2 ALM/EHL  
8/2/00

b3

May 18th, 43.

Otto Hall:

I was informed by Otto Hall that his brother Harry Haywood former member of the National Committee and the Political Bureau of that Committee is at present head of the Workers School in Los Angeles California.

Haywood is one of the oldest Negro members of the Party. Considered an outstanding authority on the national and colonial problems. He has written numerous articles for the "Communist" (theoretical magazine). He is credited with the drawing up of the Thesis of the Communist International on the Negro question.

A graduate of the Lenin School.

Haywood was removed from the National Committee after his return from Spain as a result of certain political differences that he had with leading Communist there. Browder asked Haywood not to go to Spain on the grounds that heroes were not necessary for leading comrades. However Haywood insisted. This gave James W. Ford the opportunity he had been waiting for. There had always existed a great deal of professional political jealousy between the two.

*to go to Spain with International Brig.*  
Haywood's decision was the result of personal difficulties with an Armenian comrade with whom he lived. A girl who is dilettante in her love affairs. Her name was Mary Sanghian.

The last known address of Mary Sanghian was 2074 Arthur Ave., Bronx, New York. I think she lived with her family there.

Haywood is at the present time living on a Government pension. He served in World War I.



b3  
b7D

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Received 5/19/43

W.C.P.



-310

New York, New York

MET:DAL

May 20, 1943  
CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

RE: HARRY HAYWOOD  
Custodial Detention C.

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 18, 1943 setting out information concerning HARRY HAYWOOD. Informant advised that HARRY HAYWOOD is presently head of the Worker's School in Los Angeles, California.

b7D

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to Los Angeles for the information of the Los Angeles Field Division and two copies are being retained in appropriate files in the New York Field Office.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

ENCS.

CC: Los Angeles (Enc)

NY [redacted]

b3

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP3 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

May 18th, 43.

Otto Hall:

Lives at:

225 West 121 Street  
Apt. 3 New York City.  
c/o Hubbard.

At the present he is working in the Fur Industry and is a member of the Fur Dressers and Dyers Local 83 C.I.O.

He informed me that when he worked on a YPA project in New York City as an instructor in Russian, which he learned while in Russia, he wrote a book for children in the primary grades.

At a meeting attended by Paul Browder, James W. Ford a representative of the Soviet Government he was highly praised for this work. The Soviet Government representative said that it went a long way and was a valuable contribution to American and Soviet friendship. It was, Hall said, a reflection on Ford that such a compliment should come from the Soviet Government.

I was not informed where and when the meeting was held. This incidentally came up during a discussion of James W. Ford and the leading Negro Communists that he removed from leading positions, others who were expelled from the Party.

He also stated that Richard B. Moore and Cyril Briggs have been invited to rejoin the Party. To date they have not returned but the door is open to them.



b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/2/00 BY

SP2 ALM/EHL

Received 5/19/43  
MEY



b3

New York, New York

LET:DAL

May 20, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI


RE: OTTO HALL  
Custodial Detention C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated May 18, 1943 which reflects information concerning the present activities of OTTO HALL. Informant has been advised to maintain contact with this individual for the purpose of obtaining full information concerning his activities and concerning the activities of the Communist Party.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in appropriate files in the New York Field Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

ENCS.

CC: NY [redacted]

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/2/00

SR2ALM/EHL



May 17th, 43.

Patrick "Pat" Toohey

He has been a member of the Party for more than 12 years. He was active in the steel and mining strikes in Penn. in 1931,32.

In 1933 met him in the National Office of the Trade Union Unity League (The Communist Trade Union Center". At that time he and his wife were editing the magazine "Labor Unity" the official organ of the Trade Union Unity League. William Z. Foster was Secretary of the T.U.U.L. with offices at 80 E. 11th Street New York City. It was in his capacity of Editor of "Labor Unity" that he was sent to various parts of the country to assist Party members in the trade unions in their activities.

He was also an instructor in the Workers School in New York. All outlines on trade unionism for the students were prepared by him.

The work of the TUUL was directed by Jack Stachel, member of the National Committee and the Political Bureau along with Pat Toohey.

Pat Toohey's wife was Secretary to Jack Stachel and of Toohey. She handled all correspondence. She also worked as one of the stenographers at meetings of the National Committee and at Party Conventions since 1931.

He has been active in New York State office and the National Office of the Party.

At the present time is Chairman of the Michigan State Communist Party.

Mrs. Toohey gave birth to a child in 1934 in New York City.



439740

b7D

8/2/60 SP2 ALM/EHL



314

b3

New York, New York

MET:DAL

May 20, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: PATRICK TOOHEY  
alias Pat Toohey  
Custodial Detention C


Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated May 17, 1943 setting out information concerning the captioned individual. Informant advises that TOOHEY presently is Chairman of the Michigan State Communist Party.

b7D

One copy of Informant's report is being sent to Detroit for the information of the Detroit Field Office and two copies are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONNELLEY  
SAC

ENC.

CC: Detroit (Enc)  
NY [redacted]

439740

INDEXED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
8/2/00

b3

315

May 20th, 43. (4)

March On Washington Movement:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Benjamin F. Mc Laurin) (4)

Supplementing the report of Aldrich Turner, he stated, that the main problem is to raise the \$12,600.00. This can be done if we all work. We can not expect very much from the Negroes in leading positions whose positions are the result of jimcrow. These people have a stake in jimcrow. It is the little Negro who works and toils for a living that feels the injustice and the pinch of discrimination that must be contacted to give from \$1 up.

We could get all the money we need if we would let the barriers down and admit white people. We could get this money without any serious effort. In fact one person offered us \$100,000.00 for the M.O.W.M. We did not accept the money because we do not want white people in the M.O.W.M. Considerable pressure is being brought to bear on us to change our policy. There was a delegation from Detroit, Michigan that appeared before the National Committee requesting admission of white people. Their request was denied. A much larger delegation waited on us in Washington, D.C. We again informed the comrades that their offer of a membership of 163,000 was not an inducement to admit white persons into the M.O.W.M. Negroes everywhere may join but if the joining of any group of them also means the admission of white persons who are members of the organizations of which they are a part then we do not want these Negroes. There are thousands of Negroes in the Country that are not organized and who want such an organization as we propose. The South is waiting and is a ripe field.

(u) X The members in Chicago are very enthusiastic about the coming Confab and are sure that the money can be raised. They are going to have 2 full pages in the souvenir journal. New York can not afford to be behind, we must have a full page and after that we will think about a second. Greetings from individuals and groups for the journal must be solicited.

We are going to send a letter to J. Finlay Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks, asking that he urge all the Lodges of the Elks to take up a collection for the M.O.W.M. The same steps will be taken regarding other National Fraternal and Civic organizations. We plan to cover all Negro churches request the Pastor to take up an after collection for the M.O.W.M.

At least 25 delegates should go from New York to the National Confab. We want to send our best and most capable floor men because we will have some sharp shooters coming from various parts of the Country who may attempt get the Conference to deviate from it's program. We have capable people here in New York who have had such experience and every effort should be made to get them to Chicago.

The main theme that will ring through out the Confab will be "Free Africa". At the Confab we are going to lay the basis for a nationwide

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

( May 20th, 43. )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## March On Washington Movement:

( Mc Laurin continued. )

Free Africa Movement. Through this campaign we can lay the foundation for hemispheric solidarity of the darker races. Every race and nationality are putting forth their demands that will be presented at the Peace Table. The Negro must prepare now to get a seat at that Table and to present the demands of the Negroes. If we do not prepare now after that body meets it will be too late. The nationwide Free Africa Campaign will also lay the foundation for a Hemispheric Conference that is to be called prior to the Peace Conference to select a delegation to go to the Peace Conference where ever it is.

The idea of non-violent direct action has already taken hold in various sections of the United States. Negroes in Washington are beginning to go into restaurants and ask for service. In Chicago Negroes went into large restaurant that has for the last 20 years refused to serve Negroes and insisted upon service. The "buck" was passed from the owner to his wife. When she was called she passed it back to him. He finally passed it to the help. In the meantime service was held up. Crowds were waiting in line. A minister in the group took the occasion to offer a prayer and to make a short sermon. Finally the management was compelled to serve the Negroes. Many of the white patrons were in sympathy with the Negroes. Similar action was taken in another Chicago restaurant which forced the management to serve the Negroes. After they served them they tossed the plates ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ which they had used and the money which they paid for the food out onto the street behind the Negroes. Later the management came out and picked up the money.

In Denver, Los Angeles and other places similar action is taking place.

There are other organizations that are trying to steal our thunder but they can never steal the program of the M.O.W.M. We are already established and we have corps of trained and well knit people like this group that are able to carry on and are sufficiently indoctrinated to meet any situation. There is a new group that is attempting to project a national organization with a program similar to the M.O.W.M. It is called the "Core".

He did not elaborate further on this new group nor did he mention where this group is forming. I will discuss the matter with him further at the first opportunity.

## Guest Speaker:

Donelan Phillips, Consolidated Tenants League gave a brief talk on rent ceiling and rent control.

( [ ] )

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 20th, 43.)

(u)

(u) \* [ March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held May 19th, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.  
Colden Brown, President presided.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

The Ohio Teamster:

The Ohio Teamster is a paper issued by the Teamsters Union in the State of Ohio. In a recent editorial, according to Colden Brown, an attack was made against A. Phillip Randolph, National Director of the March On Washington Movement branding him a traitor of the Negroes. The editorial after citing the advancements made by the Negroes concluded that the program projected by Randolph was one that would cause racial antagonism and conflict. The editorial also branded the non-violent direct action campaign "camouflaged treason".

Colden Brown attacked the editorial and the leaders of the Teamsters Union as reactionary. They said nothing about the discrimination, jim-crowism, segregation and other ills that beset the Negro. They do not offer any constructive program to solve the Negroes problem. This is the type of reactionary opposition that the M.O.W.M. has to fight.

Communications:

Colden Brown stated that the M.O.W.M. receives many communications from persons in the armed forces who complain about the difficulty to get transportation in the South, that the wearing of Uncle Sam's uniform means practically nothing. They are subject to numerous abuses and widespread discrimination.

National Committee Meeting:

The National Committee of the M.O.W.M. was held in Chicago, Ill., last week end.

Members of the National Committee

J. A. Burns, Meridan, Mississippi.

Mrs. Senora Lawson, Richmond, Virginia.

C.L. Dellums, Oakland, California.

Miss Layle Lane, New York City.

Thurman T. Dodson, Washington, D.C.

T.D. Mc Neal, St. Louis Missouri.

Rev. M. C. Strachen, Tampa, Florida.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

Classified by *SP-2 ALM/EHL* 7-10-81  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
*review 7-10-90*

(u) \* [ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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(2)

May 20th 43. (u)

March On Washington Movement:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

National Committee Meeting: (u)

National Officers

A. Philip Randolph, National Director.

E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary.

Benjamin F. Mc Laurin, National Secretary.

Aldrich Turner, National Treasurer.

Dr. Lawrence Ervin, Eastern Regional Director.

Dr. Charles Westley Burton, Mid-Western Regional Director.

Harold Stevens, Counsellor.

Neill Scott, Public Relations.

Dean William Stuart Nelson, Chairman, National Advisory Board on Mass Action and Strategy.

Aldrich Turner:

Reporting on the National Committee Meeting, he stated, that the meeting was well attended and that it concerned itself mainly with the arrangements for the National Conference.

The projected budget is \$12,000.00 to be raised between now and June 15th. Approximately \$6,000.00 will be used for publicity. The bulk of this will be spent for full page ads in all Negro Newspapers also white newspapers such as the New York Times and the Chicago Herald Tribune. A Committee was set up to handle publicity.

The Statement setting forth the program of the M.O.W.M. has not been completed but will be ready by the middle of next week. This statement will be published in all Negro and as many white papers in full page ads.

The meeting set up a Committee to arrange for accommodations for the delegates.

The National Committee decided to move their headquarters to 47th St. and South Parkway because they did not like their present location. It will be in the vicinity of the "Center Department Store".

The funds necessary to conduct the National Conference will be raised through individual contributions, contributions from churches, fraternal, labor, civic and other organizations. A souvenir journal will also be issued as a means of raising funds.

Benjamin F. Mc Laurin

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(u) &

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
New York, New York

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

LET:EG  
100-26792

May 24, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 20, 1943 concerning a meeting of the New York branch of the March on Washington Movement held May 19, 1943 at the Harlem branch of the YMCA. (u)

Informant's report lists the names of the members of the National Committee and the national officers of the March on Washington Movement and sets out information relative to the National Committee meeting held in Chicago, Illinois. Information contained in the informant's report and other pertinent information concerning the March on Washington Movement will be furnished to Chicago and other interested offices in the near future. Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York office for information purposes. (u)

Informant has been advised to continue his reports on the activities of this organization. (u)

Very truly yours,

439740

8/2/00 SP 2 ALM/EHL

Enc.  
cc - [redacted]

S. E. CONROY  
SAC

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 1/2/80/2/10/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 7-10-90  
317

May 24th, 43.

Communist International:

I had a lengthy discussion with a leading member of the Party relative to the decision of the Presidium of the Communist International to abolish the Communist International. He stated that when he was at the 6th World Congress of the Communist International in 1928 it was stated that eventually they would face a situation in which it would be necessary to liquidate the Communist International.

He pointed out that the Communist International was composed of the leaders of the Party from many countries who gathered together to exchange experiences for the mutual benefit of all. This form of organization was necessary because the Communist Parties had not grown up, that is, that they were not mature. In 1928 the Communist Party in the U.S.A. was torn by factionalism and had not become a well knit homogenous Party following the line of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

Since that time the Communist Parties in all countries have matured into real Leninist Parties that are able to conduct their activities in their respective countries without leadership outside of their respective countries. The leaders of each Party know the situation in their own country, they know the Party line; they react to the developments within their respective countries.

In 1940 the Communist Party of U.S.A., by resolution severed affiliation with the Communist International because of the development of a situation that would have made it impossible for the Party to function. It was in the interest of the Party to sever these relations because of the passage of a Federal Law calling for submission of membership lists of all organizations having alien connections. The action of the Communist Party U.S.A. was approved.

The Communist International as a world center of Communist leadership has out lived its usefulness and is considered now a hindrance to the development and strengthening of the Communist Parties in their respective countries. The Communists are not married to organizational forms. Forms of organization serve a definite purpose at a given historical period. When it becomes a hindrance it is scrapped and new methods and forms are devised.

The decision of the Presidium of the ECCI gives the Communists wide latitude to maneuver and to work in their respective countries. It takes away from the anti-Communist forces a powerful weapon of alien connections which they have used effectively. It gives the American Party and all other Parties of the Communist International the answer to the "red baiters" and "appeasers" and "enemies of Russia".

Moreover, he said, it gives the Communist Party of Britain an opportunity to seek unity with the Labor Party of Britain.

There will be considerable unclarity among Party members, even leading functionaries consequently considerable discussion will be necessary for clarity. I have, he said, just come from a meeting at which the decision of the E.C.C.I. was discussed.

The revolutionary movement must be developed by the Party on the basis

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2ATM/CH

Received 5/24/43  
ME 9

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May 24th, 43.

Communist International continued.....

of the situation in a given country. The conditions in various countries differ. Each has its own peculiarities. Who knows best to handle the situation than the leaders of the Parties in their respective countries. Mistakes will be made because the Parties are not perfect but they are sufficiently mature in Leninist theory, strategy and tactics to meet each and every development. Leninism, he reminded me, "is not a dogma but a guide to action".

Some circles will attempt to create the impression that the decision of the ECCI means the abolition of the Communist Parties. It is to their advantage to foster such illusions. The Communist Parties will continue to function. It does not indicate or imply any change in policy. It is merely the scrapping of an outmoded organizational form.



May 24th, 43.

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The revolutionary movement must be developed by the Party on the basis

Received 5/24/43  
2189

[Redacted]

318

May 24th, 43.

Communist International continued.....

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b7D

234 U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEM:MOB  
100-4931

May 26, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:


There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 24, 1943, setting out information furnished to him by Otto Hall, relative to the abolishment of the Communist International.

According to informant, Otto Hall, negro, is a member of the Communist Party and brother of Harry Heywood, also a member of the Communist Party.

Informant has been advised to keep in touch with Otto Hall for further information concerning the Communist program.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. W. Conroy, SAC

cc/ [redacted]

439740  
RECEIVED BY SP2 ALM/EAL  
8/2/00

b7D

b3

May 24th, 43.

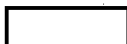
Timothy Holmes:

I was informed that Timothy Holmes is still a member of the Party. He has not been expelled. It is true that he had some difficulties with the Party. Most of them were of a personal nature arising from his marriage to a Jewess.

However this was not the entire reason for his removal from leadership. According to the informant, he used a false passport when he went to ~~attend~~ the Lenin School in Moscow. The Government was digging into it consequently he was advised to lay low for a while.

Timothy was one of the group of Negro students in the Lenin School in 1931 that was involved in a factional fight with the white students in which the white students branded the Negro students "Negro Nationalists" and the Negro students branded the white students "white chauvinists". The situation became so acute that Earl Browder was called to Russia to assist in straightening out the situation. Browder was able to straighten out the situation. Some of the principles in that affair were later expelled. Excerpts of the speech of Browder delivered to the students at the Lenin School were published in the "Communist" April, 1932.

I was unable to get any information as where Timothy Holmes is at the present time.



b7D

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELC

Received 5/24/43  
MEG



- 320

b3

224 E. Court House  
Wiley Square  
New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEM:MOB  
100-14581

May 26, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: TIMOTHY HOLMES, NEGRO  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 24, 1943, relative to the captioned individual.

In addition to the information set out in informant's report, informant orally advised that Timothy Holmes, to his knowledge had been an active member of the Communist Party for approximately 12 years; that after a course of training in the Lenin School in Moscow, Holmes returned to the United States and took a leading part in Communist Party activities, first as a section organizer and later as a member of the New York State Committee and member of the National Negro Communist Party. He was also an organizer in the Needle Trade Union and active in the National Negro Congress.

An investigation concerning Timothy Holmes is presently being conducted by the New York office and informant has been requested to obtain the location of Holmes and any additional information available to him relative to his background and activities.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York office.

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/2/00

Very truly yours,



E. E. Conroy, SAC

cc [redacted]

b3

**ELECTED:**

Election Committee: Flo Kahn  
Violet Salzer  
Ellen Hawes  
Ann Bolt  
Owen Middleton

A new amendment was added to the bylaws to the effect that organizers will be ~~proposed~~ proposed by the executive board but elected by the membership of the union, and that ~~that~~ there would not more representatives on the executive board. Formerly two representatives at large were elected but actually served no purpose because although they were allowed to speak at meetings they had no vote.

Voting on these nominees will be held the week of June 14th. There will be as I understand it several discussions before that of the various candidates and the reports prepared by the election committee on these candidates.

This was the only business conducted at this meeting which lasted from 7:30 to 11:30 PM



(May 10th, 1943.)

(14)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# March On Washington Movement

## (4) National Committee Meetings:

I was informed by Miss Harrington, Secretary in the National office that Miss M. Pauline Myers is in Chicago, Ill. Making preparations for the meeting of the National Committee that will be held next week.

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL

ON 8/2/00

## National Conference Headquarters:

Conference Headquarters will be at the Chicago Headquarters, March On Washington Movement, 4804 South Parkway, Chicago, Ill. M. Pauline Myers will direct the work at the above office.

## Division Activities:

Intense activities are being conducted by the Local Divisions of the M.O.W.M. to get the largest possible representation from the following key centers:

New York City  
Chicago, Ill.  
Detroit, Michigan  
Washington, D.C.  
Tampa, Florida  
Los Angeles, California  
Oakland, California  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Richmond, Virginia  
Meridian, Mississippi

Classified by ~~SP 2 ALM/EHL~~ on 7-10-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite renew  
7-10-90

## Activities of Regional Officers:

The Regional Officers direct the preparations in the regions assigned to them. Their job is to assist the local divisions in their respective regions, build additional divisions in other cities in the course of the preparations for the National confab. Considerable stress is laid on selling the M.O.W.M., getting delegates and building local divisions. The Regional Officers are assisted by the National Officers.

## National Officers:

A. Phillip Randolph, National Director.  
M. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary  
Benjamin M. Maurin, National Secretary  
Aldrich Turner, National Treasurer.

All the National Officers are visiting the various cities in preparation for the Confab with the exception of Aldrich Turner.

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Received 5/12/43

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March On Washington Movement continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(u) ~~X~~ Regional Officers:

Dr. Charles Westley Burton, Mid-Western Regional Director of the N.A.A.M. was formerly the Regional Director in that territory for the National Negro Congress. He directed all the arrangements for the 1st National Negro Congress in Chicago, Ill and has directed until recently all the activities of the National Negro Congress in that Region. He was not to my knowledge a member of the Party but worked in co-operation with the Communists and directed their most potent front organization among Negroes on the Southside in Chicago. He worked with such outstanding Communists as Harry Haywood, William Patterson, Louise Thompson, Fairclough Dyer, Hank Johnson (now expelled), James W. Ford, John P. Davis.

Miss Myers and Dr. Burton will work together in the preparations for the Conference.

(u) ~~X~~ ( )

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(May 8th, 43.) (U)

March On Washington Movement ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Meeting held May 5th, 43.  
Y.W.C.A. 135th Street Branch,

Golden Brown presided.

Finances:

The Dollar A Month Club is conducting a drive to get as many contributors as possible in order to cover the expenses of the New York Division. Every member was asked to contact individuals that would give one dollar a month to the M.O.W.M. This would enable them to stabilize their budget. Mr. Johnson chairman of this Club reported that some progress has been made in getting members.

Guest Speaker:

The guest speaker was James Farmer, ~~Editor~~ Fellowship of Reconciliation. He was invited by the Educational Committee to speak on the non-violent civil disobedience campaign.

He praised the M.O.W.M. for contemplating such a nation wide action which he considered one of the most effective means of winning the Negroes rights. He outlined four things which he said were essential namely:

1. Stop cooperation with Jim Crow. There must be a vigorous refusal to cooperate with discrimination and Jim Crow.
2. This program of non-cooperation must be embarked upon without bitterness and hate.
3. There must be a stubborn and persistent refusal to resort to violence. One tenth of the population, speaking of the Negro, can not resort to violence without being wiped out. Violence he said is not a part of the Negroes history.
4. The success of the non-violent civil disobedience campaign depends entirely on training, ~~and~~ discipline and organization. This is a vital prerequisite because violence will be inflicted upon all those who take part in such action. We must be ready to sacrifice and even die for the principle for which we struggle.

The old techniques of boycott must be discarded. The Negro must be made to see and understand that the new methods of nonviolence and direct action constitute the only technique essential to win their rights.

He advised against launching immediately a nationwide civil disobedience campaign with the warning that such a campaign must be properly prepared. A nationwide campaign will cause a national explosion. He suggested that local movements be started first in cities like New York, St. Louis, Kansas and Washington, D.C. This will enable us to gauge the situation and give us the necessary experience for the nationwide action.

Immediately after the Chicago Conference when it adopts the program, local

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Date of Declassification Indefinite ~~Remain~~ 7-10-90

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

323

( May 6th, 43. ) (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(u) ~~X~~ March On Washington Movement continued.....

conferences should be held by the local divisions for the training and disciplining of participants. This is essential to avoid violence being precipitated by members and supporters of the M.O.W.M.

He also stated that he was going to attend the Chicago Conference and participate in the working out of the program.

He introduced a guest, a Rev. J. Halsea Smith who, according to his statement, was in India for 9 years. He left India because he refused to take an oath not to do anything that was detrimental to the British Empire.

Pamphlets:

Attached hereto is a copy of a pamphlet issued by the FOR relative to the nonviolent civil disobedience campaign that was sold to the members.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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MET:MBJ  
100-26792

439740

May 14, 1943

DIRECTOR, FBI

DISSEMINATED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
8/2/00

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is being transmitted herewith the original and one  
copy of the reports of [redacted] dated May 6, and  
May 10, 1943. ~~(u)~~

Informant's report of May 6th is concerning a meeting of  
the New York branch of the March on Washington Movement, held May 5, 1943  
at the Y. M. C. A., 180 West 135th Street, New York City. ~~(u)~~

Informant states that the guest speaker at this meeting was  
JAMES FARMER of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. He was invited to speak  
on the non-violent civil disobedience campaign which is now being considered  
by the March on Washington Movement. ~~(u)~~

After outlining the steps which he considered essential for  
carrying out such a program, FARMER advised the audience that he would be  
at their national conference in Chicago and would participate in working  
out their program. ~~(u)~~

Informant also furnished a copy of a non-violent action  
news bulletin entitled, Civil Disobedience - Is It the Answer to James Crow,  
edited by JAMES FARMER. The first page of this bulletin states that A.  
PHILIP RANDOLPH issued a press release on December 30, 1942 stating that  
the March on Washington Movement would consider launching a broad national  
program based on non-violent civil disobedience and non-cooperation modeled  
along the lines of the campaigns of MOHANDAS K. GANDHI. Such a program,  
it is stated, would call upon all liberals except those on duty in the armed  
forces or at work, for a stated period to disobey any law which violates  
their basic citizenship rights, such as Jim Crow Cars and all forms of dis-  
crimination. They would be asked to exercise their civil rights and eat in  
all places in every city where citizens normally dined, to boycott Jim Crow  
Cars in the South and ride in the cars provided for citizens generally and  
to refuse to go into Jim Crow waiting rooms but to enter the normal waiting ~~(u)~~

Classified by SP1 JAH/uc on 7-10-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite ~~review~~  
7-10-90

Rec'd for  
File 6/1/43  
[initials]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] 324

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-26792

Letter to the Bureau

May 14, 1943

rooms provided for everybody. If ejected, it is stated, they should not fight back but should constantly keep up this program in an orderly, peaceful and quiet manner. ~~X~~(u)

The bulletin further states that the Fellowship of Reconciliation feels that such a program is so momentous as to merit a great deal of vigorous discussion. Hence, the non-violent action news bulletin has submitted a series of questions to a number of individuals representing different points of view and varying shades of interpretation. The questions set out in this bulletin which have pro and con answers furnished by various individuals are:-

- " 1. Should Negroes practice organized civil non-violent disobedience to Jim Crow systematically disobeying laws and violating customs which manifest segregation and raise discrimination?
2. What consequences, good and/or bad are likely to come to the Negro people as a result of such disobedience?
3. What should be the relation of progressive and sympathetic whites to, and/or their role in such a venture of civil disobedience?
4. What organized framework would be required to execute such a program of civil disobedience? "

It is also noted in this bulletin an article, stating that on January 26, 1943, on the 15th anniversary of the signing of India's Declaration of Independence, 20 persons picketed the British Consulate in New York City, demanding that the Britain of Democracy renounce the Britain of Empire and free India now. LAYLE IANE is mentioned among those who picketed the Consulate. LAYLE IANE is one of the officers of the New York branch of the March on Washington Movement.

The news bulletin is being placed in the exhibit files of this case in the New York Office.

Informant's report on May 10th states that E. DANIEL MYERS is in Chicago, Illinois making preparations for a meeting of the national committee to be held in Chicago next week. Informant was unable at the time of furnishing this report to furnish information as to the exact date ~~X~~(u)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-26792

Letter to the Bureau

May 14, 1943


of the meeting. Informant has been advised to ascertain if possible the date of the national committee meeting. When this information is obtained, it will be immediately furnished to the Chicago Field Division. ~~(u)~~

Informant also furnished a copy of the March on Washington Movement program for the national conference to be held at Chicago, Illinois on June 30th, through July 4th, 1943 and a mimeographed list of the names of sponsors of the Inter-racial Fellowship and Testimonial Banquet in honor of A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, scheduled to be held at the Palmer House in Chicago, Saturday, July 3rd, at 6:00 P. M. ~~(u)~~

The program for the Chicago conference and the mimeographed list of names of sponsors for the testimonial banquet are being retained in the exhibit files of this case in the New York Office and two photostatic copies of each are being enclosed. Copies of the same belong with pertinent information from the informant's reports and are being furnished to the Chicago Field Division. ~~(u)~~

has been advised to follow the activities of this organization and furnish this office with all additional information which he may be able to obtain. One copy of the program for the national conference in Chicago and the list of sponsors for the testimonial banquet in Chicago are being retained in the exhibit files of this case and two copies of the informant's reports are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office. ~~(u)~~

Very truly yours,

  
D. A. GURNOY  
SAC

cc - NY   
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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May 27th. 43. (n7) ~~7~~ (u)

Classified By SP 1/2 Category 2  
Exempt from GDS category  
Date of De-classification September 7-10-90

Colden Brown presided.  $\int \Phi(u)$

Correspondence:  $\mathcal{F}(u)$

Golden Brown read a copy of a lengthy letter written by a soldier to President Roosevelt. It was "An Open Letter To President Roosevelt" The letter had already been sent. A copy was sent to the W.O. W.M. offices. The letter was a complaint against treatment of Negro soldiers and civilians. (u) 439740

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP3ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

E. Pauline Myers:  $\int \Phi(u)$

Miss Myers gave a brief report on the National Conference preparations stressing the importance of putting over the financial drive. A local finance committee was formed at Miss Myers suggestion to raise money for the full page advertisement. ~~7~~ (14)

A. Phillip Randolph: (X)(u)

The New York Division is allowed 25 delegates. The entire Country is looking to New York. New York must have a full delegation. If the New York Division does not send their full quota of delegates those who attend will be allowed to cast all 25 votes in the business sessions. Only delegates elected by the M.O.W.W. will be allowed to participate in the discussion and voting on the momentous questions before the Conference. (X)(u)

The Conference shall decide, 1. the date and time when we shall march to Washington. 2. Approve the launching of the non-violent direct action campaign. 3. Breaking down of Jimcrow in America. (X)(u)

President Roosevelt has appointed Father Neas Chairman of the Fair Employment Practices Committee. We ought to send him a letter of congratulation. I do not know much about his background. We should also send letters Milton Webster, William Green, Phillip Murray for remaining with F.E.P.C. during the time when efforts were made to destroy it. We should continue to demand that F.E.P.C. be taken out of the War Manpower Commission and given independent status and adequate funds. (X)(u)

All the recommendations were approved. (X)(u)

Mobile, Alabam Race Riot: (X)(u)

Golden Brown gave a brief report on the race riot at the Pinto Island Shipyards in Mobile, Alabama. According information the riot was precipitated when white employees objected to work alongside of Negro employees. Thousands of Negroes engaged in vital defense work are at (X)(u)

Received 10/19/43

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ b3



May 27th, 43.

March On Washington Movement continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the present time idle. Several Negroes were injured. The sending of a letter to President Roosevelt requesting his intervention in the situation was passed unanimously. (u)

A letter be sent to the Department of Justice requesting a thorough investigation of the individuals responsible. (u)

( ) (u)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
New York, New York

MET:EO  
100-26792

June 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated May 27, 1943, reflecting information obtained by informant at a meeting of the New York branch of the March on Washington Movement held May 26, 1943. (u)

Complete information reflecting the current activities and plans for the National Convention of the MOWM in Chicago to the extent that it was available to the New York office is presently being prepared for transmittal to the Chicago Field Division and other interested offices. (u)

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of the March on Washington Movement. (u)

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York office.

439740

RECORDED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
8/2/00

Very truly yours,

AVK

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

cc - [redacted]

Classified By ~~SP-2 ALM/EHL~~ on 7-10-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite ~~renew~~  
7-10-90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

386

May 26th, 43.

(U)

March on Washington Movement

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I was informed that Layle Lane purchased 100 copies of the pamphlet "The Wars' Creates Scandal". She originally asked for 1000 on credit which was denied her not without protest. I talked with the National Office Secretary and the National Executive Secretary about the report that Layle Lane was mailing copies of the pamphlet to members of the armed forces. They informed me that she was not authorized to do so by the N.O.W.M. They did not have any information regarding the persons or the number mailed to the men in the armed services. Layle Lane merely stated that she had sent a copy to Conrad Lynn and other persons. (U)

The National Executive Secretary stated that Layle Lane is sabotaging the N.O.W.M.; that she is linked with Trotskyite elements and certain disgruntled persons all over the country with whom she is communicating with. This she told me was off the record and that she was not ready to make this information public. There is a move on foot to get rid of Layle Lane but it has been hindered by certain influential persons like Aldrich Warner, National Treasurer who view the question merely from a financial angle. The consensus of opinion is that the money Layle Lane gave should be returned and that future contributions should not be accepted. The National Officers holding this view say that Layle Lane feels that because she gave a large contribution to the N.O.W.M. that she can run it. (U)

During recent discussions involving policy Layle Lane has called A. Phillip Randolph, National Director a dictator, because her views were not accepted. (U)

Moreover without authorization from the N.O.W.M. she sent a letter to the New York Housing Authority in the name of the N.O.W.M. making false and erroneous charges which she appeared was unable to substantiate. She later reported the action to the N.O.W.M. Frank Crosswaite the Negro member of the Housing Authority reported her actions and warned the officers of the N.O.W.M. against allowing persons unauthorized to use the name of the N.O.W.M. (U)

The "CORE" which I mentioned in a previous report is an organization that is being formed in Chicago, Ill. that is attempting to operate on a program similar to that of the N.O.W.M. The CORE is the Committee On Race Equality. It is, according to information composed of Trotskyites and some members of the clergy. (U)

The National Association For The Advancement of Colored People have recently formed a "Non-violent Direct Action Committee in the Civil Rights Section of the N.A.A.C.P. This is independent of the N.O.W.M. In fact the N.O.W.M. is not a part of it. I have been unable to get any further information on this new set-up at this time. C

(U)

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[Redacted]

- 327

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Received 5/26/43  
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439740

May 25th, 43.

(u)

March On Washington Movement

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

List of Additional Branches:

(u)

Pittsburg, Pa.  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Flint, Michigan  
Meridian, Miss.  
Gainesville, Florida  
Jacksonville, Florida  
Richmond, Virginia.  
Washington, D.C.  
Birmingham, Alabama.  
Mobile Alabama.  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Salt Lake City, Utah.  
Newark, New Jersey.  
Buffalo, New York.  
New York, N.Y.  
West Medford, Mass.  
Cleveland, Ohio.  
Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Chicago, Ill.  
Los Angeles, California.  
Denver, Colorado.  
St. Louis Missouri.

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/2/00

(u)

Classified By ~~SP-1~~ ~~ELC~~ on 7/10/80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
7/10/90

In reply to a query as to prior information regarding the schedule of the National Officers of the M.O.W.M. may I state that their itinerary is not available through the National Office. In most instances they are on a tour involving work for the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The Local Divisions arrange meetings for them to cover while they are in the city, taking up matters pertaining to the Union. Their transportation and expenses are arranged not by the M.O.W.M. but the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The B.S.C.P. is an AF of L. affiliate of which A. Phillip Randolph is the National President and Ben Mc Laurin National Field Organizer. While on tour of activities of the Union they assist in building the M.O.W.M. (u)

Beginning June 1st, 43 the National Office of the M.O.W.M. will be in Chicago, Ill. until after the National Conference. E. Pauline Myers and Helena Carrington are leaving Tuesday June 1st for Chicago where they will remain until after the National Conference. (u)

(u)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Redacted Box]

- 328

Received 5/26/43  
ME9

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NET:HGF  
100-26792

June 4, 1943

Director, FBI

~~Classified by~~  
~~Exempt from GDS. Category~~  
~~Exempt from automatic downgrading and~~

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the reports of [redacted] dated May 25 and 26, 1943. ~~(u)~~

In connection with the information furnished by informant in these reports reference is made to the Bureau letter to New York dated May 12, 1943 in which the Bureau requested that efforts be made to verify previous information to the effect that LAYLE LANE has been mailing copies of the pamphlet "The War's Greatest Scandal" to members of the armed forces, and also a request to obtain evidentiary information reflecting the identities of the recipients of the pamphlet, the extent to which it had been circulated, and whether or not approval had been given to this action by the March on Washington Movement. ~~(u)~~

Informant's report of May 26th states that LAYLE LANE purchased one hundred copies of the pamphlet and according to E. PAULINE MYERS, the National Executive Secretary of the MOWM, and Miss CARINGTON, National Office Secretary, some of these pamphlets had been mailed to members of the armed forces. Informant advises that neither of these individuals were able to furnish any information regarding the identities of the persons to whom the pamphlets were mailed with the exception of information reported to have been furnished by LAYLE LANE herself to the effect that she had mailed a copy to CONRAD LYNN. LANE is also reported to have not been authorized by the March on Washington Movement to do this, and according to MYERS, there is a move on foot to expel LAYLE LANE from the organization because of this and other unauthorized activities in which she has participated. ~~(u)~~

There is also being incorporated with this letter two photostatic copies of a draft of a news release which is to be published in all negro papers and certain white papers concerning the purpose and activities of the March on Washington Movement. Informant advised that this draft was drawn up by E. PAULINE MYERS and is later to be edited by A. PHILIP RANDOLPH. Informant stated that an additional paragraph dealing with ~~(u)~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Letter - Director  
100-26792

June 4, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the positive achievements of the negroes will be added to this material. (u)

Informant has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization. (u)

Two copies of the informant's reports and one copy of the photostatic material mentioned above are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enca.

cc

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

June 2nd, 43.

Otto Hall:

Otto is one of the oldest Negro members of the Communist Party. In fact he, his brother Harry Haywood, Richard B. Moore and Cyril Briggs constituted the nucleus of leadership among the Negroes.

He is a graduate of Eastern University in Moscow, U.S.S.R. He attended the 6th World Congress of the Communist International in 1928. Worked in the Communist International during the time he was in Russia.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska. He is in his early fifties. Speaks Russian very fluently. Taught Russian on a WPA project in NYC.

He was one of the founders of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights - an organization composed of Negroes and whites who were dedicated to the struggle for equal rights for the Negro in the North and "self-determination in the Black Belt". He was sent to Buffalo, New York in 1930 to build the branch there. A large and effective branch was formed. It was through his activities that I was brought into the Party. At street meetings, mass meetings and other affairs the people were invited to join the L.S.N.R. the Party fraction to <sup>work</sup> on the best element among those who joined to get them into the Party.

Otto was for many years a member of the National Committee and served on numerous other Party Committees, National, State and District.

As a result of differences with James W. Ford, he has declined all positions of leadership and at the present time hold no leading position. He is invited, however, to meetings at which all important actions are discussed. he is considered one of the most reliable and trustworthy Negro comrades.

He is at present shop chairman in a fur shop where he is employed. He is active in the union and the Party fraction. He attends Party meetings regularly and participates in the work of the Harlem Section.



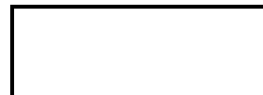
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/2/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Received 6/8/43  
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New York 7, New York

NET:LCM

June 12, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETH  
ON 8/2/00

Director, FBI

RE: OTTO HALL  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated June 2, 1943, setting out information concerning the captioned individual.

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According to Informant, OTTO HALL is shop chairman of the Fur Dressers' and Dyers' Local #88, CIO. Informant's report of May 18, 1943, which was previously submitted to the Bureau, reflects that he is presently residing at 225 West 121st Street, Apartment #3, New York City.

[redacted] has been advised to maintain contact with HALL for the purpose of obtaining further information concerning his activities and the activities of the Communist Party. A new case is being opened in the New York Office, in which all information furnished concerning this individual will be included.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*A. K. K.*

E. H. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures - 2

CC NY File [redacted]

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[redacted]

331



June 4th, 43.

March On Washington Movement:  
Meeting held June 2, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Presiding Golden Brown:

Madison Square Garden Rally:

Persons were assigned to cover the mass meeting called by the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the People's Committee at the Madison Square Gardens on Monday June 7th, 43. Their task will be to sell copies of the pamphlet "The War's Greatest Scandal". Other literature will also be distributed. This material will be sold and distributed outside of the Garden.

Guest Speaker:

The guest speaker was invited by Mr. Vincent Baker. He is a private in the 99 Pursuit Squadron at Tuskegee, Alabama. He was introduced by Vincent Baker as Private Mac Allister.

Mac Allister merely thanked the group for the courtesy extended to him. Apologized for the fact that he was not a speaker and praised the N.O.W.M. for its efforts in behalf of Negroes.

He was given a copy of the pamphlet "The War's Greatest Scandal". Layle Lane made a motion that he be given a bundle for distribution among the boys at Tuskegee. Several persons spoke against asking to say nothing of trying to impose the pamphlets upon the guest. The motion was defeated unanimously. The consensus of opinion was that men in the armed forces may purchase copies but that the N.O.W.M. would not undertake to send copies to members in the Armed Forces.

A question was asked if the pamphlet had been sent to government heads. The reply was yes. It was also asked if all these persons were aware of its contents. The answer again was yes.

Dollar A Month Club:

A.J. Johnson Chairman of the Dollar A Month Club appealed for members and full and prompt payment of pledges. The pledges were collected by Eugenie Settles, Secretary.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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Received 6/8/43  
JME

332

June 4th, 43.

**March On Washington Movement.**

Sub-Committee Meeting to go over the draft of the statement "The Negro Reports His Case".

Present at the meeting were: Dr. Haynes, Dwight Macdonald, Loyie Lane, Manning Johnson and E. Pauline Myers.

Meeting held in Headquarters, M.O.W.M., Tuesday June 1st, 43.

Presiding Dr. Haynes:

The Committee had as its major task the going over of the two drafts One submitted by E. Pauline Myers and the other by Dr. Haynes, to the end that one statement embracing the problems and perspectives of the Negroes may be ready for adoption by the National Executive Committee.

Various sections of the statement drawn up by E. Pauline Myers and parts of the statement drawn up by Dr. Haynes were embodied in the final draft. Copies of both drafts have already been submitted.

There will be an additional section submitted by Dwight Mac Donald dealing with discrimination in the armed forces. He quotes the selective Service Act of 1940 which he states has been violated.

Dwight Macdonald will have the task of making all the changes and corrections suggested and give the finished copy to E. Pauline Myers for submission to A. Phillip Randolph and members of the Nat. Advisory Committee.

This statement will be presented in the form of a plaque at the unveiling at the Soldiers Memorial in Chicago, Ill., on Sunday July 4th, 43.

The sub-Committee decided that the statement should not be signed directly by the M.O.W.M. but that it should be a general statement subscribed to by persons of all races and faiths who are willing to combat Jim-crow. The M.O.W.M. will be brought forward in the advertised statement with a statement that this statement will be on a plaque at the unveiling of the Soldiers Monument under the Auspices of the March On Washington Movement. The Committee felt that the use of this approach would enable the M.O.W.M. to get the money necessary to get the statement in the newspapers.

Dwight Macdonald and Dr. Haynes were insistent that it would be very difficult to raise funds for the ads among white people when the avowed policy is to exclude white persons. The occasion was used to insist upon the admission of white persons. After a heated debate both pro and con it was decided that if liberal white did not want to contribute to a movement for the interest of the Negro people because they are not admitted into M.O.W.M. then their aid should not be sought.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Received 6/8/43  
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New York 7, New York

SET:LCM  
100-26792

June 12, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of two reports of [redacted] dated June 4, 1943, relative to the activities of the captioned organization.

b7D

Informant has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Two copies of his report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*EWK*

E. E. CONROY  
SIC

CC [redacted]  
Enclosures - 4

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

b3

[redacted]

*334*

June 8th, 43.

Negro Freedom Rally  
Held at Madison Square Garden  
Monday June 7th, 43.

Presiding Channing Tobias.

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/3/00 BY SP 2 AEM/EHL

Vito Marcantonio:

I bring you greetings not only from the voters of the 21 Congressional District but also of the International Labor Defense of which I am President. He proceeded to give a report on the anti-Poll tax Bill, H.R. 7 which he stated was passed by the House of Representatives and is now before the Senate. Early in the Session, he said, I introduced the Bill. They wanted discussion on it before the Committee. This would have meant delay and discussion was unnecessary. The problem was to get the Bill out on the floor for vote. We needed 218 signatures on a Discharge Petition which we succeeded in getting. The Bill came up for a vote. You know the result.

The Bill now goes to the Senate. There every effort will be made by the poll taxers, appeasers to filibuster. Efforts will be made to amend the Bill. No amendments are necessary. I was very careful in drawing up the Bill to include the same thing that was in the Bill that was presented before to the Senate.

There will be arguing on the Bill and amendments by Committees of both Houses. If the Committee On Rules of the Senate refuses to discharge the Bill it comes back to the House of Representatives where a unanimous vote of the House is necessary to discharge the Rules Committee. Getting a unanimous consent is impossible on account of the poll tax Congressmen.

Public pressure is necessary to get passage of the anti-Poll tax passed. When we get it passed by the Senate then it will go to the White House and I hope not to the monkey house.

Everyone present here should send a penny postal card to Senator Wagner and also to Senator Wade urging passage of the anti-Poll Tax Bill without amendment.

He heaped scorn upon Congressmen whom he termed pol-taxers, domestic fascists etc. He concluded with the assertion that, the people will write a new Proclamation of Emancipation.

James E. Jackson, Jr.:

Came from Birmingham, Alabama, representing the Southern Youth Congress.

He called for an invasion of Europe now in order to achieve victory in 1943. There are many spiritual and real friends of Hitler in America. Their aim is to hamper the war effort by disrupting production. Axis agents and their allies are hampering production. Poll Taxers K.K.K. and white supremacy elements were specifically mentioned. He cited

revised 6/8/43  
ME9

[Redacted Box]

- 385

b3

NY 100-26792

June 17, 1943.

Director, FBI

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*E.E.C.*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

4 Enc.

✓ C.c. NY File No.

b3

June 8th, 43.

Negro Freedom Rally continued.....

James E. Jackson Jr. continued.....

the Mobile Alabama shipyard situation in which 6,000 Negroes were kept off the job because white workers did not want to work with Negroes. This was very comforting for the Axis. In Detroit Michigan was a similar action.

He hailed the decision of the War Labor Board equalizing pay in the South. Called for an investigation by the Department of Justice of the Mobile and Detroit situations. Passage of the anti-Poll Tax Bill and the opening of a "second front".

Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown:

She is a Negro woman educator. President of the Palmer Memorial Institute. to Claimed/represent Negro women from domestics to professional and that she was speaking for them. The Proclamation of Emancipation did not free the Negro woman citing the sufferings of Negro women because of the limited and restricted economic, social and political opportunities for their children. Negro women are suffering more than anyone in America. Our Negro boys abroad are suffering. We love America and want her to win this war but we also want freedom for Negro women.

Wilhelmina Adams:

Representative New York State Committee War Bonds and Stamps. Co-leader of the Democratic Party in the 17th Assembly District, New York.

Stated that more than one million two hundred and fifty five thousand dollars worth of bonds and stamps were sold by the Negro Women's Committee of the U.S. Treasury. She urged to purchase of war bonds and stamps.

Charles Collins:

Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee. Business Agent, Hotel and Club Employees Union, Local 6, A.F. of L.

The Connally-Smith Bill is an effort to smash the labor movement. If it is passed it will mean that all labor will be enslaved.

Fascism must be destroyed. If fascism is not destroyed the following things would happen:

Labor will be enslaved.

India will suffer a thousand deaths.

Canada will suffer.

Jamaica and the West Indies would be set back a 1000 years.

America would be dominated by fascists of the Hamilton Fish, Bilbo element.

Negroes will be returned to chattel slavery.

Jews, Catholics, Protestants persecuted.

June 8th, 43.

Negro Freedom Rally continued.....

Charles Collins:

I am not saying these things to win the sympathy of the Negroes. There is an organized group of fascists who are taking advantage of the present situation to attack Negroes. This goes on at a time when the Pres. of Liberia is here; the anti-poll tax bill is before Congress and the Second Front is about to be opened.

The killing of Negro soldiers in the South is reaching alarming proportions. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is building a tax exempt for years, housing project which bars Negroes. The President of the M.L.I. says that Negroes and white will not mix that is the reason he gives for barring Negroes from the project. The meeting here tonight at Madison Square Garden is a good example of race mixing. He cited examples of race mixing in the trade unions. Giving particular praise to the National Maritime Union. Captain Mulzac the first Negro Skipper has a white and Negro crew was cited as another example of mixing. We will continue to mix until victory is won.

Negroes have a great heritage. Citing the record of Simon Bolivar and the role of Negroes during the period of reconstruction. He then urged, the audience to go forward to a peoples' victory and a people's peace.

Rev. Thomas S. Harten:

He appealed for the collection. During the appeal he stated:

The must be unity of white and Negroes. The Negroes cant win without the whites and the whites cant win without the Negroes. There should not be any separate units of armed forces. White and Negro soldiers should walk side by side.

After paying tribute to Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown he said, that he thought the meeting was going to take up Jim Crow, discrimination and the murdering of Negro soldiers and in this respect I am disappointed

We want some democracy at home. We want jobs for our boys and girls. We must carry the fight to President Roosevelt. President Roosevelt told the miners to go back to work. He should tell those crackers down South a few things.

We are going to send a delegation to Washington to see the President or any other representative. If we dont see the President he will know that the delegation had been there.

Captain Adrian Richardson, skipper, S.S. Frederick Douglass:

He was introduced to the audience. He did not speak.

Michael Quill, President Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.

We believe that the decisions of the Casablanca Conference should

June 8th, 43.

Negro Freedom Rally continued.....

Michael Quill continued.....

apply to the Negro as well as to white people. He cited the incidents in Mobile, Alabama, Detroit, Michigan and Butte, Montana. We don't want a recurrence. Labor leaders must get together to see to it that it does not occur again. To win the war we must unite. A people's peace is based upon unity. We must wipe out discrimination and strengthen the hand of our Commander in Chief.

Adam Powell, Member City Council, Pastor Abyssinian Baptist Church, Chairman of the People's Committee.

He introduced Lt. Willa Brown, Air Corps, Chicago, Ill. Hailed the decision of the War Labor Board giving Negroes the same salary as white workers in the South. There is a new Negro and a new white man. There are no uncle toms among us here. The new Negro is a fighter for full equality. He has a new leadership. Negroes are willing to fight for victory over the Axis. The destiny of the world will be measured by the treatment of the Negro.

Hitler can still win and rule the world unless Negroes are used for other purposes than as labor battalions. The future of the Negro, the Jew, the Catholic, the Protestant are bound up with the ~~Negro~~ fate of the Negro.

The A.F. of L. must end its discrimination against Negroes. We must have a seat at the Peace Conference. India must be freed. Africa must be freed. West Indies must be freed.

The People's Voice was accused of being subversive because it exposed the conditions of the 369th. If they want to investigate subversive activities they should investigate Connely of Texas, Silbo, the K.K.K.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company housing project was based on the policy of discrimination. The Mayor of the City of New York approved it. We should ask for the impeachment of Mayor La Guardia for his support of the Metropolitan project. We called for the abolition of the poll tax. A delegation will go to Washington, D.C. which would include himself and Ferdinand Smith.

If Negroes are good enough to die in Batavia and other parts of the world they are intitled to their rights here in America. We must fight Hitlerism, abroad, in Mississippi and in New York. I do not want my son to who is in the army to die in vain. All we want is to "let my people go".



June 8th, 43.

Negro Freedom Rally continued.....

Channing Tobias:

New Bold Morris

He read the statement of ~~Stanley Isaac~~ in opposition to the granting of tax exempt land to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for the establishment of a housing project that discriminates against Negroes. He stated in connection with the statement that only two members of the Board of Estimate stood on the side of democracy namely, Stanley Isaac and Epstein. The statement reads like a new Proclamation of Emancipation. He said that, the Negroes will support Newbold Morris for any office for which he aspires.

Dorothy Funn: Executive Secretary of the Negro Freedom Rally.

She read the resolutions that were unanimously adopted at the meeting. The essence of the resolutions were as follows:

We stand for for complete and total defeat of Hitler. Complete unity of the United Nations. Unconditional surrender of the Axis. We support the decisions of the Casablanca Conference. Jimcrow weakens the war effort. Jimcrow is an ally of Hitler. Demand unconditional full citizenship rights for Negroes. Full support the Presidents program to roll back prices. Full support of the program of rationing. Condemned John L. Lewis. Hailed the decision of the War Labor Board equalizing wages. Passage of the anti-Poll Tax Bill. Passage of an anti-Lynching Bill. Support of the Downing Bill for investigation of discrimination in the armed forces. Against discrimination in the armed forces. Self determination for India, Africa and the West Indies. Victory in 1943. Support of the Commander In Chief.

Resolution on Metropolitan Insurance Company:

Ask for the abrogation of the contract with the City of New York. Appreciation to Newbold Morris for his stand against the project. This was amended by Channing Tobias to include Stanley Isaac and Epstein.

Delegation to Visit President Roosevelt:

Adam Clayton Powell  
Ferdinand Smith  
Rev. Thomas S. Hartman

Attendance:

Approximately 20,000. There were about 2,000 outside who were not able to get in the Garden.

Auspices: Negro Labor Committee and the Peoples' Committee

June 8th, 43.

Negro Freedom Rally continued.....

Messages Read:

Messages were read from Arthur Osman, Manager of Local 65 C.I.O. Hotel and Club Employees Local 6. and other groups lead by the Party.

For This We Fight:

Participating in this were Paul Robeson. Henry Jackson, and others. Directed by Dick Campbell. Written by Langston Hughes.

Observations:

The meeting was supported by numerous unions both A.F. of L. and C.I.O. controlled by the Party and of course by the Party directly. With such support it is easy to pack Madison Square Garden.



b7D

New York 7, New York

MET:LCM  
100-28627

June 12, 1943

43415

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated June 8, 1943, relative to the Negro Freedom Rally, held at Madison Square Garden, Monday evening, June 7, 1943.

This meeting was held under the auspices of the People's Committee, Negro Labor Victory Committee, and the Brooklyn Committee. This meeting was also attended by agents of this Office, and a detailed investigative report reflecting additional information will be submitted to the Bureau in the near future.

Two copies of Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*AMC*

E. H. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures - 2  
CC NY File [redacted]

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ETHL  
ON 8/3/00

b7D

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336

June 10th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held June 9th, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Golden Brown presided.

Negro Peoples' Rally!

439140  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Golden Brown, President, New York Division, M.O.W.M. gave the following observations on the the Negro Freedom Rally held Monday June 7th at Madison Square Garden.

The meeting was definitely a Communist gathering. This was evidenced not only by the speakers but also by the contributions and the source of them. Approximately half of the people present in the Garden were Negroes. The meeting in the Garden held by the M.O.W.M. was the most successful because with the exception of a few scattered white persons the Garden was packed with Negroes. It is not difficult for the Party to pack Madison Square Garden all they have to do is make "must order" and every Party member follows it.

The Communist Party line was injected beneath a skillful camouflage of avowed patriotism and loyalty to "our Commander in Chief". In their effort to appear as super patriots they pulled punches regarding the Negro. President Roosevelt has failed to say anything regarding anti-lynching Bill, the anti-poll tax bill and discrimination in the armed forces. We do not agree with the Communists that we stand behind President Roosevelt on these matters and in everything he does. Charles Collins speech was an over all effort to instill a fear complex among the people rather than an intelligent, clear perspective. Charlotte Hawkins Brown stole the show. Her speech was by far and large the best of the evening. The only other speeches worth mentioning were those made by Marcantonio and James Jackson.

Vincent Baker:

He branded the meeting as a Communist gathering. An effort to mislead the Negro people.

Winifred Lynn Case:

Dr. Ervin reported that the Inter-racial Committee on the Lynn Case met on last Tuesday. The Committee has received many indorsements from prominent citizens. Copies of the pamphlet, "The War's Greatest Scandal" has been mailed to many prominent people requesting their endorsement of it reading it. A copy was sent to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Her reply was that "I am shocked to hear that such conditions prevail".

We sold copies of the pamphlet at the Madison Square Garden rally. There was strenuous objection from the Communist. We are going to hold street meetings every Saturday and Sunday evening in Harlem to popularize the Lynn Case and to sell the pamphlets. The first open air meeting was held last Saturday night at 125th Street and 7th Ave. The Speakers were Golden Brown, Dr. Ervin and Manning Johnson. We sold \$7.50 worth of pamphlets.

A. P. Randolph, National Director, suggested that all the replies received on the the pamphlet including the one from Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt be

Added 6/15/43  
Good  
JW

[Redacted]

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June 10th, 43.

March On Washington Movement continued.....

printed in Bulletin form for the general public. (Among those on the Inter-racial Committee are Dr. Ervin, Layle Lane, Dr. Haynes, Dwight Mc Donald, Mrs. Mc Donald, Mr. O'Rielly.)

**Guest Speaker:**

Rev. Leon Sullivan from Montgomery, West Virginia was introduced by Miss Layle Lane as the guest speaker. He is stopping at the Harlem Branch of the Y.M.C.A. His stay here will be indefinite.

He stated that he was very deeply impressed by the meeting the first which he had the pleasure to attend. There is a woeful lack of knowledge regarding what going on in the world among the Negroes in the small towns and communities. We must find a medium of getting this information to these small communities. I come from the heart of the mining fields. There are approximately 200 miners who are members of my church. It is regrettable that they develop interest only when their economic welfare is in jeopardy. The same may be said is true of other workers. We must find a way to rouse them to unite for their common good and interest. Organizers should be sent into the field to carry the message. A very powerful and solid organization can be build nationally having itself upon the millions of Negroes in the small communities.

He pledged support of the M.O.W.M. Promised to mail copies of the pamphlets and other M.O.W.M. to all his contacts in West Virginia. This will, he said, start them to thinking.

**National Director:**

A. Phillip Randolph asked us to consider the following questions which he said be uppermost in the minds of the delegates attending the National Conference in Chicago:

a. It has been suggested that the organizational structure of the M.O.W.M. be changed. One thought is that it should remain a individual membership body. Another though is that it should be built on the basis of affiliated organizations rather than individual membership. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has stated that it will not continue to cooperate with the M.O.W.M. if it continues individual membership. Their contention is that the M.O.W.M. is a competitive group. Still another group insists that the M.O.W.M. should be composed of small nuclei of clear headed and capable people in every City.

b. There are some who feel that we should work with the Communists. There are others who are opposed to cooperation with the Communists. The question of whether we shall retain our avowed stand against any cooperation with Communist taken at our Detroit Convention will be debated with considerable vigor and heat at the Conference in Chicago.

c. We have pursued a policy of all Negro membership. There are those who feel that this is in itself a policy of discrimination. That the M.O.W.M. should open its doors to white persons who wish to become members. We have then two conflicting trends of thought on this matter.

d. Some members think that the financial structure

June 10th, 43

M.O.W.M. continued.....

ought to be changes. They want an initiation fee and regular dues.

e. There are those, too, who wish to change the name of the M. O.W.M. They feel that a different name would be less provocative and greatly increase the possibilities of growth.

f. We have to consider and decide when we march to Washington D.C.

g. We have work out all the details regarding the nonviolent civil disobedience campaign.

A motion was made by Layle Lane that the next two meetings of the M.O.W.M. be devoted entirely to the questions of policy raised by Mr. Randolph for the clarification of our members and delegates. Passed unanimously.

Other recommendations:

Mr. Randolph recommended:

1. That we send a letter to Senator Wagner in support of the "Cradle to Grave" security Bill.

2. That we send a strongly worded letter to Mayor La Guardia and the Board of Estimate stating our opposition to the jimcrow metropolitan Housing project approved by them. Also demand that the contract be abrogated.

3. A letter to Senator Wagner stating our unqualified opposition to the Connely-Smith Anti-Strike Bill.

4. A letter be sent to the F.E.P.C. expressing appreciation of the decision equalizing wages for workers in the South where a lower standard prevailed for Negro workers.

All the recommendations were carried unanimously.



b7D

New York, N. Y.

KRM:RD  
100-26792

Director, FBI

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/13/00

June 17, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed are a copy and the original of a report of [redacted] dated June 10, 1943 on the above captioned organization. Informant advised that a meeting was held by this group on June 9, 1943 at the Harlem Branch of the Y.N.C.A., at which time comments were made on the NEGRO FREEDOM RALLY held at Madison Square Garden on June 7 and the meeting was branded as a Communist gathering. Guest speaker, Rev. LEON SULLIVAN from Montgomery, West Virginia, spoke and stated that he was deeply impressed by the meeting, the first of which he had had the pleasure to attend, and suggested that a medium be established of getting this information to small communities and to the heart of the mine fields, where in Montgomery, West Virginia, there would be 200 miners who were members of his church, in order that they might develop interest along this line.

There was a discussion held as to whether or not the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT was to change its name and organization; many of the members proposed to work with the Communists, while others opposed such cooperation. There was also a question of whether or not membership should be limited to Negroes only and whether it should continue as a membership organization or be set up into small organizations with a nuclei of clear-headed and capable people in every city.

The question of policies of the organization is to be decided and clarified at the next meeting of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT.

The MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT is continuing to publicize the LYNN case and in this connection proposed to hold open-air street movements, each Saturday and Sunday evening, at which time copies of the pamphlet, "The War's Greatest Scandal" will be sold. Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT has received one of these pamphlets and her reply was, "I am shocked to hear that such conditions prevail". This endorsement and others by prominent people are proposed to be published.

Two copies of throw-aways entitled, "The Lynn Case" are being enclosed with this letter.

Informant will continue to report on the activities of this organization.

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"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

--DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

--CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
14th AMENDMENT

ARE NEGROES AMERICAN CITIZENS?

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

On the basis of the principle of the Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence, whose 167th birthday we celebrate today, we address this appeal to the people of America and to the conscience of the world.

Right here in our own country is one of the great issues of this war: SHALL WE HAVE DEMOCRACY FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLE OR FOR SOME OF THE PEOPLE? An all-out war against fascism cannot be fought on a jim-crow basis. Race prejudice is obstructing the nation's effort to win the war and plan a real peace.

The American people have not met this issue.

Negroes have shared in the building of our common country. From the Boston Massacre to the North African offensive, their blood has watered the sands of every war in defense of American democracy. Their labor, more than anyone else's, has built the South. Their music, folk tales and dreams have helped make American culture what it is.

Today these thirteen million Americans of Negro descent -- one tenth of the nation -- are ministers, scientists, doctors, school-teachers, lawyers, social workers, musicians, writers, artists, business-men, labor leaders, tradesmen, farmers and laborers. This country in which they were born, for which they and their fathers have toiled and died and to which they stand ready to give the last full measure of devotion.

But how are these thirteen million Americans treated?



- I. NEGROES ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN THE VERY ARMED FORCES WHICH SUMMON THEM TO SHED THEIR BLOOD FOR THEIR COUNTRY. They are drafted in jim-crow quotas, trained in jim-crow regiments and separated from their white comrades in arms in the fighting units. All too often, they are herded into menial tasks and labor battalions.
- II. NEGROES ARE DENIED EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT. They are discriminated against in training, placement, up-grading, and wages in war industry. Sometimes this is true when the government itself is the employer. Moreover, thirty-three international labor unions bar Negroes from membership.
- III. NEGROES ARE DENIED THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN MOST OF THE SOUTHERN STATES. A combination of intimidation, poll taxes, "white primaries," and all manner of specious "tests," stand as barriers between the Negro and the ballot box.
- IV. NEGROES ARE DENIED EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY. In most of the South the Negro child receives less than half of his share of the funds for public education, the Negro graduate student is denied the training of the tax supported state university and the Negro teacher is paid less for the same training and work as other teachers. Here again is the myth of "equal but separate." Even in the North and West Negro professors are barred from the faculties of practically all American universities.
- V. NEGROES ARE CARICATURED AND SLANDERED IN THE PRESS AND ON THE STAGE, SCREEN AND RADIO. School textbooks paint the Negro as a happy slave, a buffoon and a corrupt citizen. Best-selling novels and million dollar movie plays repeat this lie of the history books. Newspapers play up "Negro crime and play down the constructive achievements of Negroes.

- VI. NEGROES ARE DENIED PARTICIPATION IN THE POLICY-FORMING ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT. Even when there are Negro "race relations" advisors to government agencies, these "advisers" are not permitted to determine policy, even in this special area, and nobody accepts their advice.
  - VII. NEGROES ARE FORCED TO LIVE IN RESTRICTED RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND SEGREGATED HOUSING PROJECTS. Isolated and forced into a ghetto, the Negro thus becomes the prey of profiteers and other exploiters.
  - VIII. NEGROES ARE JIM-CROWED IN TRAINS, BUSES, THEATRES, HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES; AND THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH ARE FORCED INTO JIM-CROW SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTED BY TAXES PAID BY ALL OF THE PEOPLE.
  - IX. NEGROES ARE LYNCHED AND MURDERED BY MOBS AND COWARDLY NIGHT-RAIDER BANDS. Such treatment in a democracy is intolerable. Accordingly, we appeal to the American people to support us in the fight to wipe out these anti-democratic practices:
- I. WE DEMAND A DEMOCRATIC ARMY. We call upon the President to enforce section 4A of the 1940 Draft Act which reads: "In the selection and training of men under this act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color.
  - II. WE DEMAND EQUAL ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. This means a Fair Employment Practice Committee which has power to enforce decisions based on its findings and no discrimination in training opportunities, placement, wages, promotions and membership in trade unions.
  - III. WE DEMAND AN END TO DISFRANCHISEMENT IN THE SOUTH. The enactment of a federal anti-poll tax law, abolition of the white primaries and other registration device that limits a free suffrage and enforcement of the

14th and 15th amendments to the constitution will guarantee the right to vote to all men.

- IV. WE DEMAND EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. This means equal facilities for the Negro child, equal pay for the Negro teacher and equal access to public, tax-supported institutions of learning for the Negro student.
- V. WE DEMAND AN END TO CARICATURE AND SLANDER IN THE NEWSPAPERS, ON THE SCREEN STAGE, AND RADIO! The suppression of the story of the contributions of the Negro to America and the world must cease.
- VI. WE DEMAND NEGRO AND MINORITY GROUP REPRESENTATION ON ALL ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES SO THAT THESE GROUPS MAY BE ABLE TO DETERMINE POLICIES FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLE.
- VII. WE DEMAND AN END TO RESIDENTIAL GHETTOS AND "RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS."
- VIII. WE DEMAND ABROGATION OF EVERY LAW WHICH MAKES A DISTINCTION IN TREATMENT BETWEEN CITIZENS BASED ON RELIGION, CREED, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.
- IX. WE DEMAND A FEDERAL ANTI-LYNCH LAW AND THE PROTECTION OF THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF ALL CITIZENS.

Therefore, in the name of democracy, in the name of the common interests of humanity, in the name of a real victory and a real peace, we call upon our fellow Americans to join with us in this struggle for human dignity and equal justice for all. This is a fight which concerns every patriotic citizen who believes in his country and his God. Moreover, the colored peoples of the world, in Asia, Africa and Latin America will test the sincerity of our declaration about world democracy by what happens to the Negro right here in the United States. Let us band together and make democracy a living truth.

Signatures:

Note: The above statement was drawn up on the initiative of the March on Washington Movement and was formally unveiled as a scroll at an Inter-Faith, Inter-Denominational, Interracial Prayer Service, Soldiers' Memorial Field, Chicago, Illinois, July 4, 1943 in connection with the "WE ARE AMERICANS, TOO CONFERENCE called by the March on Washington Movement.

New York, New York

RFP:JS  
100-26792

June 19, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the final draft of the statement to be issued to the press by the March on Washington Movement prior to their convention to be held in Chicago as furnished by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, on June 17, 1943.

Informant advises that this is the final draft and will be published in the New York dailies as well as all colored publications throughout the United States. The discussions at the convention will involve the points set forth in this statement.

Two copies of this statement are being retained in the files of the New York Office. The informant will continue to cover the activities of this group and will report in detail the future policies of this movement, which according to the informant will be decided in the near future, prior to the time of the convention.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CLEGG  
SAC

Enclosure (1)

CC: [redacted] (Enc. 1)

439740

SP2ALM/ELC  
8/3/00

340

June 17th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
New York Division  
Meeting held June 16th, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Colden Brown, President, presided.

Communications Read:

Copies of communications to Father Hays, Chairman, Fair Employment Practices Committee read and approved.  
Copy of Letter to John L. Lewis, President United Mine Workers supporting demand for an increase in wages read and approved.  
Copy of Letter to Mayor La Guardia protesting his approval of Metropolitan Housing Project read and approved.

Dr. Lawrence Ervin:

Reported on the status of the Winfred Lynn Case. The case has been postponed until late fall of this year. The lawyers of the Civil Liberties Union were in accord with the adjournment. It gives them additional time to prepare briefs containing the sociological background of the Negro which they consider a necessary prerequisite to win the case.

Certain outstanding persons have already endorsed the case. Among these A. J. Muste, Fellowship For Reconciliation; Osmond Villard, Mayor La Guardia. We do not know whether the continued support of La Guardia is jeopardized by our condemnation of his action regarding the Metropolitan Housing Project.

We are continuing to contact outstanding people to get their support. The street meeting last Saturday was a success. A number of pamphlets were sold.

Recommendations of A. Phillip Randolph:

At the last meeting I reported the various points that will be discussed at the forthcoming National Conference in Chicago. All of which involve the question of national policy. Only two of the points were discussed namely:

1. SHOULD THE NAME OF THE M.O.W.M. BE CHANGED?
2. SHOULD THE M.O.W.M. BE A FEDERATED BODY OR MEMBERSHIP UNIT?

The body was unanimous in their decision to maintain the name M.O.W.M. It was the contention that if the persons who advocate the change use as a condition for participation then they are such people that we do not want. If we yield in changing the name they will demand a change in policy to conform with their ideas.

There was, however, some difference of opinion on the question of forming a Federated body rather than the now existing membership units. The statements of those who were in favor of a federated body were predicated upon the arguments of the N.A.A.C.P. and mixed groups who object to the M.O.W.M. policy of forming membership branches in the first case

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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

add 6/21/43  
Good, NRR

341

June 17th, 48.

N.O.W.M. continued.....

and in the second case the limiting of membership entirely to Negroes.

There seem to be a fear that a federated form of organization would give admission not only to white persons but also open the avenue for admission of Communist groups.

The body by overwhelming vote agreed to remain in their present form that is local membership units rejecting the recommendation for the formation of national federated body. In a last minute appeal, Layle Lane asked the body not to entirely reject the idea but of no avail.



b7D

New York, New York

KRR:JS  
100-26792

June 26, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report dated June 17, 1943 as furnished by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reporting on a meeting held by the above organization on June 16, 1943.

b7D

Copies of communications were read including a letter to JOHN L. LEWIS, President of the United Mine Workers, supporting his demand for an increase in wages. The Winfred Lynn case, which has been supported by the above organization has been postponed until the late fall of this year. Persons reported to have endorsed this case are A. J. MUSTE, Fellowship for Reconciliation; OSMOND VILLARD, and Mayor LA GUARDIA. The March on Washington group, upon the recommendations of A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH voted to retain its name and to retain the present set up of this movement as a membership unit, rather than a federated body.

Informant will continue to report on the activities of this group. Two copies of the enclosed report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosures (2)

✓cc [redacted]

439740  
SP 2 ALM/EHL  
8/3/00

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342

June 21, 43.

Ethiopian World Federation  
Mass meeting  
Ethiopian World Federation Hall  
290 Lenox Avenue, New York City  
Sunday June 20th, 43.

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**Purpose of the meeting:**

To honor the representatives of the Government of Ethiopia who attended the recent United Nations Food Conference.

Rabbi W. A. Mathews presided.

**Speakers:**

Attorney Fitzgerald Phillips  
Lij Yilma Daresse, Vice Minister of Finance and Chairman of the Ethiopian delegation.  
Mr. Rogers  
Fitzgerald Phillips:

Called for complete independence of Ethiopia after the war. The forces of occupation now in Ethiopia should be withdrawn. Ethiopia should be given an outlet to the sea in order that she may carry on commerce and trade with other nations. Ethiopia's position is a very strategic one for the darker races because of the possibility of Ethiopia having representatives at the peace conference. He concluded with an appeal for unity of the darker races.

**Lij Yilma Daresse:**

Expressed appreciation to the organization for the splendid reception arranged for the Delegates. Assured them that he would take their felicitations to the Emperor and the people of Ethiopia. The balance of his speech was devoted to the work of reconstruction now going on in Ethiopia. Schools, hospitals, homes etc are being built. A country ravaged by war is now being restored.

J.A.  
**Mr. Rogers:**

He praised Ethiopia, its people and above all its Emperor. He asserted that he attended the Coronation of the Emperor. He said that he spent a number of years in Ethiopia. Ethiopia is a rich and self sustaining country.

**Musical Program:**

Several songs and recitations were rendered by members of the E.W.F.

**Richard B. Moore:**

Richard B. Moore set up an elaborate book counter at the meeting. He sold and advertised a number of different books.

A.J. Johnson, motorman on the Independent Subway informed me that James W. Ford

2  
received 6/28/43  
J.A.  
M.C.F.

[Redacted Box]

343



June 21, 43.

**Ethiopian World Federation mass meeting continued.....**

Hopie Stevens, Audley Moore, Moran Weston are members of the E.W.F. and that they have considerable influence. They are consulted on matters of policy. This group of Communists practically control the E.W.F. according to Johnson who is a member and has fought against Communist membership in the E.W.F.

Abbi Mathews, he said, would like to break with them but they are now well entrenched. This information was obtained after the meeting during conversation with A.F. Johnson regarding the meeting.



b7D

New York, New York

MET:JAR  
100-22865

July 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY J & C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated June 21, 1943 relative to a meeting of the captioned organization held in New York City on June 20, 1943.

b7D

Attention is called to the remarks of the informant in the next to the last paragraph of this report in which he points out that certain Negro Communist leaders at present have considerable influence in deciding matters of policy of this organization.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization. Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the pertinent files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
R. F. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

Incls. - 2  
cc NY [redacted]

b3

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

344

June 25th, 43.

Citizens' Emergency Conference.  
Office of City Councilman Adam Powell  
City Hall, New York City  
Thursday June 24th, 43 5 P.M.

**Purpose of the meeting:**

To prevent a race riot from developing in New York. Powell contended that what happened in Detroit can happen in New York City. He cited three reasons 1. The unwarranted police brutality generally which in some cases resulted in death and more recently their beating of war workers. 2. Street fighting among children Tuesday outside of a Bronx School. 3. The twice repeated publication of an editorial in a suburban daily lynch law.

These events stress the gravity of the situation and prompted me to call this Emergency Conference.

**Attendance:**

Adam Powell presided.  
Rev. Ben Richardson, associate Pastor Abyssinian Baptist Church  
Dorothy Dunn, Negro Labor Victory Committee.  
Manning Johnson, People's Committee  
Donelan Phillips, Consolidated Tenants League.  
Peter Cacchione, Communist City Councilman.  
Si Gerson, former advisor of Stanley Isaacs, Borough President of Manhattan. Was ousted because of his Communist Party membership.  
E.L. Dimitri, Permanent Committee for Better Schools in Harlem.  
Assemblyman Hulan Jack  
Assemblyman Daniel Burrows  
Assemblyman William T. Andrews  
Julius Holland, Domestic Workers Union, A.F. of L.  
Miss Waring, Anti-Nazi League  
Mac Davies, Peoples' Committee  
Harrison Jackson, Peoples' Committee  
Vernal Williams, Attorney at Law.  
Hazel Stumpers, Peoples' Committee  
Charles Collier, formerly with the New York Urban League.  
Joseph Ford, Administrator, Peoples' Committee

There were a few other people whose names I was unable to get.

**Work of the Committee:**

The Conference forms a Citizens Emergency Committee. The Committee was divided into subcommittees as follows:

- a. Committee of three to draw up a statement on the riot situation. This statement to be sent to all persons present for approval. The statement will be signed by prominent persons.
- b. Delegation to Visit Mayor La Guardia.
- c. Delegation to visit Governor Meyer.

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345

June 28th, 43.

Citizens Emergency Conference continued.....

- d. Delegation to visit Board of Education.
- e. Delegation visit Police Commissioner Valentine
- f. Delegation to visit the Federal Attorney.
- g. Delegation to visit the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- h. Delegation to visit radio stations.
- i. Delegation to visit churches of all faiths and denominations.

The object of these delegations is to enlist the support of all these individuals and agencies in the war against racial prejudice in an effort to forestall the possibility of a race riot in New York City.



b7D

New York, New York

MET:JAR  
100-43415

July 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:


There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated June 25, 1943 relative to an emergency conference called by ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., on Thursday, June 24, 1943. The purpose of this conference, as stated by informant in his report, was to prevent a race riot from developing in New York, POWELL being of the opinion that what happened in Detroit could also happen in New York City.

It is noted from the names of persons in attendance as listed by informant that the majority have previously been reported to be leading Communist Party members or sympathizers.

The program decided on at this meeting as reflected in the latter part of informant's report was previously furnished to the Bureau by teletype.

Informant has been requested to follow and report any further activities on the part of the People's Committee. Two copies of the Informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. J. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

Encls. - 2  
cc NY [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ETH  
ON 8/3/00

[redacted] 346

June 24th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held June 23, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Golden Brown presided. ] (u)

Discussion of Policy: ] (u)

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1. Should the M.O.W.M. work with or cooperate with the Communist Party and Communist groups? The discussion on this subject was heated. Vincent Baker and Layle Lane lead the fight against any cooperation with the Communists. Incidentally the Communists had sent several of their members to the meeting to participate in the discussion to the end that they would influence a substantial section of the members to vote against the barring of cooperation with the Communists. This group was lead by Canada Lee star of Native Son. (u)

Canada Lee lead the fight for cooperation with Communists. He said, that no group could afford to stand alone, to say nothing of isolating itself from those groups who are working for the same things that the M.O.W.M. is working for. I am not a Communist. I am a good Democrat but I believe that the M.O.W.M. should work with the Communists and all other groups that are for the same things for which the M.O.W.M. stands. (u)

In spite of the appeal of Lee the M.O.W.M. voted non-cooperation with the Communist Party or Communist groups. (u)

2. Should white persons be admitted to membership in the M.O.W.M.? (u)

The discussion on this subject revealed a division of opinion among the members regarding the admission of white persons. Some of the members were in favor. The majority, however, were against the admission of white persons. The majority opinion was that the M.O.W.M. was a movement of Negroes to build a powerful organization of Negroes under Negro leadership for the winning of full citizenship rights for the Negroes. (u)

Canada Lee again participated in the discussion for the admission this time for the admission of white people stating that that there are many white people who are in favor of the things the M.O.W.M. stands for and are ready and willing to work if they are given admittance by the M.O.W.M. (u)

A young white girl in the Canada Lee group accused the M.O.W.M. of advocating a program of "hate to meet hate". The same policy of discrimination practiced by the enemies of the Negroes is adopted by you when you decide to exclude white people. I want to help. I have nothing against Negroes. Am I to be barred because I am white. A young white fellow in the same group spoke along the same line. (u)

The overwhelming majority voted against the admission of white persons. The consensus of opinion was that the M.O.W.M. would cooperate with liberal whites and their organizations who are willing to support the program of the M.O.W.M. without insisting on a selection of leadership and policy as a condition of support. (u)

Race Riots: ] (u)

CONFIDENTIAL

A statement to President Roosevelt relative to the recent race riots

June 24th, 43.

March On Washington Movement continued.s.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Was read. This statement was adopted and order to be sent post haste to the President. (u)

A recommendation that the Department of Justice investigate the race riots was also passed. (u)

Opinion was divided relative to the causes of the outbreaks. Some felt that alien influences had something to do with them. Others felt that it was a mere outburst of age old race prejudice. (u)

[ ] (u)

b7D

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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MET:JAR  
100-26792

July 2, 1943

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/LEHL  
ON 8/3/00 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT,  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated June 24, 1943 relative to a meeting of the New York branch of the March on Washington Movement held on June 23, 1943. (u)

It is interesting to note that the main topic of discussion at this meeting was whether or not the [redacted] should work with or cooperate with the Communist Party and the Communist Party groups. The discussion in favor of cooperation was lead by [redacted], the well known Negro actor and star in "Stella Lon". In this connection it was pointed out by informant that it was a well known method of the Communist Party to send an individual not generally known to be a Communist into an organization for the purpose of influencing that organization to cooperate with or adopt the policies of the Communist Party. It is noted, however, that in this instance the Communists were unsuccessful in their attempt to persuade [redacted] to cooperate with the Communists. (u)

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report on the further activities of this organization. Two copies of the report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office. (u)

Very truly yours,

Jm  
J. C. CONLEY,  
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Incls. - 2  
cc NY [redacted]  
100-43347

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-1 on 7/21/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 7/21/90  
DECLASSIFY ON [redacted]

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July 2nd, 43.

Mary Belock

A member of the Communist Party for more than ten years. I met her in Buffalo, New York. At that time she was attending Buffalo University. Her activities at that time were among the students at Buffalo University. This was during 1932-33. At the time she brought a transfer from the New York District of the Communist Party.

Since that time she has been active in the Communist Party in New York. Assisting in the raising of funds for "The Worker" and other activities in the Party assembly organization.

After her graduation from Buffalo University she returned to New York City where she was appointed to the school system. She taught in a school for handicapped children for a number of years and was later transferred to a school somewhere in Westchester County. She commutes daily leaving about 7 am from the New York Central station.

She also has been active in the Teachers Union which was expelled from the ~~American Federation of Labor~~ American Federation of Labor because of Communist Party domination.

The last known address that I have is 104-50 116th Street, Richmond Hill, L.I., where she lived with her parents who are according to her statement also members of the Party.

At the present time she is married and has one child.

Description:

5 feet 4 inches. Jewish. Brown hair. Brown eyes. Weight about 156. Prominent nose.

Occupation:

Needle trades. Specialized in that course at Buffalo University.

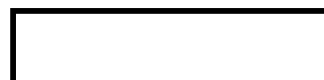


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Received, 7/6/43  
RJ  
MEY

New York 7, New York

MEY:HAF  
100-0

July 8, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: MARY BELOCK  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 2, 1943, reflecting information concerning the captioned individual. To informant's knowledge, this individual has been a member of the Communist Party since 1932. There is no record of MARY BELOCK in the files of the New York office.

b7D

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*EMK*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc [redacted] ✓

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*mad*

July 3rd, 43.

Reva Gilbert Ford

Reva has been active in the Harlem section of the Communist Party for more than 8 years. She was an active member of the Section Committee of the Upper-Harlem Section of the Party.

On numerous occasions I met her in the office of the Party in Harlem. She represented the Harlem Section at Party Conventions and plenary sessions of the Enlarged National Committee.

Her work has been primarily with Party Units or nuclei in the Harlem area. She has worked with Henry Sheperd, Louis Sass, Steve Kingston, James W. Ford, Theodore Basset and other leaders in the Harlem section.

In addition to her work with the Party Units she assisted the fractions in front organizations like the Workers Alliance, International Labor Defense, International Workers Order, Finnish Workers Club, various Latin-American groups.

At the present time she is working in the lower Harlem Section among the Puerto-Rican, Mexican, Cuban groups.

Living now with James W. Ford, member of the National Committee as his wife.

Description:

About 5 feet 3. Weight about 167. Saxon. Fair complexion could pass for Spanish. Black hair. Dark eyes. Jewish.



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Received 7/6/43  
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- 351

New York 7, New York

LET:HAF  
100-14214

July 8, 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: REVA GILBERT FORD  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 8, 1948, relative to the captioned individual. REVA GILBERT FORD is reported to be the wife of JAMES W. FORD, Negro, a member of the NATIONAL COMMITTEE of the COMMUNIST PARTY, and a prominent Communist leader among the Negroes. REVA GILBERT FORD is presently the subject of a case being investigated by the New York office.

Two copies of the informant's report are being placed in the appropriate files in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*WVK*

E. B. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc [redacted] ✓

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8/3/00

[redacted]

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July 3rd 43.

Norman Tallentire

I met Norman in 1933 for the first time. He was touring the Country for the "Friends of the Soviet Union". The "Friends of the Soviet Union" was organization formed by the Party for the purpose of spreading propaganda in favor of Soviet Russia. <sup>His</sup> main activity was among intellectuals, professionals and so called middle classed elements.

At that time I was District Organizer of the Party in Buffalo, New York. We were having difficulty with the members of the organization in Buffalo. The members of the FSU felt that there was too much interference on the part of the Communist Party. Most of the members were not members of the Party and resented the work of the Party fraction. Norman was sent there to assist me in straightening the matter out.

There was a young Jewish fellow by the name of Deckoff who was against Party interference and giving a part of the proceeds of affairs held by the FSU to the local Party organization. At that time 10% of all affairs held by various auxiliary or front organizations was to be given to the Party for its activity. Deckoff was a member of the Party he later resigned.

Norman was not known as a Communist. He met with me unknown to the members of the FSU to discuss the whole matter so that he would be in a good position to deal with the situation. He had been instructed by the National Committee of the Party to meet with me to straighten out this situation. I had received a letter through confidential mail that he would be there.

I have ~~seen~~ met him on numerous occasions at Party meetings of the National Committee and Party conferences. His main activities has been organizational work among intellectuals, professionals and middle class elements. He has been used in this capacity for many years. He speaks at meetings arranged by front groups. He was considered particularly valuable, though very erratic, because he was Irish-American.

Description:

About 6 feet. Weights about 202 lbs. Irish-American. About 54 years old. Light brown hair. Eyes blue.



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353

New York 7, New York

MET:HAF  
100-18128

July 8, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: NORMAN TALLENTIRE  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 5, 1943, relative to NORMAN TALLENTIRE. Informant's report reflects information concerning TALLENTIRE's activities with the COMMUNIST PARTY as known to informant. TALLENTIRE is presently the subject of an investigation being conducted by the New York office.

b7D

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the appropriate New York files for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*H.V.K.*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP3 RM/ETH  
8/3/00

Enclosures

cc [redacted] ✓

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354 1100

July 3rd, 48.

Anna David

Has been an active member of the Party according to my knowledge since 1934. At that time she was actively engaged in the various relief campaigns of the Party front organizations such as for the miners, political prisoners, seamen etc.

She has for years conducted confidential work for the Party the nature of which I was never able to find out. All I know is that these connections were with business establishments.

She was also active in the work on the water front assisting in the organization of the seamen.

**Description:**

5 feet 9 inches tall. Slender. Weight about 140. About 54 years old. No bags under her eyes. Hair light brown. Blue eyes. Jewish.

**Her last known address:**

51 West 9th Street, New York City  
Apartment 2 BW

At that address she had a beautifully furnished apartment. The rooms were rented to select tenants. On several occasions I visited her apartment to discuss Party matters pertaining to activities in the trade unions.



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 RM/KHL

Received 7/6/43  
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355

New York 7, New York

NET:HAP  
100-0

July 8, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: ANNA DAVID  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 3, 1943, relative to the captioned individual, which reflects information known to the informant concerning subject's activities in the Communist Party.

b7D

The files of the New York office reflect that ANNA DAVID was a former leader and organizer for the INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD, a member of the AMERICAN WORKERS COMMUNIST PARTY, field organizer of the WORKERS INTERNATIONAL RELIEF, Chicago, Illinois, and a prominent leader in the WESTERN FEDERATION OF WORKING WOMEN.

Two copies of the informant's report are being placed in the appropriate files of the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*A.V.K.*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enclosures

cc [redacted] ✓

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Jul 3rd, 43.

Mike Nazarian

Mike came to New York from Buffalo, New York either in the latter part of 1932 or the early part of 1933.

Prior to his coming to New York City he operated a tailor shop in Buffalo, New York for several years. At that time he was a member of the Party. His work was primarily among Armenians some of whom he recruited in the Party and others he organized into front groups. Worked very closely with the Armenian Bureau of the Communist Party. Assisted in the spreading of the Armenian newspaper "Panvor". The "Panvor" was published in New York City.

Since he has been in New York City he has been very active among the Armenians. He was brought to New York for this work on the recommendation of the Armenian Bureau.

I have not seen him for the last four years. At the time he was active in the Armenian Workers Club.

Description:

Five feet 4 inches in height. Weight about 140 lbs. Black hair. Dark eyes. Complexion dark. Has a defective eye. Age about 51.



b7D

Last Known Address:

361 West 29th Street  
New York City.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/3/00 BY SP2 AM/CHC



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Received 7/6/43  
MEG

New York 7, New York

LET:HAP  
100-0

July 8, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: MIKE HAZARIAN  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 3, 1943, which reflects that according to the informant's knowledge, MIKE HAZARIAN has been a member of the Communist Party since 1932. There is no record of subject in the files of the New York office.

Two copies of informant's report are being placed in the appropriate files in the New York office for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

*EAC*

E. E. CONROY  
EAC

Enclosures

cc [redacted] ✓

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DECLASSIFIED BY  
SP2 ALM/EHL

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358 HAD

June 18th, 43.

C.I.O. Community Council continued.....

Adam Powell:

fomented by American fascists. The philosophy of Nazism prevails in America. A race riot in New York City is not beyond the realm of possibility. In World War I race riots followed the completion of the war but they now occur in the midst of this one. The agents of Hitler are desperately seeking to create disunity in the midst of this war by fomenting race riots. We must fight against fascism at home as well as abroad.

I introduced a resolution in City Council against granting tax exempt properties to any person, group or corporation etc that practices exclusion because of race creed or color from the use of such properties. I said that anyone who votes against this resolution is casting a vote for Hitler. The four Councilmen from Queens walked out. In their faces you could see that they are fascist minded.

The future of the Negro is bound up with organized labor. 98% of the Negro people are labourers. They are a part of the laboring group. They can not succeed without the help of labor and labor can not succeed without the Negro. Every gain the Negro has made in the recent period was due to the support of labor unions. Together they must strive for a people world.

Attendance:

There were approximately 350 people present. About 70 or 75 white persons.

Dr. Annette Rubinstein:

Advocated more nurseries for Harlem and the keeping of schools open during the Summer months that is the play ground facilities. Letters should be sent to Mr. Brennan, Supervisor of Play grounds asking that the playground facilities in Harlem remain open during the summer and that playground Supervisors be appointed to take care of them. She also advocated that the school day should be from 9 am till 3 pm so that play ground and other facilities might be available for school children.

Everyone present was asked to send a postal card to President Roosevelt asking him to veto the Connely Smith Anti-Strike Bill.

Postal cards were passed out addressed to Senator Wagner and Senator Maaddo. They requested the passage of HR 7 without Amendment. HR 7 is the Marcanonio Anti-Poll Tax Bill.

New York, New York

KHR:JS  
100-26603

439740  
June 26, 1943

Director, FBI

8/3/00 SP 2 ALM/ETHL  
CONFIDENTIAL

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
DISTRICT #2, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are two copies of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau dated June 18, 1943 reporting a meeting held on June 17, 1943 under the auspices of the Harlem - Riverside CIO Community Council. The speakers were WALTER BISSELL and JOHN HARMON of the OPA, CHARLES COLLINS of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr., City Councilman, and Dr. ANNETTE RUBINSTEIN of the Committee for the Care of Young Children During War Time. It was urged that all violations of OPA ceiling prices be reported to the local office of Price Administration.

ADAM POWELL spoke and urged the Negroes to cooperate with labor and he claimed that the gain made in the recent period by Negroes, was due to the support of labor unions.

Postal cards were passed out addressed to Senators MEADE and WAGNER requesting the passage of HR 7 (MARCANTONIO Anti Poll Tax Bill), without amendment. Copies of these postal cards were furnished by informant and are being transmitted along with enclosures of this report. There is also being furnished the Bureau a throw away advertising the above meeting.

Informant advises that CIO councils are being organized by the Communist Party in several boroughs of New York City which will take their place as front organizations for the Communist Party. It is pointed out that this is apparently one of the means whereby the Communists will attempt to infiltrate into consumers groups in protesting OPA ceiling prices in an effort to gain attention and membership.

The Harlem-Riverside Community Council is evidently in the formative state and until additional information is furnished, no investigation is being conducted and it is being made a part of the general file on the Communist Party, for information purposes.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

✓ Enclosures (5)

E. R. CONROY, SAC

CC - [redacted]

360

b7D

b3

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Date: July 7, 1943

To: SAC, New York City

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETH

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
District No. 2  
New York Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reference is made to your letter dated June 26, 1943, in  
the above-entitled matter, with which you transmitted a report of  
[redacted] dated June 18, 1943.

Along with the above-mentioned letter you apparently trans-  
mitted to the Bureau a carbon copy of this letter which was designated  
for your file No. [redacted] This carbon copy is being returned herewith.

Enclosure



361

F. B. I.	
JUL 8 - 1943	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO Tamm	[initials]

b3  
b7D

Date: July 7, 1943

To: SAC, New York City

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
District No. 2  
New York Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reference is made to your letter dated June 26, 1943, in the above-entitled matter, with which you transmitted a report of [redacted] dated June 18, 1943.

b3  
b7D

Along with the above-mentioned letter you apparently transmitted to the Bureau a carbon copy of this letter which was designated for your file No. [redacted]. This carbon copy is being returned herewith.

Enclosure

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/02 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

[redacted]	
JUL 8 - 1943	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILED

*[Signature]*

July 7th, 43

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held July 7th, 43  
Harlem Branch Y.P.C.A., New York City

Colden Brown presided.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Report On National Conference:

The entire meeting was devoted to a report on the National Conference of the March On Washington Movement held in Chicago, Ill., recently. There were 25 delegates from the New York Chapter.

The following persons reported their observations regarding the National Conference:

Colden Brown  
Vincent Baker  
Layle Lane  
A.J. Johnson  
Mr. Scott  
Mr. Docker  
A. Phillip Randolph

The reports were informative. No action was taken on the reports. Questions will be permitted at subsequent meetings. The work of the Confab will be discussed in greater detail at future meetings.

Colden Brown:

Outlined the program of the Conference. Stating that he was deeply impressed by the arrangements and the speeches, of Dr. Ervin when he stated was in rare form when he spoke at the Conference. He also complimented Vincent Baker, Bayard Rustin and Farmer of the "Fellowship of Reconciliation. A. Phillip Randolph's speech, he said, was a scholarly presentation of the policy and program of the M.O.W.M.

Vincent Baker:

Conference was a gathering of the common people. He was greatly impressed with the enthusiasm that prevailed and the seriousness with which the problems were considered. The attitude of the "People's Voice" toward the Conference was criticized. He stated that when the "People's Voice" was first published he thought that it would be a free and progressive paper but it is worse than the other local Negro newspapers in that it is a combination of all the worst elements politically and sensationally.

The Conference, he stated went on record not to cooperate with the Communist Party or Communist controlled groups.

He took particular pride in making a substantial contribution in the discussion of the question of admitting white people to membership. His remarks were in answer to Dr. George Daynes of the Federal Council of Churches who was in favor of the admission of white people. The Con-

Received 7/8/43  
MEY



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July 7th, 45

M.O.W.N. continued.....

Vincent Baker continued....

forence went on record to bar white persons from membership. There was, he said, considerable opposition to this policy but that the opposition was successfully met.

On F.E.P.C. he stated that the Conference estimate of the Committee was that it still lacks certain necessary powers such as the power to subpoena and penalize. Father Baas, Chairman of F.E.P.C. made an irretrievable error when he sanctioned segregation in Mobile, Alabama. He evidently was referring to the recent unpleasantness in the shipyards in Mobile, Alabama.

Rayard Huskin made a splendid speech non-violent direct action. He gave two examples one regarding refusal of a restaurant to serve him in Detroit, Michigan and the other an attempt to make him sit in the Jimcrow section of a bus during a trip through the South. The Conference, Baker said, went down the line for non-violent direct action.

Layle Lane:

Disagreed with the policy formulated by the Conference relative to the war. There is a contradiction between the advocacy and support of a policy of violence and bloodshed which is attendant with war and non-violent direct action. That somehow this contradiction has to be overcome. This, she stated was her criticism of the Conference.

She concluded with a appeal for more action such as poster walks, mass meetings, mass marches and other actions. A meeting of the mass action Committee and the Lynn Committee will meet on Friday night at the office of the M.O.W.N. and all members of these Committee were urged to be present.

A. J. Johnson:

Criticized Vincent Baker. He accused him of making an attack against black people in his speech in Chicago. He did not mention what remarks he was referring to. The Conference, he said, was very inspiring and that A. Phillip Randolph was a great leader who must at all time be supported.

He accused the leaders of the delegations that were in Washington, D.C. recently visiting the President as splitters of the Negro people. There should be, he said, one leadership among the 20,000,000 Negroes in America under the leadership of A. Phillip Randolph. He said that he was circulating a petition asking ~~that~~ the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters to release A. Phillip Randolph for one year from the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in order that he may devote full time to the March On Washington Movement.

He concluded with an appeal for unity of Negroes with Latin-Americans, Chinese, Phillipinos, Japanese and all other dark people.



July 7th, 43

M.O.W.M. continued.....

Mr. Scott: Public Relations Director M.O.W.M.

The reaction to the decisions of the National Conference, particularly the one barring white persons from membership has caused him considerable alarm. It will undoubtedly result in the loss of considerable trade union support. Already he has been besieged with calls for an explanation. The Committee formed by Pearl Buck has already announced that they will not cooperate with the M.O.W.M. because it bars white persons. Dark says he said, lie ahead. There will be considerable opposition but in the end we will be victorious.

Mr. Decker:

Stated that he was enthused by the Conference.

A. Phillip Randolph:

Answered A.J. Johnson's criticism of Vincent Baker by stating that Baker did not attack black people in his remarks but quite the contrary made a splendid and forceful speech in behalf of the Negro people. Baker, he said, made some outstanding contributions at the Conference.

In reply to the criticism of Layle Lane, he stated, that the M.O.W.M. was not a pacifist movement, that it had nothing in common with the pacifism advocated by Miss Lane. The M.O.W.M. is for the winning of the war. The non-violent direct action program was not an anti-war program. It was not in any way connected with the civil disobedience program of the Indians in India. The non-violent direct action program was an American creation of the M.O.W.M. and had nothing in common with the Gandhi program. The so-called contradiction referred to by Miss Lane was a figment of the imagination.

The Conference decided upon a series of mass marches all over the Country. New York must set the example by a mass march on City Hall against the Mayor's approval of the Jimcrow Metropolitan Insurance Company's housing project. This march must be made the model or pattern for all the other marches. He said that the St. Louis chapter is raring to go and that we would have to get busy and organize a very successful march or St. Louis get the jump on us.

The St. Louis chapter, he said, has intelligent and enthusiastic leadership and are planning bold and direct action. They played an important part in the Conference.

The Confab decided upon a budget of \$16,000 a year for the operation of the National Office. The dues have been increased from ten cents a year to one dollar a year.

The M.O.W.M. can expect considerable opposition because of the stand it has taken but that in time it can be overcome. The critics are those who

July 7th, 43.

March On Washington Movement continued.....

A. Phillip Randolph continued.....

who have never contributed to the N.O.W.M. Dark days lie ahead but victory is sure.

The N.A.A.P.C. has rescheduled the railroad hearings. The hearings will be held in Washington, D.C. in September. He said that he was particularly glad that Milton Webster was retained on the N.A.A.P.C. It is an expression of recognition of the N.O.W.M. which was responsible for N.A.A.P.C.

The National Conference was a splendid one. It was an action conference

**Other Observations:**

The Conference went on record to hold a hemispheric conference of the representatives of all the darker races in connection with the Peace Conference.

The Conference was representative of all parts of the Country.

The structure of the organization was not changed. It is the same as that agreed upon at the Conference in Detroit, Michigan.



b7D

New York, New York

WEE:VAD  
100-28792

July 9, 1943  
CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY R

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EM  
ON 8/3/00

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of report of

[redacted]  
This report, dated July 7, 1943, is relative to a meeting of the New York branch of the above captioned organization. [redacted] further advises that that the conference will be discussed in greater detail at future meetings.

[redacted] has been advised to follow and report all further activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report are being placed in appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*J. V. K.*  
E. A. CONROY  
SAC

encc.

c.c. [redacted]

b7D

b3

363

July 11th, 43

Mass Meeting  
Sunday July 11th, 43  
Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Ave.,  
New York City.

Assemblyman Tulen Jack presides.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/02 BY SP 2ALM/EHL

Meeting held under the joint auspices of the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the People's Committee. This Negro Freedom Rally held on June 7th at Madison/Garden was also under the same joint auspices.

#### Objective of Rally:

The mass meeting was originally planned to enable those who were unable to attend the Madison Square Garden Rally on June 7th to see and hear Congressman Nathan "For This We Fight". A financial report on the Garden rally was to be given. Prominent speakers would speak on the program layed down at the Garden rally.

Since that time race riots have occurred. The subject matter of the meeting with the exception of the pageant was changed. The recent race riots and how to prevent an outbreak in New York City.

#### Speakers:

Charles Collins, Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee  
Adam Clayton Powell, Chairman, Peoples' Committee.  
Dr. Channing Tobias, National Executive Committee Y.N.C.A.  
Bertram Smith, National Secretary National Maritime Union, C.I.O.  
Rev. Ben Richardson, Associate Pastor, Abyssinian Baptist Church  
Roger Stroughton, Harlem Labor Union.  
Clandia Jones, Member National Committee Young Communist League  
Harry Braveman, Representative, American Committee for National Unity  
Los Angeles, California.

#### A Pledge:

I pledge to do all in my power to rally the people of my community, of my city and my country to combat the forces of race hatred and discrimination that are attempting to bring defeat and disgrace to our country and to our flag.

I pledge to meet the attacks of the instigators of race riots by cementing the closest bond of unity between the American people - Negro and white, Jew and Gentile, native and foreign born, behind our Commander-in-Chief for the total victory over fascist enslavement.

I further pledge to continue to organize and fight for absolute and complete equality for the fifteen million Negroes Americans and wipe out forever the disgrace of Jim Crowism and discrimination in all its forms from our beloved country.

Every person in the audience was asked to stand and make the foregoing pledge.

Received 7/13/43  
MEG



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July 11th, 43.

Golden Gate mass meeting continued....

**Letter to President Roosevelt:**

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, President,  
White House,  
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President,

I, the undersigned, urge you to speak out in condemnation of the fascist incitement to race riots which are demoralizing our people and disgracing our country and flag.

This form letter the persons in the audience were asked to send to the President.

**Adam Powell:**

He went to Detroit, Michigan to investigate first hand the causes for the recent race riot and its results. The police of Detroit, he said, his investigation revealed were members of the K.K.K. and were recruited from that organization. He praised the New York Police Department stating that they were of such high caliber that they would not turn against the Negro people of New York City in the shameful manner in which the police of Detroit turned against the Negroes there. The overwhelming majority of the persons killed were Negroes and the majority of these were killed by the Detroit police. The small number of white persons killed indicated where the police stood.

Organized labor, the church, and various other organizations and liberal groups would not permit a race riot in New York City, he asserted.

The March On Washington Movement at its National Conference in Chicago voted to exclude all white people from membership in its organization. This is a reactionary stand. We can not combat Jim Crow and discrimination by Jim Crowing and discriminating against other people. The Negro needs all the help he can get and there are millions of white Americans who are willing to give that help. (Applause and boos)

Stuyvesant Town a large housing project that is to be built by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, tax exempt for a quarter of a century, ~~strong~~ excluding Negro tenants would not be built according to Powell unless the policy of excluding Negroes was abandoned. Public pressure had compelled the Mayor to rescind his former decision to permit the Metropolitan to build the project despite the fact that it has publicly stated that the project would exclude Negroes.

He concluded with a quotation from his speech at the Negro Freedom Rally and an appeal for a collection.

**Channing Tobias:**

Channing Tobias stated that there would be unrest, race riots and disunity as long as there ~~were~~ two kinds of citizenship in America both in civil

July 11th, 43.

Golden Gate Mass Meeting continued.....

## Ganning Tobias:

and in military life. The whole conflict arises from this dual standard of personality. This, he asserted, must be eliminated.

## Charles Collins:

Stated that during the visit to Washington, D.C. a member of the F.B.I. told the delegation that there was not according to their knowledge any evidence of Ku Klux Klan participation in the Detroit rioting, that the K.K.K. was a patriotic organization participating in the war effort.

The F.B.I. showed a pronounced unwillingness to help or to cooperate, asserted Collins. The F.B.I. evidenced a reluctance to find the perpetrators of the riot in Detroit and hold them responsible for their deeds.

During his stay in Detroit investigating the recent race riot he said that he found no evidence that Negro and white people were equally responsible for the rioting as was alleged by certain individuals. The attack on the Negroes, he said, was planned, well organized and executed. He deplored attempts to create division and called for greater unity between Negro and white to prevent a race riot here.

## Other Speakers:

The other speakers spoke against the recent race rioting, branding them alien inspired and executed by "fifth column elements". They called for unity of the people to avert race rioting.

After the speakers the pageant "For This We Fight" was presented.

## Attendance:

Approximately 4,000. About 10% whites balance Negroes.



b7D

New York 7, New York

NET:HAF  
100-43416

July 16, 1943

439740

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

Director, FBI

Re: PEOPLES' COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 11, 1943, reflecting information concerning a meeting under the joint auspices of the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE and the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE, which was held at the Golden Gate Auditorium, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, on Sunday, July 11, 1943.

b7D

Informant's report does not reflect the entire meeting. He advised that he was unable to get away from his work on that day in time to attend the entire meeting, and consequently was able to report only what he was able to observe after his arrival. It will be noted that in reporting on the comment made by CHARLES COLLINS, Chairman of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE, he is reported to have stated that their delegation from New York City relative to the recent race riot in Detroit called on a member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In this respect Informant advised that he was not entirely clear as to whether COLLINS intended the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Department of Justice, but he seemed to use the two names synonymously and never made it entirely clear as to which branch the delegates visited.

Informant has been advised to follow and report on further activities of the above-captioned organization, as well as the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE. In respect to the pledge set out on the first page of Informant's report, Informant advised that this pledge, as well as an example of a letter to be sent to President ROOSEVELT, which is reflected on the second page of Informant's report, were passed out to the audience. Each member was requested to send this letter to President ROOSEVELT. Informant furnished this office with a copy of each, which are being retained in the file of this case in the New York Office, as are two copies of this report, which will be placed in the appropriate files.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

2 Enclosures  
Cc [redacted]

365 NA b3

July 15th, 43.

Harlem Committee of Soviet-American Friendship  
Mass meeting held July 13th, 43.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church.

Horan Weston presided:

Speakers:

Thyra Edwards, General Manager, People's Voice  
Rev. Ben Richardson, Associate Pastor, Abyssinian Church.  
Captain Sergei Kuznetsov, Russian representative.

Horan Weston:

He stated that the objective of the meeting was to create friendship between the Negro people and the Soviet peoples through mutual understanding of their problems. The meeting, he said, was a step in that direction. There were many lessons to be learned from the solution of the minority problem in Russia.

Thyra Edwards:

The minority problem in America, that is the Negro problem which she characterized as a minority problem is fundamentally the same as that of the many minorities in old Czarist Russia. The Soviet Government has solved its minority problems. All the terrible attacks against the minorities in Russia are things of the past. The peoples now live in peace and harmony.

She deplored the failure to give study and consideration to the remarkable successes of Soviet Russia in the solution of its own minority problems at a time when Negroes were being attacked in Detroit, Michigan and other American cities.

Her experiences in Russia were that the Russian people are very well informed regarding the Negro problem in America. In Russia all the minority groups have been completely integrated into the economic life. This she said was the solution. She concluded with an appeal for the creation of better relations among races.

Rev. Ben Richardson:

Praised Soviet Russia. Much can be learned from the study and example of Soviet Russia in the solution of its minority and other problems. He denounced the members of the clergy who are content to preach about what the Negro will get in the sky with utter disregard of the needs of the people here and now.

Moreover, he said, we can learn considerable from Russia. The Russian system is characterized as the practical application of the religion of Jesus Christ. What Christ advocated was a simple community life. This kind of life exists in Russia.

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Received 7/22/43

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July 15th, 43.

Soviet-American Rally continued.....

Captain Sergei Kourneeff:

Traced the history of Russia comparing conditions under the Czarist regime with conditions under the Soviets. Under the Czarist regime there were ceaseless racial conflicts. These conflicts were of the more than 170 different nationalities. Under the Soviet Government the race problem has been solved. These different nationalities live in harmony. Each has its own national culture.

The basic principle that Soviet Russia maintains is full and complete equality. Through the application of this principle a strong and unified nation has been built.

The unity of the people, their faith and confidence is responsible for the successful defense of Russia against the tremendous war machine and resources of Hitler.

Attendance:

Approximately 400



b7D

New York, New York

MET:LDS  
100-28627

July 24, 1943

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: HARLEM COMMITTEE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN  
FRIENDSHIP;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy  
of the report of [redacted] dated July 15, 1943  
reflecting information relative to a meeting by the captioned organiza-  
tion on July 13, 1943 at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York  
City. b7D

According to informant, the object of this meeting  
was to create friendship between the Negro people and the Soviet  
people through mutual understanding of their problems.

Captain SERGEI KOURNAKOFF reported to be a Russian  
representative, was one of the speakers.

Informant has been requested to follow and report on  
further activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in  
the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

CC: NY [redacted]

b3

July 20th, 43

**Buffalo, New York**

**Headquarters of the Communist Party in Western New York.**

**Organizers:**

The following persons were organizers of the Communist Party in Buffalo:

A. Mills, District Organizer prior to 1930.  
Peter Chant, District Organizer, 1930, 31 and part of 32.  
Manning Johnson, District Organizer, 1932, 33, part of 34.  
Henry Shepard, District Organizer, 1934

**Other Leaders:**

Carl Ilmoni, Agitation and Propaganda Director.  
Olga Gold, Organizational Secretary.  
Ethel Stevens, Organizational Secretary.  
John White, Organizer Unemployed Councils.  
Frank Herron, Organizer trade unions.  
Larry Johnson, Finnish Workers Club.  
Paul Cherry, I.W.O.  
Molly Cherry, I.W.O.  
Joseph Green, Steel Workers Union.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/02 BY SP2 ALM/KHL

Carl Ilmoni was transferred to New York City. His whereabouts unknown.  
Olga Gold active in the Communist Party in Harlem.  
Ethel Stevens was sent to the Lenin School for special training in 1933.  
John White was expelled. Last information was that he was working in the local relief bureau.  
Larry Johnson, Party Unit Organizer, head of Party Fraction in Finnish Workers Club, information is that he is still active.  
Frank Herron is active in the trade unions in Buffalo at present.  
Paul Cherry still active in the I.W.O. and the Party.  
Molly Cherry, wife of Paul active in I.W.O. and the Party.  
Joseph Green active in the Steel Workers Union, C.I.O.

**Party Contacts:**

**Ithaca, New York:**

Sam Abbott, 234 South Albany Street.  
George Griffiths, 413 East State Street.  
Beatrice Komnos, 527 Green Street.  
Mrs. Rose Brunson, 524 North Albany Street.  
Mrs. Mary Payne, 206 East Street.  
Norman Spitzer, 319 College Ave.

**Trumansburg:**

Chase Brothers. Entire family members of the Party. Party Unit meets there.  
Chase Brothers Farm.

Received 7/24/43  
MEG

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July 20th, 43.

Buffalo continued.....

## Syracuse:

A Negro by the name of Brown. Last known address 718 South Mc Bride Street. He was Party Organizer at one time. The active Party members were: Arthur Dwofaly, Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Rouff, Mr. Doroff, Mr. Burck. Burck operates a tailor shop. in  
 Virgia Mix, 210 1/2 Monroe Street  
 T.G. Ryan, 612 East Fayette Street.  
 Mrs. Joseph Jones, 403 Cedar Street  
 Harry Carlin  
 Lempi Mahela  
 Sam Jollowitz

## Rochester:

Lona Ray, 421 Joseph Ave.  
 Gertrude Walsh, 590 St. Paul Ave.  
 Mr. Herman, 630 St. Paul Ave.  
 Mr. Konniger.

## Celoron: (Celoron)

Earl Adams, P.O. Box 2

## Erin:

Irja Hostedt, Route 1

## Binghamton:

L.C. Brooks, 321 Main Street.  
 M. Maxian, cigar maker, 3 Halford Street.  
 Sophie Schechter, 7 High Street.  
 John Vasil

## Buffalo:

Paul Cherry, 1479 Jefferson Street.  
 Molly Cherry, 1479 Jefferson Street.  
 Dr. R. Cohen 485 Main Street.  
 T. Berger, 349 Victoria Street.  
 Frank Barnes, 176 North Division Street.  
 E. Jakorki, 96 Perry Street.  
 B.E. Mash, 166 Konefrick Ave.  
 Mike Budick, 232 Corton Place  
 Oscar Benson, 64 Kotimer Street.  
 Mike Jorson, 153 Ellicott Street  
 Mr. Greenburg 179 Brunswick street.  
 John Hoffman, 60 Ashley Street.  
 Mr. Hanson, 236 Eagle Street.

July 20th, 43.

## Buffalo continued....

Mr. J. T. Lamb 1144 Lovejoy Street.  
 William Wesley 751 Kensington St.  
 Mr. J. P. Tols, 430 West Street.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Mignon (Operated Radio Studio Tupper and Cippawa Streets)  
 Steve Loker, 235 Kosch Street.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Luckloff, 255 Kosch St.  
 Mike Petroff 22 Cherry St.  
 Nick Zabich, 22 Cherry Street.  
 Mili Novoran 22 Castings Street  
 Michael O' Dryn, 305 Military Road.

## Lackawanna:

Francislaw Parizevski, 565 Ridge Road

## Corning:

Oscar Nelson 11 Wallace Street

## Niagara Falls:

A. H. Novesplan, 307 10th Street.

## North Tonawanda:

Mr. and Mrs. Parrhill. Parrhill was sent to the Lenin School in 1932 or 3. After his return he became active in the Party in Buffalo.

This is as near a correct list of the most active members and supporters of the Communist Party that worked with the organizers according to my knowledge. Most of them I worked with up and until 1934. When I was in Buffalo last summer I inquired regarding a number of the persons listed and was informed by Joseph Green member of the Erie County Committee of the Party that most of them are still active. I did not have time to inquire regarding all of them. The addresses I have given have been taken from my records.



b7D

New York, New York

LET:IDB  
100-26603

July 24, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI


Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.,  
DISTRICT NUMBER TWO,  
BUFFALO FIELD DIVISION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 20, 1943, reflecting information concerning members of the Communist Party in Western New York State.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office, and one copy is being sent to the Buffalo Field Division for the information of that office.

Very truly yours,

  
R. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

CC: Buffalo (Enc.-1)  
NY [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/3/00

b7D

b3

- 267B

July 21st, 43

March On Washington Movement:  
Meeting held July 21st, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Colden Brown Presiding.

Financial Drive:

CONFIDENTIAL

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL

8/3/00

The launching of the financial drive to raise the New York Chapters quota was presented by Colden Brown. He stated that the success or failure of the M.O.W.M. depended upon the success of the drive. He then introduced Miss M. Pauline Myers who outlined the plan.

M. Pauline Myers:

1. The financial drive is to be combined with a membership drive to recruit 2,000 members in New York City. Each of these new members will be asked to pay one dollar joining fee and contribute a dollar for the fund.

2. Five groups will be organized. These groups will consist of 25 persons. Each group will have a captain. All the other members will be lieutenants. Each member will take the responsibility of getting ten new members to pay their joining fee and in addition contribute to the fund. The captains will be responsible for their respective groups. Each group is to raise \$450.

3. The group raising the most money will be given a bust of some prominent Negro.

4. Applications of new members are to be accepted only if they agree entirely with the M.O.W.M. program. They are to be asked to pledge to the following:

a. Combat Jim Crow in the armed forces by insisting upon the strict enforcement of the Selective Service Act which states that in the selection and training of selectees there shall be no discrimination. The Lynn case the focal point.

b. When the National Executive Board of the M.O.W.M. decides to have a mass march to Washington, D.C., that will participate.

c. Non-violent, good will direct action technique to wipe out Jim Crow.

d. Negro on the Peace Commission that will negotiate the peace upon successful completion of the war.

e. A free Africa and a free Caribbean.

f. A Western Hemispheric Conference of representatives of the darker races.

CLASSIFIED AND

EXTENDED BY SP-1 dh 7/15/92

REASON FOR EXTENSION

2

DECLASSIFICATION 7/28/90

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DECLASSIFICATION

July 21st, 43.

M.O.W.M. continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

E. Pauline Myers: ]

X(u)

2. Limiting of membership to Negroes only.

X(u)

The drive in New York will be directed by Colson Brown. Dr. Ervin, Esther Brown, Core Jones were among those who volunteered to serve as captains. X(u)

There will be a meeting of captains on Monday of the National office of the M.O.W.M. X(u)

(Communication: ]

X(u)

A letter was received from the Workers Defense League. It was a copy of a letter sent to Secretary of War Patterson protesting against discrimination at West Point. X(u)

Dr. Ervin recommended that a similar letter of protest be sent to the Secretary of War by the M.O.W.M. The recommendation was approved. X(u)

[ ] X(u)

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LET:LDB  
100-26792

July 24, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/3/00

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy  
of the report of [redacted] dated July 21, 1943,  
relative to a meeting of the Harlem Branch of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON  
MOVEMENT. ~~(u)~~

b7D

The informant has been advised to follow and report  
further activities of this organization. ~~(u)~~

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the  
appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*Em*  
E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

CC: NY [redacted]

b3

CLASSIFIED AND  
ENTERED  
REASON  
FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION

SP-1 DA 7/25/90

2

7/25/90

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE

~~X~~

37 ADB

July 18th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held Wednesday July 14th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Colden Brown, President, New York Local Presided

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2AEM/ELC

Dr. Lawrence Ervin:

Stated that he was inspired by the enthusiasm with which the people of Chicago greeted the delegates. He also commented on the seriousness of the delegates.

with few exceptions,

The Negro papers, he said, were not favorable in their report of the Conference. The Afro-American was mentioned as one of the few Negro newspapers that reported favorably on the Confab. The Conference was covered by the white newspapers daily.

B. Pauline Myers:

There were 131 delegates present at the Conference. The discussion of the delegates aimed solely at evolving a national program to guide the M.C.A.B. nationally. Such a program was hammered out. It consisted of the following:

1. Non-violent direct action campaign to be launched. This program was agreed upon after a full and thorough discussion of the non-violent direct action movements in other countries and other groups. The experiences of these actions will serve as a guide.

2. Safeguard and vouchsafe the proper function of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

a. Demand President Roosevelt and Father Hays to maintain the method of the public hearing by F.E.P.C.

b. Protest to Father Hays the Mobile Shipyard Decision. Demand letter and spirit of Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 be applied to every F.E.P.C. decision.

c. Demand immediate hearings in railroad, industry, Capitol Bus Company, and Detroit riots.

d. Contact your representatives in Congress; your local representatives of the Democratic and Republican parties to secure their support of the F.E.P.C. and their vote for a \$5,000,000 budget.

3. Develop a nation wide campaign around the Winifred Lynn Case. A National Committee was formed to develop the campaign. Its objective to expose and compel the elimination of Jim Crow from the armed forces.

Received 7/19/43

MEY

July 18th, 43

March On Washington Movement continued.....

E. Pauline Myers continued.....

The need of raising funds to carry on the work was stressed. The New York Chapter should lead in in this drive. The way in which Chicago contributed to the National Conference was mentioned as an example. Practically all our expenses were paid but that there was a deficit that would have to be met.

Aldrich Turner:

debts  
Mentioned that there were some outstanding/resulting from the Conference that had to be paid otherwise he enjoyed the Confab.

National Newspaper:

The M.O.W.M. will soon have a national Newspaper.

Delegates to the National Conference:

Dr. Ervin  
E. Pauline Myers  
Aldrich Turner



b7D

New York 7, N. Y.

LET:DJK  
100-26792

July 22, 1945

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 16, 1945, relative to a meeting of the captioned organization held July 14, 1945. The informant has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encls.

cc BY [redacted] ✓

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP 2 ALM/EHL

[redacted] 373

New York, New York

NET:LDB  
100-26792

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/3/00

August 2, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE FOR  
WINFRED LYNN;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are two photostatic copies of the official stationery of the CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE FOR WINFRED LYNN, listing the names of the Co-Chairman and sponsors of this organization.

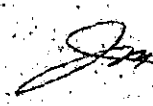
According to [redacted] who furnished this office with the original of the above letter, the CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE FOR WINFRED LYNN was organized by the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, and GOLDEN BROWN, President of the New York Branch of the M.O.W.M. has been elected National Chairman.

The informant also advised that so far similar committees have been set up in Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit and Washington, D.C.

The informant has been requested to keep in touch with the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT to obtain further information concerning the CITIZEN'S COMMITTEE FOR WINFRED LYNN.

The original copy of the above-mentioned letter is being retained in the appropriate file in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

CC  
NY [redacted]

b7D

b3

LD 374

July 23, 43.

Ethel Stevens:

In 1932 she worked with Peter Chaunt, District Organizer of District #4 which was the Buffalo District. District #4 covered all the territory in New York State West of Albany, New York.

When Peter Chaunt was transferred by the National Committee to New York City she was actively worked in the office with Manning Johnson, District Organizer replacing Chaunt and Morris Happort (Report) Organizational Secretary.

Ethel/work was mostly handling the secretarial work of the office along with agitation and propaganda. In addition she participated in the mass work of the Party such as speaking at mass meetings and touring all of Western New York during important Party campaigns.

In 1933 she was sent to Russia to attend the Lenin School. It was at that time customary for the leaders in each District to recommend comrades for higher training. Her recommendation came from the National Committee. The reason for the refusal to consult the District leadership was not explained.

In Moscow she was known under the name of:

Stella Frank  
Box 50  
Moscow 69  
Moscow U.S.S.R.

After her return from Moscow she was active in the Party in New York City. Her whereabouts are not now known to me. I will attempt to locate where she is at present and the nature of her work.

**Description:**

Russian Jewess. Born in Russia. About 5 feet 4 inches in height. Weight about 132. Present age about 36. Red head. Boyish bob. Freckled face. Mannish. Keen features. Good public speaker. Takes shorthand and types with considerable efficiency.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

b3  
b7D

375

New York, New York

MEET:LDB  
100-0

August 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: ETHEL STEVENS;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 23, 1943, setting out information relative to the activities of the captioned individual with the Communist Party.

b7D

Informant has been advised to attempt to locate the subject and obtain information relative to her present activities.

Two copies of the informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,



E. E. CONROY

CC JNY [redacted]  
Encs.-2

b3

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/3/00

LDB

376

July 24th, 43.

Parkhill:

His <sup>first</sup> name I can not at present recall. He was recruited into the Communist Party in 1932 in Buffalo, New York. At that time he was a member of the Electrical Employees Union, A.F. of L.

The Party at that time was determined to change the composition of the leadership through the rapid advancement of American-born element who showed considerable promise. Parkhill was the most promising American-born Party member in the District at that time, consequently he was recommended as a member for higher training.

In 1933 he was sent to the Lenin School. Upon his return he was sent back to Buffalo to work for the Party there.

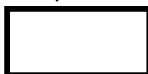
Parkhill lives in North Tonawanda, New York. He is married and at that time had one child. He was socially ostracized in North Tonawanda because of his Communistic activities. It was in 1931 that he gained prominence through a demonstration in the City Council in North Tonawanda against alleged anti-workingclass legislation.

He attempted to organize a rank and file movement in the Electricians Union but was thwarted because he was branded as a "Red". He participated in the demonstrations and marches of the unemployed and other activities conducted by the Party.

Description:

Height about 5 feet 7 or 8. Weight about 210 pounds. Nationality American. Complexion fair. Blue eyes. Hair light brown. Speaks slowly and deliberately. Age about 39 years.

His wife's name is Mary Parkhill.



439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

b3  
b7D

✓  
Good  
rnr



377



New York, New York

NET:IDS  
100-0

August 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: ----- PARKHILL;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 24, 1943 relative to the captioned individual.

According to the informant's report, this subject was last known to be active with the Communist Party in the Buffalo Field Division. One copy of the informant's report is being sent to the Buffalo Field Division for information.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours,



E. B. CONROY  
SAC

Encs. -2

✓ CC: Buf [redacted] (1)  
CC: NY [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL

ON 8/3/00

LOP

378

July 25th, 46.

Peter Chaunt:

Former District Organizer of District #4 (Buffalo, New York). He was sent to Buffalo after the recall of A. Mills. Prior to his coming to Buffalo he was a member of the Agit-Trop Commission of the National Committee. As a member of this Commission he was responsible for the working out of speakers outlines, effective methods and forms of agitation and propaganda.

He organized successfully functioning units of the Party in the key cities of Western New York and established contact in a number of small towns and among the farmers.

He directed and planned all the mass marches of the unemployed on the Buffalo City Council. ~~He~~ Recommended the line pursued by the auxiliary organizations such as International Labor Defense, Friends of the Soviet Union, International Workers Order, Finnish Workers, Hungarian, Polish, German and other language groups. Otto Hall was responsible to him for the successful organization of the Negroes.

The "Special Apparatus" of the Party was built by him such as special channels for confidential mail, codes, safe places for the keeping of files and important documents. Through the "Special Apparatus" he was advised to ask Party members working in various industrial plants to get blue prints or copies of blue prints of latent inventions for the purpose of forwarding them to Soviet Russia. They were asked to do this to facilitate the technological development of Soviet Russia the Fatherland of All Workers.

I recall a discussion between him and an employee in an aircraft factory in Buffalo during which he asked him to get the specifications of certain aircraft. The comrade said that he would try but that it was very difficult because they worked only on certain parts. How successful they were I do not know. I do not now recall his name. However he is a Finn. Age about 37. Height about 5 feet 6. Weight about 120 pounds. Hair very thin, in fact unusually so, that it is a prominent mark. He was reprimanded for coming to the office. He had been instructed never to come to the Party office.

Chaunt was arrested by the Alien Squad in 1931 or 32 in Buffalo. At that time there was a round-up of aliens. He was held for questioning but later released. I do not know what answer he gave but I do know that he told me that he was not a citizen of the United States and that he told them that he was born in San Francisco prior to the great fire. The fire he said destroyed all records and that he was safe in making that claim. However shortly afterwards he was transferred to New York City.

Description:

Height about 5 feet 9. Weight about 140 pounds. Reddish complexion. Red Hair. Freckles. Slightly protruding teeth (not pronounced) all of which are defective. Speaks with Hungarian accent. Married Elvi Wehrman. Has one child. Age about 49.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP-2 ALM/CHL

Look  
HR

b3  
b7D

379

New York, New York

NYT:LDB  
100-25867

August 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: PETER CHAUNT;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 25, 1943 relative to the above-captioned individual.

b7D

It should be noted, that according to informant's report, PETER CHAUNT took an active part in forming a special apparatus for the Communist Party, and that as part of his duty in connection with the special apparatus was the obtaining of blueprints on latest inventions for the purpose of forwarding them to the Soviet Union in order to facilitate the technological developments of Soviet Russia. CHAUNT, according to the informant, was transferred to New York City in 1932.

The informant has been advised to obtain additional information relative to the present activities of this subject.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

CC: NY [redacted]

b3

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH

ON 8/3/00

106

380

July 29th, 43.

March On Washington Movement.  
New York Division.  
Meeting held Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Colden Brown presided.

**Financial Drive:**

E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary gave a pep talk on the financial-membership drive and urged all members present to serve on the teams which are being formed.

Each team to consist of 25 members. Each member to raise \$20 through the collection of \$1 membership fee and \$1 donation. The formation of the teams has met with a snag. So far none of the teams have been formed but promises were made that they would be by the next meeting.

The presentation of the subject of the Drive was preceded by the singing of songs from the song sheet attached.

About 25 persons were present.



b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/60 BY SP2ALM/ELC

Good  
WV



b3

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

KRR:DJG  
100-26792

August 5, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI.

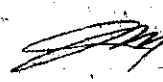
RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
New York Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated July 29, 1943, reporting a gathering of the above organization at which it was discussed the means of a financial drive. Twenty-five persons were reported present.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office and the informant in the future will report on the activities of this organization.

Very truly yours,

  
E. L. CONROY,  
SAC.

Encs. (2)

cc: [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ETHL  
8/3/00

P & C File  
Room E

[redacted] - 382

July 21, 43.

John "Johnny" Williamson.

I have known John Williamson since 1932. At that time he was Organisational Secretary of the Chicago District of the Party. He worked with Bill Gebert who was the District Organizer.

I met him at meetings of the National Committee. It was rumored that he really was the organizer in the District not Gebert. There was considerable foundation to this statement because Williamson has been and now is considered one of the best Party leaders on organization in the Party. At every Party plenum he spoke specifically on organization and was praised by Browder as well as the Communist International Representative Edwards for his contributions to the plenary sessions of the National Committee.

In either 1933 or 1934 he was transferred from Chicago to take over the Cleveland District of the Communist Party after the removal of B.D. Amis. He remained District Organizer until his transfer to New York City according to my knowledge.

He is at present as he has been for the last 8 years a member of the National Committee. He is at present active in New York City in the National Office in the organizational department.

**Description:**

Height about 5 feet 4. Weight about 162. Hair light brown. Eyes blue. Wears tortoise shell eyeglasses. Age about 38.

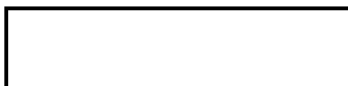


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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 BOM/CH

✓  
Good  
WV



303

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

KRR:DJG  
100-23774

August 5, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI.

RE: JOHN WILLIAMSON  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:


Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated July 31, 1943, on the above-mentioned individual, who is considered a key figure in the Communist Party by the New York Field Division. b7D

[redacted] advised that he has known WILLIAMSON since 1932 at which time he was the organizational secretary of the Chicago District of the Party and he worked with BILL GERTT who is District Organizer.

In 1933 or 1934 he was transferred to Cleveland District of the Communist Party and for the last eight years he has been a member of the National Committee.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC.

Encs. (2)

cc: [redacted] ✓

Room E.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/3/00

[redacted] 3840 Jh

August 1st, 43.

Harlem-Riverside Community Council C.I.O.  
Street meeting held July 31, 43.  
126th Street and 7th Avenue, N.Y.C.

Mac G. Davies presided:

The meeting was one of a series planned to educate the citizens of Harlem regarding pertinent local and national problems and to engender good will for the CIO.

Mac Davies explained the purpose of the meeting in his opening remarks which was to discuss jobs and job employment in the defense plants. Many jobs have been made available, he said, through the Peoples' Voice as well as through the C.I.O. He urged Negroes to take advantage of the present situation to get the special training that is now possible so that they may qualify for skilled jobs in industry. He urged them to save their money by buying war bonds and stamps.

At this point the meeting was broken up by a hit-and-run driver who struck down a woman not far from the meeting. The meeting was not resumed. I jotted down the number of the car New York license 3 U 7283.

Present At Meeting to Speak:

Albert "Smitty" Smith, Delegate National Maritime Union.  
Lyndon Henry, Manager, Local 88 Fur Dressers and Dyers, C.I.O.  
Mrs. Mamie Batiste, Women's Auxiliary National Maritime Union C.I.O.

About 25 persons were present at the opening.



439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/ERO

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b7D

Good  
10/2



-385



NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

KRR: DED  
100-26603

August 5, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI.

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.  
District No. 2, New York Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 1, 1943, concerning the "Harlem-Riverside Community Council, C.I.O.". [redacted] advises that this group hold a meeting on July 31, 1943 at 126th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City, the purpose of which was to discuss jobs and employment in defense plants. About 25 persons were present. This group, according to informant, is Communistically dominated.

No file is being opened on this organization, however, informant has been advised to follow and report the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC.

Encs. (2)  
cc: [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/CHL  
ON 8/3/00

DIG  
SP6

August 2nd 43.

### Harlem Riot.

The riot from all information that I could gather started as a result of the shooting of a Negro soldier by a local police officer. It was stated that he was killed by a shot in the back. In addition rumors were circulated that a Negro woman and man were killed by police. All these rumors tended to incite the people. Hundreds of them demonstrated in front of the 29th Precinct and Sydenham Hospital where the Negro Soldier was allegedly taken.

All information indicates that the incident happened in the vicinity of the Knickerbocker Hotel during an altercation between a policeman and a Negro soldier. There are conflicting stories about the incident. Some say the officer was brutally beating a Negro woman, the soldier intervened and was shot. Others say that the woman was being placed under arrest because she resented certain treatment. She badly handled by the arresting officer. In mingling with the crowd it was difficult to get the same story from people I talked to.

The riot was not a race riot. I mingled with the roaming mobs from eleven P.M. until 6 AM August 2nd. There was not attack on white people. There were a number of white people that I passed in the community that were not molested by the roaming groups.

The great bulk of the Negro population did not participate in the rioting. They were in sympathy with the protest against the shooting of the Negro soldier but were against vandalism, looting and wanton destruction of property.

The looting and destruction of property was the work of certain hoodlums who inspire young boys and girls of teen age to smash stores and loot them. Older persons joined in when they saw that the police were not making arrests.

I saw officers attempt to break up groups and make arrests but were attacked by mobs who threw missiles. Baseball bats, lead pipes and hand carved clubs were everywhere in evidence.

Groups of young hoodlums went from store to store smashing windows and looting. They gave special attention to jewelry, liquor, tobacco and drug stores and pawn shops. They would smash open grocery stores and shout to the women "Help yourself you don't need any ration points now". During the looting matches were used to enable looters to locate merchandise. The result was a number of fires were started.

Almost immediately after the windows of the business establishments were smashed crowds surged through and quickly looted the place.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP-2 MAM/HL

b3  
b7D

Good  
for

NEW YORK, N. Y.

KRM:DJG  
100-28627

August 5, 1943.

43974  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/3/0

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI.

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG AMERICAN NEGROES IN  
THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 2, 1943, in which he reports on the Harlem riot or disturbance in Harlem during the night of August 1, 1943.

Informant advised that he mingled with the roaming mobs from 11 P.M. to 6 A.M. on August 2, 1943. He states this was not a race riot; that he passed a number of white people in the community and that at no time were they molested by the roaming mobs. He claims that young hoodlums took advantage of this situation to damage property and loot stores. Rumors were spread over Harlem to the effect that a Negro man and woman were killed by the Police; that a Negro soldier was shot in the back by a local Police Officer.

In addition to the report furnished by [redacted] the informant telephonically advised Special Agent Kenneth R. Rounton of this office at 1:35 A.M., August 2, 1943 that a riot had broken out in Harlem. Subsequently, he has been contacting Agent Rounton and has advised that there is nothing to indicate that the disturbance in Harlem was a result of any political or foreign influence, and that it was purely vandalism on the part of the young hoodlums in Harlem.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office and the informant has been requested to keep this office advised as to developments which in turn will be furnished to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC.

Encs. (2)

cc: [redacted]

P & C File  
Room E

b7D

b3

August 1st, 43.

**George Washington Carver School**

In my report of the meeting of the Executive Board of the People's Committee I reported that Dr. Max Yergan had suggested the creation of the George Washington Carver School. This institution is to be devoted to the study of history of the Negro, his present and future status.

Dr. Max Yergan, member of the Communist Party is attempting to use the name of a great Negro scientist to establish a school to foster communistic ideas.

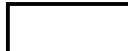
Miss Gwendolyn Bennett, formerly director of an Art Center at 125th St., and Lenox Avenue before it was abolished because of Communist domination. The project was under one of the Governmental agencies and figured prominently in the investigation of Communist activities on the WPA projects. There was considerable protest against the abolition of the project. This protest was organized by the Party. She was selected as director of the school, now under the process of formation.

Working with Miss Bennett are:

Dr. Max Yergan, Communist.  
E.L. Dimitry, Communist.  
Robert Craft, Y.M.C.A. (Works with Party groups)  
Mrs. Dorothy Steele  
Miss Thelma Dale, National Negro Congress  
Dr. Arnold Donawa, Communist, (Took part in Civil War in Spain)  
Hope Stevens, Lawyer, Communist.  
Ben Davis Jr. New York County Communist Party also Executive Secretary Harlem Section of the Communist Party.  
Melva Price, Communist, (Employed in New York School system)  
Canada Lee, Native Son fame.

This group will be responsible for working out all the details regarding the establishment of the school.

The school will get the unqualified endorsement of the Peoples' Committee.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2/ML/EHL

Good



- 389

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b7D

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

KRR:DJO  
100-26603

August 5, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI.

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.  
District No. 2, New York Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

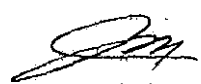
Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 1, 1943, concerning the organization of a GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCHOOL, which, according to informant, is being organized by DR. MAX YERGAN, a member of the Communist Party, who is attempting to use the name of a great Negro Scientist to establish a school to foster Communistic ideas.

No case is being opened on this at the present time, however, the informant has been advised to report any additional developments as to the formation of this group.

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

  
L. L. CONROY,  
SAC.

Encls. (2)

cc: [redacted] ✓

33 File  
Room E

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH

ON 8/3/00

[redacted] 390

August 4th, 45

**Riot in Harlem:**

I was asked by Commissioner Battle to assist in helping to restore law and order in Harlem. He gave me an assignment in the 28th Precinct. During that time I was able to get first hand information regarding all activities because the 28th Precinct was the Headquarters from which all activities were started.

The Police Inspectors Office was taken over completely by the Communists and their fellow travellers and they were directing all civilian activities such as speakers, auxiliary policemen and other volunteer workers.

Audley Moore, outstanding Negro woman Communist.  
Benjamin Davis Jr. Executive Secretary Harlem Section Communist Party.  
Howard "Stretch" Johnson Young Communist League.  
Larry Washington Y.C.L.  
Bonita Williams, Harlem Section Communist Party.

The above listed persons were giving directives for speakers and at times speaking on the streets. During the 7 hours that I was in the 28th precinct they were there most of the time.

Ferdinand Smith, Dr. Max Yergan and Albert Smith all of whom are members of the Party have been featured by the Mayor. They have been considered by the Mayor as the leaders of the Negroes. They have been used as speakers at the expense of the city of New York to assist in the guiding of the situation.



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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP 2 HEM/ENC

Good 1003



- 291

b3

New York, New York

KRR:JK  
100-28627

August 12, 1943.

*Confidential*

Director, F.B.I.

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG AMERICAN NEGROES  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated August 4, 1943 reflecting that Informant assisted the New York City Police Department in helping to restore law and order in Harlem. Informant advised that the Police Inspectors' Office was taken over completely by the Communists and their fellow travellers and that they directed all civilian activities such as speakers, auxiliary policemen and other volunteer workers.

b7D

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the appropriate New York files and Informant has been requested to make available to this office any further information coming to his attention concerning Communist activity in the New York City Police Department.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
S. A. C.

Encs.  
cc: NY [redacted]

b3

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8/3/00

SP2 Mm/EMC

392

August 5th, 43.

August 5th, 43.

March On Washington Meeting  
Held August 4th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Colden Brown president

A. Phillip Randolph

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DATE 02/11/00 BY 60322

Spoke on the recent rioting in Harlem. He said that while we can not condone destruction of property, hoodlums we can accept the view held in certain circles that puts the responsibility for the rioting on the Negro.

The treatment of Negro soldiers, discrimination, jimmies, insults and abuse of Negroes generally have turned Negro communities all over the country into powder magazines waiting only for the fuse. Harlem has been a magazine for a long time. The shooting of a Negro soldier was the fuse.

He predicted similar riots in other cities all over the country if discrimination, jimcrow, abuse of Negroes both in military and civilian life are not eradicated. Warning against listening to rumors, he cited Detroit and New York incidents in which reports contrary to the facts were circulated precipitating rioting.

Blaming New York City's Mayor La Guardia he said, that after the riot in 1935 in New York City the Mayor form an investigating committee that did a thorough and efficient job in fact too thorough for the Mayor. The Committee uncovered startling facts regarding discrimination and abuse of Negroes in various departments of the City Government. The Report of the Committee was suppressed. The suppression of those facts was a mistake. Had the report been published and corrective measures taken this present disgraceful incident would not have taken place.

He said that he had taken the initiative to get together a group of leaders in the Community and suggest the sending of a delegation to see the Mayor and to present the following recommendations:

1. A police Inspector and Captain in Harlem.
2. Two Negro policemen to every white policeman in Harlem.
3. Establishment of a Race Relations Committee of the Board of Education.
4. Course in Negro History in the Public Schools.
5. One of the Mayors personal Secretaries be a Negro.
6. That a Investigating Committee be formed to go into the causes of the recent rioting and that it be understood that the report of the Committee will be published.

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[August 5th, 43.]

X (u)

March On Washington Movement continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A. Phillip Randolph continued....] X (u)

7. That the Mayor ask President Roosevelt to issue a Proclamation abolishing discrimination in the Armed ~~For~~ Forces.
8. That leaders of other groups be asked by the Mayor to give their recommendations.

X (u)

The Delegation he said should present to Governor Dewey a plan for the creation of a New York State Race Relations Commission and request its immediate formation. A similar recommendation is being made in Illinois to the Governor there. X (u)

He concluded with an appeal for full support and participation in the financial drive. X (u)

Financial Drive:] X (u)

E Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary outlined the financial drive. Receipt books were distributed for the collection of membership fees and for contributions. She re-emphasized the that all persons recommended for membership must subscribe to the pledge before are taken into the M.O.W.M. X (u)



b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KRR:JK  
100-26792

August 12, 1943

*Confidential*

Director, F.B.I.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of a report  
of [redacted] dated August 5,  
1943. Informant advised that A. PHILIP RANDOLPH presided at a  
meeting of the above organization held August 4, 1943 at the Harlem  
branch of the Y.M.C.A. (u)

b7D

Informant advised that RANDOLPH criticized the Mayor  
for not making public the investigation conducted by the Mayor's  
Committee of the riots in 1935. Further, that RANDOLPH had taken  
the initiative to get together a group of leaders in the Harlem  
community and suggested the sending of this delegation to the Mayor  
to present a number of recommendations, among which are the appoint-  
ment of a Negro Police Inspector and Captain in Harlem, two Negro  
policemen to every white policeman in Harlem, a course in Negro  
history in public schools; the appointment of a colored personal  
secretary to the Mayor and a demand that the Mayor ask President  
Roosevelt to issue a proclamation abolishing discrimination in the  
armed forces. (u)

Two copies of the above report are being retained  
in the appropriate New York files and the Informant will continue  
to cover meetings of the above organization and report on same. (u)

Very truly yours,

439740

8/3/00

SP2 ALM/ETH

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC.

Encs.

cc: NY [redacted] ✓

CLASSIFIED AND

EXTENDED BY SP-1 05 7/28/80

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DATE OF REVIEW TO

DECLASSIFICATION

REASON

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DATE OF REVIEW TO

DECLASSIFICATION

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394

August 8th, 43

## Harlem Riot:

Harlem is quiet. It has settled down to its normal way of life after the worse riot in its history. There are mixed attitudes and opinions. They may summarized as follows:

1. It was the best thing that could have happened.
2. It was the most disgraceful thing that could have happened.
3. It is a serious reflection on all Negroes.
5. It will set us back 20 years.
6. Protest is all right but looting and destruction of property I am against.
7. The riot was inspired and organized by the criminal element for the purpose of looting.
8. It was not a race riot. It was an outburst of the criminal element.
9. Maybe they will give the Negro more consideration now.

There are numerous other expressions that express more or less one of the nine points I have listed.

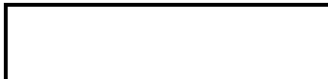
There have been attempts by the People's Voice and Communist element to give the riot an international character by linking it up with the K.K.K. whom they allege are American tools of Hitler. So far this attempt has failed. By coincidence Adam Powell received a letter from the Klan prior to the riot and he is making the most of it. I was not able to uncover any evidence of alien influence. I do not know the background of the police officer that shot the Negro soldier thus setting off the explosion but it seems to me on basis of all the information that I am able now to gather is that it was one of those unfortunate incidents.

Harlem has been a smoldering volcano for a long time. Considerable resentment has been created by reports of the treatment of Negro soldiers. Negro soldiers on furlough and in letters tell of the abusive treatment that they suffer in the South. Negro soldiers it has been reported have been killed and beaten. It is a common opinion among Negro servicemen that "Uncle Sam's Uniform doesn't mean a thing down South".

The Communists, the Peoples' Committee, March On Washington Movement, Negro Labor Victory Committee and the National Negro Congress along with numerous other organizations have been agitating against the treatment of Negro soldiers and have urged the formation of mixed units of the armed forces. Among the other organizations referred to are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Urban League.

There is considerable anti-Semitism in Harlem. The Jews who own and control the majority of businesses in Harlem and who own a considerable number of the apartment houses are blamed for the high prices for commodities and the high rents.

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DATE 8/3/02 BY SP2 amj/khl



- 395

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August 8th, 43.

Harlem Riot continued.....

OPA has failed to control prices in Harlem. Negroes are compelled to pay considerably more rent than the white people who formerly lived in the apartments which they now occupy. The landlords contend that the fact that Negroes now live in these apartments automatically depreciates the value of them and consequently they must demand higher rents. In order to pay the rent many Negro families have to live with other families. This situation creates considerable resentment and unrest. It has been the topic of discussion and agitation by all groups for considerable time.

The Metropolitan Housing project which was approved by Mayor La Guardia which denies the right of Negroes to live there has been also a source of considerable agitation.

The failure of Mayor La Guardia to publish the findings of the Committee that investigated the 1935 Riots was a gross mistake. Had the report been published and remedial measures taken considerable of the present resentment would not now exist.

This report covered all or all most all of the grievances of the Negroes in New York City regarding discrimination in relief, denial of employment and numerous other acts of discrimination which so lowered and debased the living standards of Negro families that it broke down home moral.

It logically follows that the breaking down of home moral gave rise to widespread juvenile delinquency. The inability of Negro parents to give their children many of things that other children have caused these youngsters, that is many of them, to become prey of the racketeering element. It was considered smart to make a dollar without working for it. Most of the looting was done by young girls and boys between the ages of ten fourteen and seventeen. All those arrested and those who were not arrested are by-products of the depression which preceded the war.

The Jimcrow Law, the poll tax, lynching of Negroes and numerous other acts have all been the subject of agitation among Negroes by all groups. This gave rise to considerable pro-Japanese sentiment. The Communists have used these things to agitate for a change of the present form of government to the Soviet form as the only and final solution. Other groups have used these things to build their organizations with the aim of reforming our present government.

In view of the background of issues and the agitation around these issues it is readily discernable that Harlem is a dam of resentment. This is particularly pronounced when you consider the tension that is naturally engendered by the present war.

August 8th, 43

**Harlem Riot:**

The application of the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms to Negroes and all the darker races have been a subject of discussion and agitation. A free Africa, a free Caribbean are all subjects of discussion. What will be the status of the American Negro, Africa, the West Indies and all the darker races after the war is the topic of discussion. The failure of the leaders of our government to give any specific information has created a favorable opportunity for agitation that the Negroes will remain "second class citizens" unless they assert themselves now.

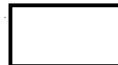
Moreover, Africa and the Caribbean will remain vassals unless the Negro in America asserts himself.

It would be a fatal error to conclude that the riot was an action of of element with criminal tendencies; persons who were bent on looting and destruction of property. While we can not condone ~~this~~ action yet we must be in a position to understand the basic reasons for such a conflagration. Were it not for the pent up resentment the element criminal tendencies would not have dared to assert themselves in the manner in which they did. The Negroes who were protesting against the "killing of a Negro soldier" ( that was the rumor) did not take part in the rioting. The rioting was done by hoodlums; mostly youngsters who were lead by older Negroes who have been in rackets for many years.

Many Negroes expressed their resentment against the white merchants in the community by the smashing of windows but only a minority participated in the looting of stores. There is considerable bitterness against the local merchants because most Negroes feel that they are charging them excessively for every thing they buy. OPA has failed to control prices in Harlem; the black market flourishes and the credit stores are really "clip joints".

The riot was not racial only in the respect that there was destruction and looting of property owned by white persons. There was no except in an incident or two where white s were attacked. The policy pursued by the local administration was the best. The use of force would have perhaps prolonged and aggravated the riot to say nothing of creating an intolerable situation.

These are my observations. I am reluctant to express an opinion as to what should be done. However far sighted and liberal city, state and Federal officials could avert such situations by offering a constructive program that would eliminate the many grievances of the Negro.



New York 7, New York

KRM:RM  
100-26627

August 12, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
ALONG AMERICAN BORDERS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of  
[redacted] dated August 9, 1943.

This report reflects the mixed attitudes and opinions  
of various individuals as to the recent riot in Harlem, as well  
as the informant's opinion as to the present situation, which was  
requested of the informant and which he claims is given from an  
objective point of view. Two copies of the above report are being  
retained in the files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,

*JM*  
E. H. CONROY  
SAC

✓ Enclosures (2)

C.C. NY [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/3/00

SP-2 ALM/EHL

August 10th, 43

Angelo Herndon.

Yesterday I had a conversation with Angelo Herndon. I was informed by him that the Party had withdraw support from The Negro Quarterly and its publishing company because he is now not in the favor of the Communists.

They charge him with nationalism. He has not been expelled but they are not giving him any cooperation.

He also informed me that his draft status was changed. This he said was done by the Communists the strike back at him because he disagreed with them on the matter of policy. He is very bitter against them because of this action. He said that they told the Draft Board about his Communist affiliations and other things in order to put him in the army when he was beginning to make a success of his publishing company. He further stated that he was going to appeal.

About two weeks ago I had a talk with him. At that time he informed me that he disagreed with the Party attitude regarding Negroes and also of President Roosevelt. To be precise he said that President Roosevelt should be criticized for his failure to speak out in behalf of the Negro and that while we support the positive aspects of the President's program we should boldly criticize the negative aspects.

He did not state whether or not these opinions lead to his disfavor or not.



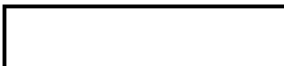
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New York, New York.

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100-31140

August 12, 1949

100-31140, 101

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: EDWARD ARTHUR BRANSON HERNDON, alias  
Angelo Herndon  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted]  
[redacted], dated August 10, 1949.

b7D

[redacted] advises that WHEELER had informed him that the Communist Party had withdrawn support from the Negro Quarterly and its publishing company, because he, WHEELER, is not in the favor of the Communists. He has not been expelled, but they are not giving him any cooperation. He believes the Communists are responsible for the recent publicity in the New York daily papers concerning WHEELER'S status with the draft board and his classification has now been changed from 1-B to 2-A.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours,

Enclosure (2)

✓ CC NY [redacted]

F. E. GARDNER  
SAC

b3

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/TEHL  
ON 8/3/00

398



August 15th, 43

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held August 11th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.N.C.A.

Golden Brown presiding.

Attorney General Biddle:

Golden Brown stated that Attorney General Biddle in a recent statement regarding the riots, that there should be an immediate end of migration of Negroes from the South. The recommendation for the restriction of Negro immigration was allegedly made in the form of a recommendation to President Roosevelt by Attorney General Biddle.

The essence of this recommendation is purported to be "that immediate and careful consideration be given to limiting and in some instances putting an end to migration into communities which can not absorb them because of physical limitations or cultural background".

This, Brown stated, showed the trend of thinking of some of the people high in our government regarding the Negro. He characterized Biddle's recommendation as a dangerous trend of thought that would breed ill-will, national disunity and hinder the war effort. Such a trend of thought must be combatted.

Financial Drive:

E. Pauline Myers gave a lengthy pep talk on the financial-membership drive and urged to teams to raise their quotas and if possible go above it. She praised Dr. Ervin for the work he has done as an individual since the drive began.

Most of the teams have begun to function but very slowly. Dr. Ervin was the only team captain who was able to report definite progress. He stated that he had visited a number of professional men and that he had received contributions of from \$5 up.

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DATE 8/13/00 BY SP8 AMJ/CHL

Good  
NR

399

New York 7, New York

KRR:EG  
100-26792

August 19, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated August 12, 1943 in which he reports on a meeting held by the above organization on August 12, 1943. Informant advised that GOLDEN BROWN criticized Attorney General Biddle in the recent statement he made regarding the riots where consideration is being given for an immediate end of migration of negroes from the south.

b7D

Informant advises considerable time is taken up in connection with the financial drive presently being put on which he states according to reports is progressing very slowly.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York office and informant is instructed to continue to report the activities of the above organization.

Very truly yours,

E. Z. CONROY  
SAC

Encl  
cc - [redacted]

b3

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/LEH  
8/3/00

[redacted] 400

August 18th, 43.

**March On Washington Movement:**

The National Executive Committee has submitted the following "National Program of Action" to all the units of the N.O.W.M.:

**I.**

- A. To carry on a progressive fight in behalf of a mixed army of the United States of America.
- B. To continue the fight on the Winfred Lynn case in cooperation with the American Civil Liberties Union for the enforcement of Section 4A of the Draft Act which reads:

"In the selection and training of men under this act, and in the interpretation and execution of the provisions of this Act, there shall be no discrimination against any person on account of race or color."

**II.**

- A. To understand and develop strategy in the use of the technique of non-violent good will direct action as an instrument for abolishing Jim Crow and racial segregation in the United States.
- B. To sponsor and institute a week end conference for the training of March On Washington Movement leadership in non-violent good will direct action.
- C. To organize, discipline and school members of the N.O.W.M. in the dynamic techniques of "marching" preparatory to launching a national non-violent "march" of Negroes to the Nation's Capitol to protest the indignities and injustices heaped upon the Negro people and to demand action on the part of the National Government.

**III.**

- A. To organize a Non-Partisan Political Bloc of Negroes for the purpose of developing mass political pressure.
- B. To develop mass plans to secure mass registration of the Negroes for the primaries and for the elections.

**IV.**

- A. To work for Negro representation on the Peace Commission to negotiate the peace of the world.
- B. To popularize the slogan of a Free Africa and a Free Caribbean.

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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

Good  
HAR

August 12th, 43.

**N.O.F.N.**

**V.**

**A. To initiate a Western Hemispheric Conference of Free Negroes.**

**VI.**

**A. To carry on a national fund raising campaign among the Negro people to carry on the fight for their own liberation.**

**VII.**

**A. To continue the fight to strengthen and ensure a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee.**

**B. To work for the preservation of the public hearing as a permanent instrument of F.E.P.C.**

**The above "National Program of Action" will be operative from August 1943 until July 31, 1944.**



b7D

New York 7, New York

KRR:EG  
100-26792

August 19, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

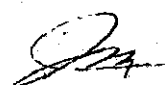
Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the original and one copy of a report of  
[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau,  
dated August 12, 1943.

Informant sets forth a "National Program of Action" which has been submitted to all the units of the March on Washington Movement by their National Executive Committee, which program, among other things, calls for a progressive fight in behalf of a mixed army, a continued fight on the Winfred Lynn case, and the organizing, disciplining and schooling of its members in the technique of marching preparatory to launching a national non-violent march of negroes to Washington to protest the indignities and injustices heaped upon the negro people.

Two copies of this report are being retained for the files of the New York office and informant is being instructed to follow and report on the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,



E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encl  
cc - [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP3 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/4/00

[redacted] - 402

[August 14th, 43]

(u)

March On Washington Movement:

The following is a complete text of the "Membership Pledge" that will be required of all new members taken in during the present membership drive:

MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

I.

I support and endorse the fight of the United Nations to wipe out the Axis menace.

II.

I endorse the policy of a mixed army and consider a negation of democracy to segregate soldiers who are fighting the same foe for the same cause.

III.

I will work for Negro representation at the Peace Conference to negotiate world-wide peace.

IV.

I support a non-violent but direct struggle by the Negro people to abolish segregation now and agree to "March" when authorized by the National Executive Committee.

V.

I am not anti-white, but I believe that Negroes should initiate the campaign to win their unconditional equality of status for themselves.

VI.

I will work for a Free Africa and a Free Caribbean.

(u)

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[ ] (u)

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7/28/90

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

X

Good  
JPR

403

New York 7, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KRR:EG  
100-26792

August 19, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, on August 14, 1943 submitted a complete text of the "Membership Pledge" that will be required of all new members taken in during the present membership drive of the above organization. (u)

Two copies of this report are being furnished the Bureau and two copies are being retained for the New York office. Informant will follow the activities of this organization. (u)

439740

8/3/00 SP-3 ALM/EHL

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encl  
cc - [redacted]

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SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-1 05 7/28/90  
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2  
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION 7/28/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

404

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New York, New York

NR:K  
100-20627

August 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION OF  
AFRICAN NEGROES  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is a circular furnished by [redacted]  
[redacted] which he advised was distributed by ADAM CLAYTON POWELL,  
JR., during the recent Harlem riot.

Submitted by

KENNETH R. ROBERTS  
Special Agent

✓ C.C. NY [redacted]

439740  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

405

F. B. I.	
AUG 13 1943	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

405



August 19th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held Y.M.C.A. (Harlem Branch)  
August 18th, 43.

Golden Brown Presided.

Austin-Wadsworth Bill: (Draft Labor Bill)

The Bill provides for a "system of civilian selective war service with the aid of Selective Service". Provides that both men and women may be drafted to either war industries or agriculture or any occupation essential to war, between the ages of 18 and 60.

We were asked to strenuously oppose the Bill because it is designed to conscript labor strengthen discrimination against the Negro in industry, transportation and agriculture.

The protest against the Austin-Wadsworth Bill to be sent to President Roosevelt.

Financial Drive:

The balance of the meeting was devoted to the financial-membership drive. The captains of the teams were asked to turn in all the money collected to date to the certified public accountant who was present. Receipts were issued.

Golden Brown announced that a little over three hundred dollars has been collected and turned in. The Certified Public Accountant will give a complete report at the end of the Drive which will be in September.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/JHC

Good ✓  
HBR

- 406

KRR:als  
100-26792

New York, N.Y.  
September 2, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 19, 1943.

Informant advises that at a meeting of August 18, 1943 of the above group, COLLEEN BROWN presided, and that those in attendance were requested to oppose the Austin-Fadsworth Bill.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office.

Informant will continue to follow and report the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,

*EAC*

E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Two Enclosures

cc: NY [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/3/00

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1107

August 30th, 45.

National Negro Congress  
Meeting was not held.

I went to the YMCA (Harlem) to attend a meeting of the National Negro Congress. I waited until ten thirty in the evening. Only four persons showed up including myself.

**Purpose of the Meeting:**

The meeting was called to discuss the launching of a campaign to get 2,000,000 signatures on a petition to President Roosevelt asking that all subversive, "Fifth Column" groups be investigated and outlawed.

**Organizations to Participate:**

National Negro Congress.  
International Labor Defense,  
National Federation for Constitutional Liberties,  
Council for Pan American Democracy.

**Organisational Objective:**

To get the support of various trade union, religious, fraternal, civic groups to take part. Each group to make their own petitions and to get them signed.

The week of September 7th to 13th will be set aside for intensive collection of signatures and general agitation against the KKK and "Fifth Column" groups.

The week of activities will be climaxed with a mass meeting.

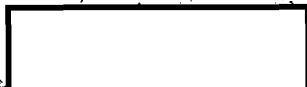


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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Good ✓  
KOR



408

KRR:els  
100-3633

New York, N.Y.  
September 2, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 20, 1943.

b7D

Informant advises that a meeting of the above organization was to take place at the YMCA in Harlem on the above date, but did not materialize. The purpose of this meeting was for the launching of a campaign to get signatures on a petition to President Roosevelt, requesting that the Klu-Klux Klan and other Communist groups be investigated and outlawed.

Two copies of the above report are being maintained in the New York Office.

Informant will continue to follow and report the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,

*HWK*

E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Two enclosures

cc: NY [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/3/00

S.P. 2 ALM/ELH

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[redacted] 409

August 23rd, 43

**Peoples' Committee**

**111th Anniversary of the Emancipation of the West Indies;**

The Peoples' Committee along with other groups are to celebrate the 111th anniversary of the emancipation of the Negroes of the West Indies.

The meeting will be held:

Sunday evening August 23th, 43  
Abyssinian Baptist Church  
132 West 139th Street

Adam Clayton Powell will be the principle speaker. Dr. Pettioni and others will be invited to speak.

A musical program with native songs, dances and skits will be rendered.

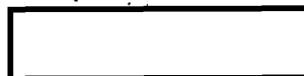


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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/31/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL



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fair ✓  
HRR

# HARLEM -

## CONCERN OF ALL NEW YORK



ALL NEW YORK—ALL AMERICA  
—has a profound lesson to learn  
from the tragic events in Harlem  
on August 1st and 2nd.



439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP-6 ADM/IEHL

SIX LIVES WERE LOST. HUNDREDS WERE INJURED. STORES AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS BY THE THOUSANDS WERE SMASHED AND LOOTED.

Yet the most terrifying thing about Harlem is What didn't happen—what was averted.

For Harlem was no Detroit. There was no race riot. The explosion was speedily and effectively brought under control.

How can we account for what happened? Why did it not turn into another Detroit? How was order and tranquility so quickly restored?

New Yorkers: these are questions you dare not avoid.

\* \* \* \*

It was no accident that Harlem was no Detroit, that in our city the Hitlerites, the anti-Semitic and anti-Negro gangs were foiled. As much as they wanted to, Axis agents were not able to transform the Harlem outbreak into a bloody race war.

They couldn't do it because New York is what it is—the most progressive city in the country.

That law and order was so speedily restored is a tribute to our city—to the Negro people and their leaders, typified by such men as Dr. Max Yergan and Ferdinand Smith; to our Mayor and his police force which acted quickly, intelligently, humanely; to the 1500 Negro deputy policemen who patrolled the area side by side with the regular police force; to the whole democratic population.

But why did it happen in the first place? Everyone knows that the shooting of a Negro soldier by a white policeman was not the *cause*: it was only the occasion, the spark that touched off the flame.

The Harlem outbreak was a spontaneous explosion. It was the act of a people pent up with resentment against Jim-Crow—a Jim-Crow that persists and continues in the midst of a war for freedom, a war against Aryan "supremacy" and the blood theories of Hitler.

The grievances of the Negro people were piling up while all too great a part of the white citizenry looked on with indifference, complacency, neglect. For be sure, some recognized the danger and were fighting against

it. Trade unionists and other civic-minded citizens were joining with the Negro people in the battle against Jim-Crow.

Yet the results of their efforts were slow in appearing. Compared to the needs of our nation at war, the steps toward the elimination of discrimination were woefully inadequate.

That is why the blame for Harlem rests with all of us. That is why the lessons of Harlem are lessons for all of New York, all of America.

Let us look at some facts about Harlem:

- ★ Rents are sky-high. Jim-Crow in housing is practically universal (to be found even in the Metropolitan Life Insurance housing project endorsed by the City).
- ★ Food prices are higher than anywhere else in the city. OPA enforcement and consumer education facilities are totally inadequate.
- ★ Job discrimination continues. The great bulk of better paying jobs are closed to Negroes.
- ★ Health and hospital facilities fall far short of filling Harlem's needs. An available wing of Harlem Hospital is not even in use.
- ★ Playgrounds and recreation facilities are insufficient.
- ★ Amusement parks and beaches still have a color line.
- ★ Police brutality has long been a shameful practice in Harlem.
- ★ JIM-CROW DISCRIMINATION EXISTS IN THE ARMED FORCES.

This last is the most burning grievance of all. Negro families are getting letters from their soldier sons—sons who are giving their lives for their country—telling of insults, degradation, beatings, particularly from Southern Klan-minded civilian authorities.

It is against these grievances that the Negro people rebelled on that terrible night in Harlem.

The form of their protest was utterly wrong. It is not the way to fight Hitlerism abroad and fascist reaction at home.

The Negro people themselves know this. That is why the great majority of them refused to participate in the looting. That is why they acted so quickly and effectively to transform the chaos into order.





THIS IS THE PROGRAM WE PROPOSE—A PEOPLE'S PROGRAM TO BE WORKED OUT SPEEDILY BY NEGRO, CHURCH, LABOR, CIVIC AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY ADMINISTRATION:

1. Thorough investigation into the Harlem outbreak for its causes.
2. Rent control and rent ceilings. Ending of Jim-Crow in housing. Not a brick on the Metropolitan Housing project until racial discrimination is banned.
3. Strict OPA price control enforcement, especially on food. An OPA center and consumer educational centers in Harlem with Negro and labor representatives.
4. End of job discrimination. Full opportunities for advancement of Negro workers.
5. End of Jim-Crow mistreatment and atrocities against Negro soldiers. Opening of Waves and Spars to Negro women. Full equality for Negro women in the Wacs.
6. More Negroes on the police force and at least one Negro in every police car cruising the Harlem districts. Severe punishment and ouster of every policeman guilty of brutality or race hatred as a disgrace to New York's finest.
7. Suppression of the Klan and all fascist gangs which spew race hatred. Unity of Negro and white against all provocations and Axis-inspired riot attempts.
8. City-wide inter-racial committee of Negroes, Jews, Catholics, native and foreign-born, and trade unionists.
9. A broad conference of all Negro, labor and patriotic organizations to map a city-wide program against racial discrimination.

IT MUST NOT HAPPEN AGAIN IN HARLEM—OR ANYWHERE ELSE IN OUR CITY.

*Mr. New Yorker: Act now to wipe out Jim-Crow. Speak up — as an individual and through your organization — for Negro and white unity, for victory and equality — to win the war in 1943.*

*Ben Davis, Jr.*

BEN DAVIS, JR., Secretary

Harlem Section, Communist Party  
200 West 135th St., New York City



Read the DAILY WORKER—The Paper that Fights for Equality

★ BUY BONDS ★

KRR:els  
100-43415

New York, N.Y.  
September 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 23, 1943, advising that the PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE is taking an active part in the celebration of the 111th anniversary of the emancipation of the Negroes of the West Indies.

b7D

Two copies of this report are being retained in the files of the New York Office, and informant will continue to report on the activities of the above group.

Very truly yours,

*EMK*

E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Two Enclosures

cc: NY [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ETHL  
8/3/00

*plan*

August 24th, 43

### Inter-Racial City Conference

In line with the recommendations of Ben Davis, Jr. Executive Secretary Communist Party in Harlem for the calling of a City-Wide Inter-racial Conference such a Conference is being called.

Ben Davis sets forth nine points to be considered as the program for this Conference. A copy of this program has already been submitted.

The Conference is being sponsored by a group of "liberals". The initial meeting of this group was held Tuesday afternoon at the Y.M.C.A. Board Room, 347 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Among the initiators are:

Ben Davis Jr. Executive Secretary Harlem Section Communist  
Ferdinand Smith, Communist, Secretary National Maritime Union  
Congressman Vito Marcantonio  
Max Yergan, Communist, President National Negro Congress  
Saul Mills, Secretary C.I.O. Industrial Union Council  
Joseph Curtan, President National Maritime Union.  
Adam Powell, City Councilman, Chairman Peoples' Committee  
Attorney Donald Isaacks  
Theodore Jackson, President Local 370, A.F. of L.

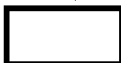
Some of the others who have worked with the Communists in united front activities are:

Channing Tobias, National Board Y.M.C.A.  
Henry Craft, Harlem Y.M.C.A.  
Thomas J. Harten, Minister  
Juan Corretjer  
Rev. John H. Johnson  
Dr. George Haynes  
Councilman Stanley Isaacs  
Judge Anna Kross

### Objective:

To set up a strong city council of white and Negro citizens to "avert a repetition of the recent riot in Harlem".

The date of the Conference according to information has not been set.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL



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KRR:els  
100-28627

New York, N.Y.  
September 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
AMERICAN NEGROES.  
SECURITY MATTER - X.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of  
[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau,  
dated August 24, 1943.

b7D

This report reflects the names of individuals who are  
initiators for a city wide inter-racial conference to be created in  
order to avert a repetition of the recent riot in Harlem.

Informant also lists a number of names of individuals  
who have worked with the Communists on these matters.

Two copies of the above report are being retained for the  
files of the New York Office, and informant has been requested to re-  
port anything additional that comes to his attention in this matter.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*

E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Two Enclosures

cc: NY [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EL  
ON 8/3/00

413

August 26th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting Held August 25th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Golden Brown Presided.

New Worlds A Coming

Golden Brown gave a brief review of the book "New Worlds A Coming" by Ray Otley.

This book, he says, gives a interesting and true estimate of the leaders among the Negroes. It gives an analysis of their records and what can be expected of them. The book, he said, pays a splendid tribute to A. Phillip Randolph but derides Adam Powell, Jr.

He urged us to get a copy and read it.

E. Pauline Myers:

She gave a brief report on the status of the Lynn Case. The Civil Liberties Union Committee, she said, is becoming reluctant to press the case because they are not willing now to embarrass the President of the United States. Considerable pressure must be brought to bear to assure the successful prosecution of the case.

The case will be argued in the Circuit Court of Appeals in the fall. Attorney Arthur Garfield Hays will argue the case. It will be argued from a sociological point of view. There are some objections to the attorney assigned by the Civil Liberties Union because he is a Southern liberal who believes in equal accommodations for Negroes but separate from white persons. Every effort will be made to get him out of the Case. This attorney is drawing up the brief.

Financial Campaign:

Progress was reported in the financial drive.

Red Cross Blood Bank:

Vincent Baker asked the M.O.W.M. to support a Conference contemplated by Modern Trend embracing a number of student organizations against the segregation of blood by the American Red Cross. There was a debate as to whether we should or should not participate in this campaign. It will be further discussed at the next meeting.

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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Good ✓  
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414

KRR:els  
100-26792

New York, N.Y.  
September 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 26, 1943.

b7D

Informant advised that a meeting of the above group was held on August 25, 1943 at the Harlem Branch of the Y.M.C.A., at which time GOLDEN BROWN presided. A review of ROY OTTLY's recent book concerning Harlem was given and E. PAULINE MYERS gave a brief report on the status of the LYNN case which is to be argued in the Circuit Court of Appeals sometime this Fall.

Two copies of this report are being retained for the files of the New York Office, and informant will in the future report on the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,

*JWK*  
E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Two enclosures

cc: NY [redacted]

b3

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
8/3/00

415

August, 30th, 43.

Universal Negro Improvement Association.  
Mass meeting held August 29th, 43., 2395 8th Avenue, N.Y.C.

Attorney Taylor

This is a global war. The war materials are the materials of black people over which the nations are fighting. They use black labor to produce these materials. The blacks are paid as low as 12¢ an hour day. Black folks work for their profit.

Churchill, Roosevelt, Mc Kinsey King speak of the four freedoms. The Four Freedoms as far as they are concerned means those who know how and are in a position to use the Four Freedoms. The Negroes are not in a position to use the Four Freedoms to their advantage. We are in their estimate mere students. When will we graduate.

The black people are thinking in terms of their own rights. We are a problem to our exploiters and oppressors. They have hypnotized the elements around the world. Their main problem is to prevent the Negro from asserting himself. The black people of the world outnumber the white a hundred to one.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People does not represent the rank and file of the Negro. The white man turns to such organizations. Mr. Walter White sent a statement to President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill regarding the Negro to which we can subscribe.

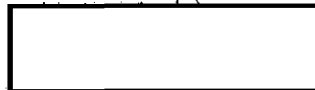
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, March On Washington Movement sent a statement to the recent Conference between President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. The statement called for a Free Africa. This action shows a growing united front among Negroes which is developing.

Taylor then read a letter which he stated that he sent asking for equality for the Negro people of the world. It pointed out the "barbaric cruelty" to which the British acquiesced regarding Ethiopia. There are, he said, widely divergent ideas relative to democracy. England maintains a system of serfdom of tropical labor.

He offered the following recommendations as expressions of authority regarding democracy:

1. Federation of States. Independence for Africa and the West Indies.
2. Withdrawal of all European powers from Africa.
3. Non-interference in Africa.
4. Universal suffrage.
5. Indemnity and reparation for Ethiopia. Outlet to the sea.
6. Italian and French Somaliland to be given to Ethiopia.

Good  
b3



416

August 30th, 43.

Universal Negro Improvement Association continued.....

Attorney Taylor continued.....

The British used Chaing Kai-shek to break up the All India Party and to imprison the leaders.

I sent a letter to President Roosevelt asking for freedom, suffrage and equal wages for the Negroes in the West Indies. The British West Indies since that time has been granted suffrage.

The united front of Negro people which is developing will demand a full and just share in the new world and they will take what they are intitled to if their rights are not granted.

C. Jacobs:

I sent a letter to President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill requesting information regarding the disposition of the African colonies. The Negroes of the world are getting together. This is the result of the ideas of Marcus Garvey. Negroes should ally themselves with the Universal Negro improvement Association.

The Government is the biggest discriminator against the Negro. <sup>1</sup> the ills of the Negro can be traced to the government. Through <sup>is</sup> policy the Government keeps the Negroes in an inferoir position.

He blamed the government for high prices in Harlem. The recent <sup>it</sup> was due to the failure of the Government to regulate prices in the Harlem area.

He concluded with an appeal for membership.

Attendance:

30 people. 2 sergeants U.S.A.

A collection was taken.



b7D



KRR:els  
100-26177

New York, N.Y.  
September 3, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: JAMES R. STEWART  
THE NEW NEGRO WORLD  
U.N.I.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - S  
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 30, 1943, in the above-captioned matter.

b7D

On August 29, 1943, there was circulated in Harlem a throw-away advertising a meeting to be held at 2395 8th Avenue, which is the meeting place of a unit of the UNIVERSAL NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION. Among other things, the circular stated, "Mr. Black Man, will you allow yourself to be crushed outside of existence by international prejudice? Don't you know that your destiny is planned?" Informant attended this meeting, and advised that thirty people were present, at least six of whom were either informants or Police. The statements made by the two speakers were not indicative of those circulated on the throw-away.

The New York Police Department advises that from their inquiry, it was learned that such a circular was distributed in an effort to draw a crowd in order to gain new members for the organization.

This group has been very inactive, and no investigation is being conducted concerning it, unless additional information is furnished indicating some violation over which this office has jurisdiction.

Two copies of the above report are being retained in the files of the New York Office, and the informant has been advised to be on the alert for any additional activity on the part of this group.

A copy of the above throw-away mentioned has been obtained, and is being retained in the files of the New York Office.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
8/3/00

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Two Enclosures

cc: NY [redacted]

b3

-417

September 2, 43.

Varlen Ashram  
2013 5th Avenue, New York City.

I have been informed that the Varlen Ashram is conducting a series of lectures on non-violent direct action to attain Negro rights.

Among the speakers invited are:

A. J. Muste, Fellowship of Reconciliation.  
Bayard Rustin, Inter-racial Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation  
Mithrapuran K. Alexander, Institute of International Affairs.  
E. Pauline Myers, Nat. Executive Secretary F.O.C.W.  
Golden Brown, President N.Y. Unit K.O.W.N.  
Vincent Baker, Modern Trend also F.O.C.W.  
Tarai Sinha, Professor of Political Science, Y.M.C.A. College, Chicago.

The Following Meetings are scheduled:

Thursday September 8th, 43

Monday September 13th, 43.

Jay Holmes Smith, leader of the Varlen Ashram will speak on Monday September 6th.

These meetings will start at 8 P.M..

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2ALM/ETH

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Good  
HAP

418

JJP:PS  
100-28627

New York, New York

September 9, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
THE AMERICAN NEGROES  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Transmitted herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] concerning the HARLEM ASHRAM, #2013 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, under date of September 2, 1943, in which it is stated that a series of lectures on non-violent direct action to obtain negro rights has been scheduled by the HARLEM ASHRAM.

[redacted] will attend several of the scheduled meetings in order to ascertain the intended activities of the HARLEM ASHRAM. He will submit a report on these activities.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure

CC: NY [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

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-419

September 2, 43

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held September 1, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Golden Brown presided. (u)

Financial Drive: (u)

Collections have amounted to \$250.00. More than 500 new members have been recruited. (u)

A. Phillip Randolph: (u)

The Los Angeles Unit of the M.O.W.M. is now firmly established. Also new units have been formed in Portland, Oregon, Spokane, Washington and Seattle, Washington. This means that the far West will be represented in any national action planned. (u)

Golden Brown: (u)

The majority of cases of men who were questioned atikers Island relative to looting during the recent riot in Harlem were not hoodlums like Mayor La Guardia stated. They were first offenders and many of them church people according to their testimony. (u)

The case of each individual is being studied thoroughly. The results of the questioning of the women rioters at the women's House of Detention was not at present known to him (u)

Among the offenders there were only a few that had a criminal record. (u)

Hilton P. Webster: (u)

He stated that his experience as a member of the Presidents' Fair Employment Practices Committee is that the work of the F.E.P.C. is hampered by Negro newspapers who publish considerable misinformation regarding the Committee. In each instance the writers claim that they "heard from reliable sources" certain information regarding F.E.P.C. and these "reliable sources" are unreliable. All information regarding F.E.P.C. should be gotten from responsible representatives of the Committee. (u)

A half million dollars has been appropriated for F.E.P.C. Regional offices in key centers has been set up. Urged to support the Committee. (u)

Red Cross Blood Bank: (u)

Vincent Baker requested that a representative of the M.O.W.M. be present at a meeting called by Modern Trend along with other youth groups for the purpose of staging a demonstration at the headquarters of the American Red Cross in protest against the "segregation of Negro blood". Manning Johnson opposed such action. A ten minute debate ensued which resulted in the matter being referred to the Executive Board. (u)

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

Isued  
JWA

JJP:PS  
100-26792

New York, New York

September 9, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Transmitted herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] concerning MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT under date of September 2, 1943. (u)

[redacted] will continue to report on the activities of this movement. (u)

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure

CC: NY [redacted] ✓

~~CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-7 7/28/80  
REASON 1.5MM  
FOUO 2  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/28/90~~

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September 3, 43.

**Harold Williams**

I first met Harold Williams in 1934 in New York City. At that time he was active in the Harlem Section of the Party. I was informed by him at that time that he had been in the Party for several years. In fact he was one of the initial group to become active among Negroes in behalf of Communism.

He worked for many years with James W. Ford, Otto Hall, Harry Greenwood, Cyril Briggs, Richard B. Moore, Maude White, Charly White, Louise Thompson, Louis Sass, and other leading Communists in Harlem area and participated in the formulation of policy regarding Party activities among Negroes.

He was active in the Spotsboro Case, unemployed activities and other campaigns conducted by the Party among Negroes.

He was brought up on charges of Negro nationalism in 1936 or 7. He was severely criticized. He was given a position in the Daily Worker office at 35 East 12th Street as director of Circulation. He later was dismissed from this position under circumstances which provoked considerable discussion among Negro Party members.

He was later expelled on a charge of Negro nationalism and factionalism. The latter charge stated that he tried to organize Negroes in the Party against the leadership of the Party.

After his expulsion he earned his living selling ties, women's stockings, shirts and other items.

I have not seen him for several months. I do not know where he is or where he is employed.

According to information he was among the first group of Negro students sent to the Lenin School. This was prior to my joining the Party.

**Description:**

Height about 5 feet 11 inches. Brown skin. Black hair. Brown eyes. Weight about 170. West Indian. Deformed fore finger on right hand. Writes with difficulty as result of this deformity.

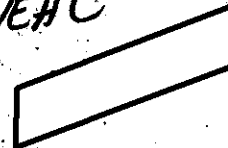


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439740

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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL



422

JJP:PS  
100-50700

New York, New York

September 9, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

RE: HAROLD WILLIAMS  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Transmitted herewith is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] concerning HAROLD WILLIAMS under date of September 3, 1943.

[redacted] in his report stated that he did not know the present address or the employment of the subject, but that he would attempt to ascertain this and would supply a report at a future date concerning this.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate case files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure

CC: [redacted] ✓

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
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[redacted] -423

September 4th, 43.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Herman P. Osborne

I met Herman Osborne in 1934 in New York City. I lived with him for a short time in his apartment on St. Nicholas Avenue. At that time he was a member of the Communist Party.

His work in the Party mainly has been work among the West Indians. From 1934 until the present time has been a member of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party. The responsibility for Party work among the West Indians in Harlem was shared by Osborne, Cyril Phillips and Samuel Patterson. They constituted the core of the Party fraction among West Indians. Plans and policy for work among West Indians and in West Indian organizations was worked out by them in consultation with other Party leaders and rank and file West Indian Party members.

Dr. Charles Petione has worked very closely with the group. In fact his opinion is asked regarding policy. It was always the policy to "work out in consultation with West Indian leaders" which included Dr. Petione before executing the plan.

Dr. Petione and Osborne arranged the mass meeting that was held at Abyssinian Baptist Church, 131 W. 130th Street, New York City on Sunday August 29th, 43. Osborne was the main speaker. Dr. Petione and Rev. Adam Clayton Powell also spoke. This meeting was called to celebrate the 111 anniversary of the emancipation of the West Indies.

The occasion was used to stress need of greater unity and understanding among West Indian and American Negroes.

Rev. Ben Richardson presided. About 500 persons attended.

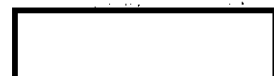
Osborne is married. Has two children a boy and girl. He is employed by an insurance firm downtown. I do not know the name of the firm.



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NEW YORK 7, NEW YORK

JJP:AM

September 11, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: HERMAN P. OSBORNE  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 4, 1943, concerning HERMAN P. OSBORNE.

[redacted] advises that HERMAN P. OSBORNE helped to arrange the mass meeting held at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City. This meeting was called to celebrate the 111th anniversary of the emancipation of the West Indies. HERMAN P. OSBORNE was the main speaker of this meeting.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate file in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures - 2

cc - NY [redacted] ✓

439740

8/3/00

SPA ALM/EHL

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- 425

September 9th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held September 9th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.N.C.A.

Golden Brown presided

The entire meeting was devoted to a discussion of the impending hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry that is to be held by the Fair Employment Practices Committee. The hearings are scheduled to begin on September 15th, in Washington, D.C.

The discussion was opened by A. Phillip Randolph, National Director.

A. Phillip Randolph

The proposed hearings on discrimination in the railroad industry against Negroes will begin before the F.E.P.C. in Washington, D.C. on September 15th. Fearful labor and industrial leaders in the RR industry used pressure to have the hearings postponed in the past. It is to be expected that they have not ceased trying. The rescheduling of the RR hearings is the result of the nationwide campaign developed against postponement of the hearings and against attempts to destroy F.E.P.C. (u)

F.E.P.C. is the child of the M.O.W.M. It was through the efforts of the M.O.W.M. that President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802. Other groups are trying to grab the credit. Never before in the history of this country has the Negro had a more effective instrument in the economic field to expose the wanton Jim Crow and discrimination and win full economic freedom. The Negro must make full use of it and build up the necessary guarantees that it shall remain permanent. (u)

No where in any industry is there such flagrant discrimination as there is in the railroad industry. There is not only discrimination against the Negro by the Carriers (RR) but also by the labor unions in collusion with the heads of the carriers. He cited contracts signed by labor leaders and approved by the Railway Mediation Board barring upgrading of Negroes, limiting the employment, gradual elimination and other abuses. The unions, he said, bar Negroes from membership. (u)

The following charges were made against the RR and labor Unions:

1. RR refusal to employ Negroes in skilled jobs.
2. No possibility for promotion to positions of engine men, trainmen and other skilled jobs.
3. Agreements with unions restricting the number of Negroes to be hired by companies.
4. Refusal to upgrade Negroes on the basis of seniority.
5. Wage differentials.

ASSISTANT  
TENN  
AC

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DECLASSIFICATION 7/28/90

426

September 9, 43.

M.O.W.U., continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A. Phillip Randolph:

A conference will be held in Washington, D.C. on Sunday Sept. 12th at the Y.M.C.A. This conference will be widely representative. It will deal with the IR hearings. The conference will be addressed by Dr. Lawrence Ervin, Eastern Regional Director, M.O.W.U., Charles Westley Burton, Mid-western Regional Director, M.O.W.U., Thurman Edison, Chairman, Washington, D.C. Unit of the M.O.W.U., and A. Phillip Randolph and others. The New York Unit was asked to send representatives. A discussion of and preparations for the hearings will be the main topics and the strategy outlined.

He said that he had just returned from Canada where he had some difficulties with the Government labor conciliators regarding Canadian laws which he stated completely nullifies the whole principle of collective bargaining. He was docking the collective bargaining for members of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters who are members of the his Union. He gathered from what he said was that an old Canadian law provides that employers will discuss collective bargaining not with the leaders of the union but with elected employees only.

Passing on to the discussion of the latest development in the war, he said, that the unconditional surrender of Italy while it shortens the war indicates a retreat of the democratic forces all over the world. The forces of democracy is on the retreat. King Victor Emmanuel and Benito Mussolini are fascists and subscribed to everything Mussolini and Hitler stands for. A deal with them represents a retreat of the democratic forces. He expressed the fear that the democratic forces are sacrificing democracy for security and stability.

A. J. Johnson, Vincent Riser, Angelina Blocker, Dr. Ervin Manning Johnson and others spoke on the importance of the railroad hearings and the preservation of M.O.W.U.



b7D

Good  
H.P.

NEW YORK 7, NEW YORK ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

552:AM

September 11, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] concerning the March on Washington Movement, dated September 9, 1943. (u)

[redacted] advises that a conference will be held in Washington, D. C. on September 13, 1943 at the Y.M.C.A. in preparation for the railroad hearings scheduled to begin September 15, 1943 before the Fair Employment Practices Committee. (u)

[redacted] will continue to report on the activities of this movement. (u)

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

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F. B. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

439740

8/3/00

SP2 ALM/ELC

Enclosures - 2

cc - NY

NY 100-26792

CLASSIFIED AND  
ENTERED BY SP-1 ON 7/27/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
2  
DATE FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/22/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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July 16th, 43

Executive Board Peoples' Committee  
Held Friday July 16th, 43.  
132 West 138th Street, New York City.  
7 P.M.

Adam C. Powell Jr., Chairman presided.  
Joseph W. Ford, Administrator, recording minutes.

Persons Present:

Adam Powell, Chairman Peoples' Committee.  
Joseph Ford, Administrator, Peoples' Committee.  
Samuel Patterson, Member Executive Board.  
Fanning Johnson, Chairman Delegations Committee.  
Henry Kraft, Chairman Social Service Committee.  
Julius Holland, Chairman, Investigation Committee.  
Ernest Mintri, Chairman, Educational Committee.  
John Hamman, Chairman, Consumer Committee.  
Mac C. Davies, Executive Board Member.  
Donelan Phillips, Executive Board.  
Label Staupers, Executive Board.  
Olivia Stokes, Executive Board

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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ADM/ETH

Order of Business:

Recommendations for the expenditure of funds that will be made available to the City Wide Citizens Committee of Harlem for the purpose of averting a race riot in New York City.

Adam Powell:

Adam Powell stated that there would be a meeting on Monday July 19th at the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called by the City-Wide Peoples' Committee of Harlem. This meeting will consider how a substantial contribution will be distributed to avert a repetition in New York City of what happened in Detroit. The money will be donated. It is to be allocated to the various organizations among Negroes that will fulfill this objective. The name of the donor was not divulged.

He asked the Committee to be fully represented at the meeting which will begin at 3 P.M.. Copies of the program adopted at "The Citizens Meeting held at the Golden Gate Ballroom on December 7th, 1942 was passed around with the recommendation that it be used as the basis for presentation of recommendations of the Peoples' Committee to the City-Wide Citizens Committee Conference for action. The members of the Peoples' Committee covering the various phases of the program should speak on their specific phase. Their speeches should be written and copies made available for the Committee.

The subjects cover: employment, labor, civil rights, housing, health, social service, education, consumer, war. The Chairmen of each group in the Peoples' Committee, he suggested, should prepare to make their respective contributions.

Received 7/19/43  
MEQ



428

July 16th, 43

**Executive Board meeting Peoples' Committee...**

Adam Powell continued.....

He further stated that he would not be present but that his father and Channing Tobias would be present, both of whom he said would amply give leadership.

Our attention was called to the conference held in Dorchester, N.J. of the leaders of national Negro organizations at which time they were able to agree to consolidate their forces on a five point program.

**Negro Leaders Present.**

Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Peoples' Committee  
 Channing Tobias, National Y.M.C.A. Board. Presided.  
 Lester Granger, National Urban League.  
 Dr. Max Yergan, President, National Negro Congress.  
 Vivian Mason, National Council of Negro Women.  
 Elsie Austin, Alpha Kappa Alpha.

**Five Point Program**

1. Abolition of the Poll Tax.
2. Registration of all Negro voters, and a campaign to direct his voting against his enemies regardless of party affiliations.
3. Abolition of jimcrow in the armed forces.
4. Recognition of the movies as one of the most influential forms of directing public opinion, it was agreed to fight its practice of misrepresenting and ridiculing the Negro people.
5. Directing the public mind to fight for a change in the policy of playing up crimes ~~against~~ by Negroes by the press and associating crime with the race.

Adam Powell stated that he was asked if he had any objections to the establishment of Peoples' Committees all over the country. He stated that he did not have any objections and welcomed the suggestion.

**Police Department.**

The Police Department of New York City according to a statement by Police Commissioner Valentine is will to give employment to more Negro policemen according to Powell. It was suggested that former Police Lieutenant Battle and other officers give special courses to prospective candidates. It was recommended that this idea be accepted.

**Recommendations:**

All the recommendations of Powell were accepted. The following additional recommendations were made and adopted:

July 16th, 43.

Executive Board Peoples' Committee continued.....

## Recommendations:

- a. Broad educational program.
- b. Community centers for the youth in various sections of the Negro communities.
- cc Establishment of the George Washington Carver Institute suggested by Sen. Yergan.
- d. General educational program.

## Participating in discussion:

Nabel Staupers  
Olivia Stokes  
Julius Holland  
Samuel Patterson  
John Larmen.



b7D

New York 7, N. Y.

LET:DJJ  
100-43415

July 22, 1943

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY-C


Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated July 16, 1943, relative to an executive board meeting of the People's Committee, held on July 16, 1943.

Informant has been advised to follow and report further activities of this organization.

Two copies of informant's report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. J. CONROY  
SAC

Encls.

cc [redacted]

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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

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[redacted] - 429



August 21, 43.

Communist Party  
Harlem Section  
300 West 135th Street, N.Y.C.

Ben Davis Jr. Executive Secretary.

I was informed that at a recent membership meeting of the Harlem Section of the Communist Party attended by approximately 400 members there was a lengthy discussion of the riot in Harlem on August 1st and 2nd.

Ben Davis reported after which there was discussion. The summary and conclusions have been printed and are now being distributed in Harlem.

Attached hereto are copies of the statement.

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*Good*  
*mm*

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KRR:els  
100-26603

New York, N.Y.  
September 2, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA,  
DISTRICT NO. NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated August 21, 1943.

Informant advised that the Harlem section of the Communist Party, 209 West 135th Street, held a membership meeting immediately following the Harlem riot of August 1st and 2nd, at which a discussion of the riot took place, and at the close of which the summary and conclusions were printed and distributed in a circular form.

Three copies of this circular were furnished along with this report, two of which are being forwarded to the Bureau, the third being retained in the files of the New York Office with two copies of this report.

The informant will continue to follow and report the activities of this group.

Very truly yours,

*JAK*

E. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

439740

Four enclosures

cc: NY [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
ON 8/3/00

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

[redacted]

431

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September 13th, 43.

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, C.I.O.  
Opening meeting of Convention  
Held at Madison Square Garden, New York City.  
September 12th, 1943.

James Mc Leish, President, Dist. #4 U.E.R. & M. presided.

Attendance:

There were approximately 12,000 persons present. About 2,500 were Negroes.

Speakers:

Rev. Ben Richardson representing Councilman Adam C. Powell  
Michael J. Quill, President Transport Workers Union, C.I.O.  
Albert Fitzgerald, President, U.E.R. & U.E.C.I.O.  
Julius Emmeck, General Secretary-Treasurer.  
James "Jim" Matles, National Organizational Director.  
Phillip Murray President of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.  
Ruth Young, U.E.R. & M.  
Johanna Steel, Radio News Commentator.  
Major General Terry and Service Command.

Entertainment:

Arlene Ransome, presided.  
Duke Ellington  
Kenneth Spencer  
The others names I did not get.

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Speakers:

Rev. Ben Richardson:

He brought greetings from City Councilman A. Clayton Powell after which he invoked the blessing of almighty God upon the meeting.

Michael J. Quill:

Welcomed the delegates to New York City. He stated that New York was a union town. He mentioned the various industries in which workers are organized. He concluded with an appeal for the immediate opening of a "second Western Front" for immediate conclusion of the war. The United Nations must abandon their wily-washy policy and open a genuine "second Front".

Albert Fitzgerald:

He called for concerted action against the appeasers in Congress. We want a win the war Congress. There are those in Congress who want to make a deal with fascism. We have pledged to destroy fascism. These people are not following the will of the people. The C.I.O. is behind F.D. Roosevelt. He urged the defeat of these Congressmen and Senators whom he termed obstructionists.

Sept. 13th, 43.

U.E.W., C.I.O. continued.....

Albert Fitzgerald continued.....

He asked the Convention to consider the question of international labor unity which was essential to prevent a re-occurrence of a world situation similar to the present one.

He stated that he had an announcement to make and that he made it with a feeling of sadness that "Jim" Matles was being inducted into the army and that he (Matles) had requested that the Union not ask for a deferment. He is appearing on Tuesday morning for induction. He will be given a 3 week furlough. The three week furlough will be spent working for the Union.

support of

He called also for the President and for a speedy end of the war.

James "Jim" Matles:

He said that the U.E. has grown from a few thousand to over 500,000 in the last seven years.

There are over 120,000 members of the union in the armed forces.

Over 250 collective bargaining agreements have been signed.

There are 1,500 shop committees functioning. These Committees have settled more than a million and a half grievances.

The Union has delivered to the Government more than nine billion dollars worth of goods. Let Senators Connolly and Smith put that in their pipes and smoke it.

Julius Rospaki:

He quoted almost verbatim the speech of Earl Browder on the the war. He said that there must be unity of the United Nations. The successful prosecution of the war depended upon it. He lashed into the appeasers and those who attempted to split the United Nations. (Browder's speech was delivered recently to a group of leading Party and trade union functionaries in New York City).

He called for the immediate opening for of a "second front on the Western Wall", to "hit hard and now".

Phillip Murray:

He was introduced as a leader that was able to rally all factions in the C.I.O. for concerted labor action.

The following points were stressed in the speech:

- a. Labor pledge to have no strikes for the duration of the war which he declared was a sacred pledge.

Sept. 13th, 43.

U.S.E.A.N.Y. C.I.O. continued....

Phillip Murray:

Labor has kept its pledge. Congress has not. The pledge to freeze wages was based upon the assumption that prices would be frozen on the basis of the prices prevailing September 15th, 1943. Labor must demand and insist that Congress live up to its pledge to roll back prices. The cost of living has gone sky high.

On the Austin-Radnorith Bill he urged labor to mobilize against it. The conscription of labor which the Bill calls for is not necessary he said. The democratic processes under which labor functions and in which labor believes coupled with their patriotism will produce the materials necessary to win the war. No legislation is necessary. Congress has sought to enact legislation detrimental to labor but has failed to give consideration to that legislation that would help white majority of the people. They want to conscript labor. Why don't they conscript wealth and property?

On the question of taxation he said that the Government was unfair in exacting a tax from persons who earn as low as \$600 a year when, he said, was not even a subsistence wage. The whole structure of taxation should be revised.

Speaking of international labor unity, he said that it would result in the economic and political rehabilitation of the nations of the world. Labor would unite on an international scale would be a guarantee against any future blood letting. It is through the collaboration of labor that wars of this kind can be avoided.

He called for a change of the composition of Congress. The C.I.O. has formed a nonpartisan political committee to disseminate information regarding candidates for the benefit of its members. The Committee will support only win the war candidates.

Major General Terry:

He called for the bending of every effort to produce the materials of war. The industrial army on the home front he contended was as important as the army on the military front. He urged greater production and greater sacrifices.

Johnnes Steel:

He called for support of the 3rd war loan drive and urged the Convention to pass a resolution urging all members to purchase \$100 bonds.



*Good*  
44

New York 7, New York

JJP:AND  
100-13644

September 21, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF UNITED ELECTRIC  
RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS, CIO OF AMERICA  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of a report of  
[redacted] dated September 13, 1943 concerning  
the above mentioned.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate  
files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
R. E. CONROY, SAC

Encls. (2)

cc [redacted]

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Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
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Filed \_\_\_\_\_

[redacted] - 433

September 14th, 43.

James "Jim" Matles

"Jim" Matles, National Organizational Director, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union, U.E.R.W.O. who spoke at the opening meeting of the Convention of the Union has been an active leader of the Party for more than ten years.

In 1934 he an active member of the Trade Union Commission of the National Committee. He was also a member of the New York State Committee.

We worked together on the above mentioned Committees formulating Party policy regarding the unions.

His assignment back in 1934 was to organize the light metal and machine building shops into the light metal section of the Steel and Metal Workers Union which was affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League. His work was primarily in the New York City at that time. The Steel and Metal Workers Union was formed by the Party for the purpose of organizing independently the workers in the steel and metal industries into a "revolutionary trade union". The Trade Union Unity League was the parent organization of all the "revolutionary trade unions" or "left wing trade unions".

We worked together in the Trade Union Unity Council a Party created and controlled central trade union organization in New York City. He gave reports from time to time which were discussed and recommendations made.

The Steel and Metal Workers Union, the Trade Union Unity League and the Trade Union Unity Council have been abolished. All the affiliated organizations have become a part of the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O.

Matles and myself along with Jack Stachel, W. Z. Foster, Rose Fortis, Ben Gold, Irving Potash, Sam Nesin and a number of other leaders of Party agreed after lengthy discussion that the T.U.U.L. had no further basis of existence and that the locals individually should seek affiliation with the old established unions.

From 1934 until 1938 Matles attended meetings of the National Committee at which time he reported on the work of the Party fraction in the Union and the progress made. At the Party Convention in 1938 he was made a member of the National Committee.

We attended important meetings of Party functionaries and were called into the National and State Party offices for consultation on all matters involving Party trade union strategy.

The opening meeting of the U.E. Convention Sunday September 13th was a propaganda meeting for the "Second Front". The entire line taken at the meeting was in full conformity with the line of the Party. The meeting was given considerable publicity by the Party in the Daily Worker

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New York 7, New York

JJP:AMH  
100-26864

September 21, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: JAMES (JIM) MATLES  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of a report of  
[redacted] concerning the above mentioned individual.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate  
files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*JH*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

Encs. (2)

cc- [redacted] ✓

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ON 8/3/00

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September 15th, 43

**Peoples' Committee:**

The first fall meeting of the Peoples' Committee will be held at the YCA Cafeteria on Saturday September 25th. The business session will begin at 2:30 P.M.

The fall campaign of the Committee will be discussed and plans formulated.



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good  
JHP ✓



- 436

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New York 7, New York

JJP:AND  
100-43418

September 21, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated September 15, 1943 concerning the People's Committee.

[redacted] will follow and report on the activities and plans formulated by the People's Committee.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,



E. H. CONROY, SAC

Encls. (2)  
cc [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

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[redacted]

437

September 18th, 43.

March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held September 18th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Golden Brown Presiding:

All the leaders of the M.O.W.M. are in Washington, D. C. attending the hearings conducted by F.E.P.C. on discrimination in the railroad industry. A. Phillip Randolph, Benjamin, Mc Laron, E. Pauline Myers, Dr. Brvin are there.

Lynn Caset

Golden Brown stated that there was some fear that the Civil Liberties Union would not go through with the Lynn case but that these fears have no basis now. It has been agreed that the case will go all the way through to the U.S. Supreme Court. All the briefs and other technical legal matters have been compiled with and the case will be argued before the Circuit Court of Appeals in November.

Mayle Lane:

Miss Lane returning from her Summer vacation was asked by the chairman to give a report on the Teachers Convention which she attended. She stated that the Convention went on record for labor representation at the Peace Conference; a program for rehabilitation of soldiers returning from the battle field, world committee on education. The Convention also went on record in support of the anti-poll tax campaign and other liberal measures. The Conference was held in Chicago.

She visited Detroit Michigan. During the time she went through the offices of the United Auto Workers. She said that it was the largest union in the world having a membership of over one million. Their offices are in the old General Motors Building for which the Union paid one hundred thousand dollars. The inter-racial committee formed by the union revealed that the race riot in Detroit resulted in many casualties. The casualties were greater among whites than among Negroes insofar as minor injuries were concerned but greater among Negroes as far as serious injuries are concerned.

The Mayor of Detroit banned the investigation of the riot because the police were also involved in looting etc.

Labor should be represented at the Peace conference to have something to say regarding the peace terms.

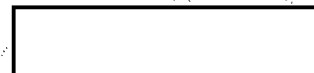
A collection was taken:



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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2 RBN/MLM

New York 7, New York

JJP:AND  
100-26792

September 21, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 18, 1943 concerning the March on Washington Movement.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division. [redacted] advised that he would continue to follow and report the activities of this movement.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

Enca. (2)  
cc [redacted] ✓

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DATE 8/3/00 BY SP2APM/EHL

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

[redacted] 439

September 18th, 45.

Louis Weinstock

I first met Louis Weinstock at a meeting of the National Committee of the Party in the latter part of 1933. At that meeting he spoke on the growing rank and file movement within the A.F. of L. against "old line leaders" of the A.F. of L., and the need of giving attention to the work within the A.F. of L. unions.

In 1934 I worked with him on the Trade Union Commission of the National Committee and I continued to do so until 1938. In 1938 I was dropped from the National Committee. During that time we worked together on the Trade Union Committee of the New York State Committee.

Early in 1934 Louis was assigned by the National Committee to be responsible for work with in the unions of the A.F. of L. by virtue of his experiences in the Painters union. He had been working along this line according to my knowledge since 1933.

He was able to organize a functioning rank and file committee composed of members of a number of A.F. of L. Unions around the issue of unemployment insurance. Despite the fact that William Green and Mathew Holl denounced the Committee as "Communist" it gained considerable strength and influence. The Committee was called the A.F. of L. Rank and File Committee for Unemployment Insurance. The headquarters of the Committee was in Union Square, New York City. The objective of the committee was to use the issue of unemployment insurance to make inroads into the A.F. of L. unions and to use these inroads as a spring board to develop a broad rank and file movement against the "bureaucrats of the A.F. of L.". The fight for unemployment insurance was the central issue. It was exploited so successfully that the lessons learned were discussed at plenary sessions of the National Committee. Confidential documents which we had to read and return were sent out to all State Committee as a guide for work in the A.F. of L.

A.F. of L. local unions and Central Labor bodies were contacted all over the country and asked to adopt resolutions on unemployment insurance. Where ever the Party had sympathizers, Party members or liberals they were to persuade them to introduce a resolution in support of the demand for unemployment insurance in their respective unions. They were able through these methods under the direction of Weinstock to penetrate many Central Labor Bodies and local unions.

We participated in the Hunger Marches to Washington in 1931 and 32. At that time I was not introduced to Weinstock. He was instrumental getting a large representation from A.F. of L. unions to attend the National Unemployment Convention in 1934. The Convention was held in Washington, D.C. Feb. 3-5th, 1934. Weinstock, Browder and I were among those who spoke. The hunger marches as well as the unemployment convention were organized by the Party.

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Louis Weinstock continued....

His biggest success was in the Painters Union, A.F. of L. of which he is a member and outstanding leader. Using the issue of unemployment insurance he was able to rally considerable support among the rank and file to the extent that he was able to overcome the opposition of the Zausner machine which was in control of District Council 9 of Painters Union. He not only accused the leaders of opposition to unemployment insurance, but of bureaucracy, dictatorship, racketeering, fostering a system of kick-back among other things. He was able after considerable effort to oust the Zausner machine and gain control for the Party fraction and its followers. The active Party members in the Union were given jobs as business representatives, bookkeepers and executive positions. Active rank and file persons not members of the Party were given important positions.

In the Party the work of Weinstock is held up as an example of "how a good Communist should work in the trade unions".

Weinstock's position is Secretary-Treasurer, Painters District ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Council #9, A.F. of L.



b7D

Good  
JJP



Cont'd 4/ b3

New York, New York

JJP:VAD  
100-26018

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
September 24, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: LOUIS WEINSTOCK  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C); SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated September 18, 1943 concerning LOUIS WEINSTOCK.

b7D

[redacted] advised that he would report any further information he obtained concerning the subject.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

ENCS. (2)

c.c. [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

September 19th, 43.

Sam Don:

Sam has worked in the National Office of the Party for more than ten years. His work has been in the main educational, agitation and propaganda. Sam along with George Siskin, one of the Directors Workers School, are among the oldest members of the Educational Commission of the National Committee.

Don in the last ten years has worked himself up from an ambitious young Communist to the leadership of the Educational Commission of the National Committee. At the present time he holds the tremendously important and responsible position of National Educational Director.

The work which he directs consists of the following:

- a. Education of Party members.
- b. Training of Party leaders. (Schools, classes, study groups).
- c. Establish smooth functioning educational committees in each state Party organization and check their activities and assist them in their work.
- d. Dissemination of Party literature.
- e. Prepare material for, and direct the activities of teachers in the Party schools, local, state and national.
- f. Give the line and direction to Party propagandists and agitators.

His office is still is at the National Party headquarters 35 East 12th Street, 9th floor.

He was until recently a behind the scene worker. He spoke at meetings of the Enlarged political Bureau, National Committee and at other important Party meetings when important political questions arose. He was and is now considered a very able Party theoretician. He is being used now more and more in meetings of leading Party functionaries. I do not recall any public meeting at which he has spoken.

My only contact with him was at Party meetings, Conventions and when I visited the 9th Floor of the Party Office on official business.

**Description:**

About 5 feet 7 or 8 inches tall. Weighted about 190 lbs. Black hair. complexion white. Jewish. Keen features (face). Age about 36 or 37.

He will speak at a Party functionaries meeting Wednesday Sept. 23 at Webster Hall. 119 East 11th street.



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DATE 8/1/00 BY SP2 HAN/CH



New York, New York

JJP:VAD  
100-14580

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
September 24, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: SAM DON  
SECURITY MATTER; INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 19, 1943 concerning SAM DON.

b7D

[redacted] advised that he would report any further information he obtained concerning the subject.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

ENCS (2)  
C.C. [redacted]

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00



445

September 17th, 43.

Citizens' Emergency Conference for Inter-racial Unity  
Headquarters: 55 West 42nd Street, New York City.

**Place of Confab:**

Hunter College  
69th Street and Park Avenue  
Saturday September 25th 3 P.M.

**Origin of Confab:**

It grew out of efforts of the Communists to persuade Mayor La Guardia to set-up an impartial inter-racial committee to investigate the recent riot in Harlem. The Mayors' refusal to go along on their request ~~however~~ resulted in the getting together a group of liberals including Miss Marion Andersen the noted singer and William J. Schieffelin, President Citizens Union to initiate the calling of the Conference.

The Conference is the first step in the direction of fulfilling the 8th point in the program presented by Benjamin Davis, Jr., Secretary Communist Party set forth at a Party membership meeting shortly after the riot. Davis said, "City-wide inter-racial committee of Negroes, Jews, Catholics, native and foreign-born, and trade unionists".

Moreover, in point 9, Davis said, "A broad conference of all Negro, labor and patriotic organizations to map a city-wide program against racial discrimination".

**Objective of Conference:**

The Conference will discuss and work out a program to suggest to the city, state and federal government for the prevention of race riots and riots similar to the one which occurred in New York. An inter-racial committee will be formed for the purpose of carrying out the decisions of the Conference.

The initial Conference will be composed primarily of the initiators and invited representatives of various organizations and representatives government agencies.

This is the first time that I am able to recall that Marion Anderson has been inveigled into a united front action by the Communists.

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Good  
J.P.

444

New York, New York

JJP:VAD  
[redacted]

September 24, 1943  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Director, FBI

RE: CITIZENS EMERGENCY CONFERENCE  
FOR INTERRACIAL UNITY  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated September 17, 1943 concerning a meeting to be held on Saturday, September 25, 1943 at Hunter College, 69th Street and Park Avenue, New York City by the CITIZENS EMERGENCY CONFERENCE FOR INTERRACIAL UNITY.

b7D

This meeting will be covered by the New York Field Division.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report on the activities of the CITIZENS EMERGENCY CONFERENCE FOR INTERRACIAL UNITY.

Very truly yours,

*EWK*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

ENCS. (2)

cc-100-28627

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/3/00

[redacted] 445  
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September 18th, 43.

John J. Ballam

I have known J. J. Ballam since 1932. He was an active member in Party many years prior to that time. When I was an organizer in 1931 he was actively engaged in the various activities of the Party.

He and Ann Burlak were active organizers for the National Textile Workers Industrial Union. This was a union formed by the Party in opposition to the A.F. of L. Its program was to organize the un-organized, prepare them for struggle "against the bosses". It was based upon the policy of "class struggle". The N.T.W.U. was affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League.

He participated in a number of strikes in Lawrence, Mass.; Allentown, Pa.; Central Falls, R.I.; Providence, R.I.; Salem, Mass., and a number of others in the textile industry. In 1932 and 1933 he reported to the National Committee on these strikes and the lessons to be learned. Ann Burlak also spoke about them.

John "Johnny" wrote a number of articles for the Party organizer, Daily Worker on strikes and lessons to be learned.

Johnny was always a trouble shooter. He was sent to different parts of the country to assist Party members in their trade union work. He spent considerable time with Jack Johnstone, Party head in Pittsburgh during the Party concentration on steel and mining in that area.

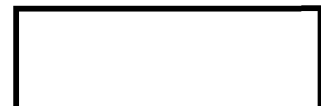
From 1934 until 1936 he was always invited to meetings of the National Committee with few exceptions and to Conventions. I do not know that he was a member of the National Committee. I was informed in 1936 that he had been at one time. It has been customary for the Political Bureau to invite leading comrades whom they feel can make a contribution to the meeting.

About four years ago he was assigned by the New York State Committee to work with the Party Industrial Units and Fractions in the Culinary industry. His salary was to be paid by an assessment on all Party members who held salaried jobs in the food unions. The assessment was \$5 a week. All money over and above his salary was to be used to maintain confidential offices for meetings of leading comrades in the unions, telephone and light. His office was in the Loft Building on 42nd Street near 8th Avenue.

He worked directly with the Chelsea Club (Party) 203 8th Ave. N.Y.C. The industrial Units met there regularly every Tuesday Night. He was responsible for their proper function. He was also responsible for the calling of fraction meetings of paid officers of the unions, executive Board and Executive Council members who belonged to the Party to discuss with them the problems in their respective unions.

He as J. Raben, member National Committee called meetings of the National Food Fraction of the Party in the Hotel Edison. Through

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-446 b3

September 18th, 43.

J. "Johnny" J. Ballam continued.....

Ballam assistance the Communists have built up a very fine and effective machine for control of the most important labor organizations in the culinary industry. They virtually control the hotel and restaurant industry from the trade union point of view.

Ballam is not a member of any of the food unions. He is one of those Party functionaries that have been attached to various industries where there are a number of Party members holding office, to work with the fractions and units.

He holds all the books of leading Party members in the unions. He collects the Party dues and keeps the books in order. He advised that this was the best method in order to safe guard Party leaders in the unions, a similar system was organized in the industrial units. All Party members were advised not to give anyone their home addresses. This was also a precautionary measure.

This has been Ballam work up until 1943. I have no information regarding him since that time.



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Good  
Ad



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Cont'd.

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New York, New York

JJP:VAD

~~Confidential~~  
September 24, 1943

CC [redacted]  
Director, FBI

RE: JOHN J. BALLAM  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report  
of [redacted] dated September 18, 1943 concerning JOHN  
J. BALLAM.

[redacted] advised that he would report  
any further information he obtained concerning the subject.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate  
files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*JWK*

E. E. CONROY, SAC

ENCs. (2)

~~100~~ - 100-53229

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DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/3/00

SP-2 ALM/ELC

[redacted] 447

September 23, 43. ) X (u)

(u) X { March On Washington Movement  
Meeting held September 22, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(u) X { Golden Brown presided.

Classified by 18 JHK/c on 7-29-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite renew  
7-29-90

#### Fair Employment Practices Committee:

The chairman stated that the hearings conducted by F.E.P.C. on discrimination in the railroad industry was concluded. The testimony given at the hearing was the most revealing ever heard. The newspapers reported the hearings favorably. The editorial comment was good. News commentators like Gabriel Heatter commented very favorably.

The following persons who attended the hearings were introduced:  
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director, N.O.W.M.  
Attorney Thurman L. Dodson, President local chapter in Wash., D.C.  
Mr. Brown, Chicago chapter, N.O.W.M.  
E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary.  
Benjamin Mc Laurin, National Chairman, N.O.W.M.

#### A.P. Randolph:

He said that the members of the N.O.W.M. should feel proud of the fact that it was through their pressure that the Executive Order 8802 was handed down. F.E.P.C. which was created by the Order has had its ups and downs. Powerful forces sought to destroy it. The N.O.W.M. was able to rally millions of people through out the nation to save F.E.P.C. It was around the issue of the railroad hearings that pressure was brought by the heads of the railroad carriers and the heads of "Big Four Brotherhoods" which resulted in postponing of the railroad hearings and the near death of F.E.P.C. However we were able to get the hearings rescheduled and F.E.P.C. functioning. The hearings in Washington, D.C., which he attended, he said, was the greatest achievement the Negroes have made since the Proclamation of Emancipation.

(u) X { The hearings exposed the widespread discrimination that prevails in the railroad industry. Discrimination that is practiced by both the railroads and the railroad unions. Even the Federal Government has put the stamp of approval and collaborated with actions of the heads of labor unions and the railroads that were definitely discriminatory. Specifically the National Mediation Board, a Federal Governmental Agency, has approved and given governmental sanction to contracts between the Railroad Unions and the Railroads which provide for the elimination of Negroes from employment. One of the provisions of the contract provided that when a Negro employee leaves he shall not be replaced with a Negro but be replaced by a white person. It is only a matter of time when every Negro will be eliminated from employment.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 23, 41.

March On Washington Movement continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## A. Phillip Randolph:

The importance of the hearings was manifest in large array of legal representatives of the railroads. Despite this the Negro employees of these railroads gave astounding testimony of discrimination. They gave this testimony knowing that they would have to return to places in the South where there is every possibility of reprisal because of their militancy.

The huge success of the hearings is not enough. F.E.P.C. still lacks the power to subpoena and to impose sanctions. F.E.P.C. was created by a Presidential Order under the broad powers granted him during the present emergency. When the emergency is over F.E.P.C. will be over for that reason, he suggested, the introduction of a Bill in Congress to be known as the Fair Practices Act. Such a Bill is being drawn up and when it is completed it will be introduced in Congress.

A National Committee on F.E.P.C. was formed in Washington, D.C. This Committee is to work for F.E.P.C. becoming a permanent institution, it be given adequate funds, adequate powers and rally nation-wide support of the Committee and its work.

(u) X The hearings, he said, revealed the discriminatory practices of the railroad unions. These unions exclude Negroes from membership and from employment. The "closed shop" means that only employees who are members of the union can work. Since the unions exclude the Negro from membership then he is not able to work. he called for an amendment to the National Labor Relations act that will give the governmental agency created under the act the power to deal with these unions.

## Attorney Thurman L. Dodson:

He gave a few observations on the F.E.P.C. hearings. Praised the work of the M.O.W.M. and urged the members to redouble their efforts to build and strengthen the M.O.W.M.

## Mr. Brown:

He said that the M.O.W.M. organized a delegation that visited the Governor of Illinois immediately after the riots in Detroit and New York for the purpose of setting up an inter-racial commission to avert a race riot in the State of Illinois. The Governor concurred with the recommendations of the delegation. He appointed an inter-racial commission for the State. Four of the members of the commission are members of the M.O.W.M.

## E. Pauline Myers:

The Lynn Case is scheduled to start in October. It will be argued before the Circuit Court of Appeals. The Civil Liberties Union is going through with the case. The case will be argued by attorneys Gilbert and Hayes. The cost of the appeal will

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(2)

September 23, 43.

March On Washington Movement continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

C. Pauline Pers:

seven hundred dollars. A national committee on the Lynn case was formed in Washington, D.C. This is an inter-racial group.

Pledge:

All the members were asked to stand and recite the pledge of the M.O.W.M.

Nominations:

Nominations of persons to fill all offices were made. The names of all nominees will be voted upon at the next meeting. The elective offices are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Heads of Committee
- Members of the Executive Board.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
NEW YORK, N.Y.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
OTHERWISE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

JJP:BTC  
100-26792

September 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated September 23, 1943, concerning a meeting  
held September 22, 1943 by the March on Washington Movement at the  
Harlem Branch of the Y.M.C.A. (u)

This report concerns mostly the hearings  
conducted before the F.E.P.C. at Washington in regard to the  
railroads. [redacted] advised that he would  
continue to report the activities of the March on Washington  
Movement. (u)

Copies of this report are being retained in  
the appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/4/00  
encs.

CC: [redacted] ✓

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EXEMPT FROM  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7-29-96

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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- 449

September 24th, 49

Peoples' Committee  
Meeting held September 24th  
Abyssinian Baptist Church  
133 West 138th Street, New York City

Councilman A. Clayton Powell presided.

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DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2ALM/HLC

A special meeting of the People's Committee was called for the purpose of involving the Committee in the local election campaign.

Adam Powell recommended to the group that Francis Rivers candidate of the Republican and American Labor Party for City Magistrate be endorsed. He criticized the Democratic Party for refusal to put up a Negro candidate for the office. The candidate of the Democratic was not approved by the Bar Association. A list of 23 able and reputable lawyers and jurists was submitted to the Democratic Party among them two outstanding Negro judges (Toney and Watson) of whom none was acceptable.

He called for all out support of Francis Rivers. Vote men and measures not party labels.

He also recommended the endorsement of Benjamin Davis Jr. for City Council. Ben Davis Jr., is the candidate of the Communist Party for that elective position.

The members of the Peoples' Committee that were present concurred with the recommendations. They are to come to the Abyssinian Baptist Church on Monday September 27th to get campaign material.

Dr. Channing Tobias:

Spoke on the importance of the inter-racial conference that is to be held at Hunter College Saturday September 26th and the public mass meeting Saturday night which will be presided over by Miss Marian Anderson. This is the first time, he said, that Miss Anderson has ever taken part in an action of this kind. The Conference will begin at 2 P.M. It will be opened with an address by Mayor La Guardia. After Mayor's address the conference will be broken up into panels for discussion of important topics.

We were given circulars to distribute.

A picture of the group was taken by a photographer for Life Magazine.

About 50 persons were present.

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JJP ✓

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NEW YORK, N.Y.

JJP:MTG  
100-43415

September 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] dated September 24, 1943, concerning a meeting held September 24th by the People's Committee at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, New York City.

b7D

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report the activities of the People's Committee.

Forwarded with this report are two handbills distributed at this meeting announcing the conference on inter-racial matters to be held at Hunter College on Saturday, September 25th, under the auspices of the Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity. A copy of this handbill is retained in the appropriate file in the New York Field Division.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
ON 8/4/00

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

ENCS.

CC: [redacted] ✓

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September 24th, 43.

E. Worthen

I met Worthen on Thursday. He informed me that he was expelled from the National Maritime Union by the Communists because he had made a statement to the effect that he was going to ask the F.B.I. to investigate the union.

He has been in the National Maritime Union for several years. I met him about five years ago. At that time he was a member of the Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302. He was formerly a member of the Communist Party. He dropped out I understand. He had difficulties with the Communists because of his strong nationalistic tendencies.

He was very incensed against the Communists. He said that Albert Smith former union delegate was broken because he disagreed with certain actions of the Communists. He was vocal about the fact that Ferdinand Smith left his wife and child for a white girl by the name of O'Brien. This girl, he claims, misappropriated union funds but was never tried for it because she was a member of the Communist Party.

He is contemplating some sort of legal action against the National Maritime Union and its Officers.

His address is 2335 7th Avenue, New York City.  
Phone: Audubon 3-3721.

Description:

About 5 feet four. Weight about 140. Complexion dark brown. Eyes brown, Hair black. Age about 42 or 3.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/14/00 BY SP2 AML/NEH



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NEW YORK, N.Y.

JJP:MTG  
100-28715

September 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: E. WORTHEN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one  
copy of the report of [redacted] dated  
September 24, 1943, concerning E. WORTHEN.

[redacted] advised that he  
would report any further information he obtained concerning this  
party.

Copies of this report are being retained in the  
appropriate files in the New York Field Division and this party  
will be contacted at a later date if it is felt advisable.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/4/00

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

NCS.

✓cc: [redacted]

[redacted] - 453

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September 25th, 43.

Charles White:

He was a member of the Party before I joined, that was prior to 1931. He was sent to the Lenin School along with Timothy Holmes, Neels (Detroit, Michigan) and a number of others. He participated in the factional fight in the Lenin School that caused international complications for the Party.

He was the leader of a faction of the Negro students who charged the white students from America with practicing "chauvinism against the Negroes". This fight necessitated Browder trip to Russia to straighten the matter out. Browder after an investigation handed down his decision in a speech to the student body.

Upon Whites' return to the U.S. he was charged with Negro Nationalism and factionalism. The charges were based upon certain letters that he had written to other Negro members of the Party. They also accused him of having contacts with Neels of Detroit, Michigan who was also in the factional fight in Russia and who upon his return to the States refused to accept Browders analysis of the situation in the Lenin School and continued his factional struggle against Browder and the political line he laid down at the Lenin School.

White was expelled by the National Disciplinary Commission presided over by Burke.

He later gave testimony before the Dies Committee.

He could give you information regarding all the students that were with him in the Lenin School at the time he was there.

I do not know his address. He was active in the air raid wardens organization in the 28th Precinct. He worked with the unit located at 124th street and Lenox Avenue.

**Description:**

About 6 feet. Weights about 210 pounds. Brown skin. Brown eyes. Black hair. Age about 37 or 38.



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DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Good  
JDP ✓



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NEW YORK, N.Y.

JJP:MTC  
100-0

September 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: CHARLES WHITE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one  
copy of the report of [redacted] dated  
September 25, 1943, concerning CHARLES WHITE.

[redacted] advised that he  
would report the address of this individual at a later date if  
he were able to find it out.

Copies of this report are being retained in  
the appropriate files in the New York Field Division. No action  
is being taken upon this information presently but it will be  
at a future date if felt advisable.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/4/00

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

ENCS.

CC: [redacted] ✓

b7D

b3

[redacted] -455-



September 27th, 43.

Angelo Herndon.

I have been informed that Angelo Herndon is in San Francisco, California. He is living on Broderick street. I was unable to get the address.

He has been, according to information, expelled from the Communist Party.

I have also been informed that he plans to fight induction in the army on the grounds that he will be inducted into a jimcrow army unit. The action will be taken on the basis of that section of the Selective Service Act which outlaws discrimination in the induction process. All indications it will be an action similar to the Winfred Lynn Case.

A number of Negro newspapers have already, according to the informant, been prepared for this action and they are to give it considerable publicity.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 MAM/CHC

Good  
JVP



-456

b3

NEW YORK, N.Y.

JJP:NTC  
100-11149

September 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

RE: ANGELO HERNDON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one  
copy of the report of [redacted] dated  
September 27, 1943, concerning ANGELO HERNDON.

[redacted] advised that  
he would continue to report any information he received concern-  
ing this party.

Copies of this report are being retained  
in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division and  
proper action will be taken upon this report.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL  
8/4/00

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

ENCS.

CC: [redacted]

[redacted] 457

September 27th, 48.

Herman Osborne:

In my report on Osborne I was unable to submit his present address. According to information he lives at:

229 West 120th Street  
New York City.



b7D

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 REM/CHC

Good  
JJP



45<sup>b3</sup>

NEW YORK, N.Y.

JJP:ATC  
100-28627

September 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, F.B.I.

RE: HERMAN OSBORNE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of report of [redacted] dated September 27, 1943, concerning HERMAN OSBORNE.

On September 11, 1943, [redacted] submitted a report concerning this individual but at that time he was unable to supply his address. He has done so with this report. [redacted] advised that he would report any further information received concerning this individual.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

439740  
RECEIVED BY

SP 2 ALM/ETHC  
SP 2 ALM/ETHC

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

ENCS.

CC: [redacted]

b7D

b3

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
CITY OF NEW YORK )ss:  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

b7D

I am a former member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, which has headquarters at 50 East 13th Street, 9th floor, New York City. A little over two years ago, I was replaced by [REDACTED] in the particular position which I held in the Communist Party. From that time on I did not pay my dues in the Communist party or attend the general meetings of the Communist Party. (Throughout the balance of this affidavit I will refer to the Communist Party as the "Party"). I did however, upon request, attend a great number of the fraction meetings of the active leading Communists in the culinary industry.

These meetings were invariably held at the Hotel Edison Annex under the sponsorship of J. Rubin. A fraction meeting of the leaders of the Communist Party in the culinary industry took place in the spring of 1940

at the Hotel Edison Annex. At that meeting were present, in addition to other Communists, the following:

**WILLIAM ALBERTSON** - member of State Committee of Communist party, a teacher in Workers School and an assistant to Rose Wortis;

**MARY REICH** - president of Cooks, Pastry Cooks & Assistants Union, Local 89. He is a member of the State Committee of the Communist Party, chief assistant of J. Rubin, and a former instructor in Workers School;

**J. RUBIN** - member of Central Committee of the Communist Party, member of Trade Union Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, assistant to Jack Stachel, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party;

**MAX GERSHBERG**, - delegate to Communist Party Convention for many years, worked for several years for the Communist Party in Russia, speaks several languages, a consultant on all subversive activities in the culinary industry, official of Hotel & Club Employees Union Local 6;

**SAM WEANING** - official of Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302, member of State Trade Union Committee of Communist Party, co-assistant of J. Rubin, heads Communist Party fraction work in food industry;

**SALVATORE GENTILI** - organizer for Waiters & Waitresses Union Local 41, active in Communist Party for organizational activities of the workers in the culinary field, member of Communist Party, attends fraction meetings of the leading Communists in the culinary industry;

**JULIUS FRISCHMAN** - member of the Communist Party, ex-organizer for Waiters & Waitresses Union Local 41, attends fraction meetings of leading Communists in culinary industry;

ARTHUR BARNY - business agent of Cafeteria Employees Union Local 302, member of Communist Party, attends fraction meetings of culinary industry;

JOHN BALLAM - member of Communist Party, in charge of all Communist activities in culinary industry under direct supervision of J. Rubin;

ROSE WORTIS - in charge of all Communist trade UNION activities in State of New York;

MR. STRINBERG - organizational secretary of Communist Party in State of New York;

GERTRUDE LANE - organizer of Hotel & Club Employees Union Local 6, member of the Communist Party;

MR. COLLINS - organizer of Local 6, member of Communist Party.

At this meeting Mr. J. Rubin gave his report on the work of the Party in culinary unions throughout the nation and in New York State. He discussed the coming convention of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees International Alliance & Bartenders International League of America (hereinafter referred to as the "Culinary International, A.F.L.") and the part that the Communist Party and the leaders in the culinary industry of the Culinary International would take at the convention.

He stated that plans would have to be made at an early date concerning the backing to be given to candidates at the convention by the Communist Party, and the proposals which would best serve the Party. The said convention is to be held in April, 1941. He then discussed

the fraction work of the Communist Party in the different local unions of the International. He outlined why it would be difficult in the future to engage in certain activities openly, in view of the united opposition to Communism, and that plans would have to be made which would best suit the political and economic developments in the industry and in the nation.

Mr. Arthur Barry then spoke, and he outlined generally many of the things which had been taken up by Mr. Rubin. Mr. John Ballam then stated that we were all to turn over our membership books in the Communist Party to him, and that we were to pay our dues directly to him, and that he would see that our books would be properly stamped and that we would be kept in good standing in the party.

Mr. Ballam then impressed upon us that it was necessary for us to at all times in the future publicly deny any connection with the Communist Party. He stated that in the future many occasions might arise when if we admit our connection with the Party, it may not be possible for us to maintain our key position in the local unions of the International or in the culinary industry.

Mr. <sup>REICH</sup>~~Rich~~ then outlined the progress and activity of Communists in Local 89. His report gave



those present the impression that the situation in his local union was very favorable to the best interests of the Party. Every member gave a report on the Party's activities in his respective local union.

George E. Brown, International Vice-President of the Culinary International A.F.L. reported on the Communist activities in the dining car local and the Communists' activities generally and the work of the Party in the dining car field.

There would be a fraction meeting on the average of once a week or once in two weeks of the local representatives of the Party of the culinary industry. About once a month, or sometimes once every two months, there would be a city-wide fraction meeting of the top Communists in the culinary industry. Every once in a while, a national food fraction meeting would be called. All of the leading Communists in the industry would gather at such meetings.

All top fraction meetings were held at the Hotel Edison annex. The hall would be rented in the name of J. Rubin. A sign would be placed in the hotel annex lobby stating that a J. Rubin meeting was scheduled, and indicating the floor number. Most of these meetings were held on Sundays. Invariably, all of the people mentioned who attended the meeting in the spring of 1940 above men-

tioned, would attend all of the said fraction meetings. I have absolute and conclusive knowledge of the fact that the members of the Communist Party in the culinary field who attended said fraction meeting in the spring of 1940, are still regularly holding fraction meetings in order to further the interests of the Communist Party.

The political bureau of the Communist Party, known as Pol-Buro in the Party, is the highest group of the Communist Party in the United States. This group holds meetings between the meetings of the Central Committee. This bureau has full power to act as it deems advisable. J. Rubin and I were previously <sup>CONNECTED WITH</sup> ~~in charge of~~ this bureau. We enjoyed the highest confidence in the Communist Party and took the necessary action between meetings of the Central Committee and issued orders.

Many months ago I decided to discontinue my activities in the affairs of the Communist Party or in any of its branches. I refused to work with the Communist Party on the basis of the Nazi-Soviet Pact, the partition of Poland, the discrimination against Negroes by the Soviet Pavilion at the World's Fair, the collaboration of the Party with certain shady elements in the food industry, and the hypocritical manner in which the Party dealt with the problem of the Negro. I told leaders of the Party that they were using the Negroes as a "Cat's Paw"

to help them to pull their political chestnuts out of the fire.

I do not agree with the Communist Party in its opposition to the defense program of the U. S. Government and the definite and all-inclusive plan of the Party to attempt to bring about the overthrow of the U. S. Government by force at some future time. As a result, in the summer of 1940, I was for all purposes expelled officially as a member of the Party. During the past two years I have been a member of the Democratic Party of New York City.

I definitely state that the Communist Party is opposed to the democratic system of government. Their main objective is to Sovietize the United States of America. I am opposed to their methods and their programs in the culinary industry. Leaders of the Communist Party connected with the local unions of the Culinary International are using the industry and the positions to which they have attained, for selfish purposes and are definitely abusing the power which their office affords them.

In order to be a good Communist, it is necessary to be an atheist. I have always chosen to follow my religion and I will never abandon it. From time to time, all of the union officials who are members of the Communist Party, to whom I have referred in this affidavit, and that does not exclude any single one

officials in the culinary International, were taxed one week's salary. In addition, all of these union officials, including myself, regularly paid each and every week between \$5.00 and \$10.00 per week which were deducted from our salaries and used for the benefit of the Communist Party, and to further the cause of the Communist Party in the culinary industry.

Mr. J. Rubin would make the decisions as to the amounts which were to be deducted from our salaries each week. In arriving at these decisions, he would have the support of Mr. Reich, Mr. Obermeier and Mr. Kramberg. Mr. Reich as well as the others were ardent followers of Mr. J. Rubin and they always supported him in major plans or policies.

Certain "belt" organizations were set up by the Communist Party which would send official communications to the local unions seeking financial aid or contributions. These organizations were set up under the guise of peace, peace and democracy, or aid to certain causes, such as aid to Spain. They were set up by the Communists in the culinary industry as well as in other industries.

The Communists in the various locals at the council meetings or Executive Boards of the locals, would

encourage everyone in an attempt to support decisions of the councils or boards to make contributions to these various so-called "causes".

I am a member of the Advisory Board of the North Harlem Community Council, a member of the Negro Labor Committee and of the KKK. I have filed an application for membership in the Masons. I am a delegate to the Central Trades and Labor Council. I am willing to testify at any time before Central Trades and Labor Council as to all matters contained in this affidavit and as to many additional matters concerning communist activities of certain "recognized leaders" in the culinary industry who are officials of locals of the A.F.L. International.

The Communists in the culinary industry follow the practice of placing as many Communist secretaries and office workers as they possibly can in the offices of the locals in the culinary industry. A great number of female office workers in the various locals of the International are members of the Communist Party. For example, in Local 8 three are members of the Communist Party; in Local 302 four are members of the Party and Miss Anne Moskowitz is in charge of this group; in Local 89 there are two members of the Party working in the office.

These girls, all members of the Party, also

regularly have meetings and in addition thereto, they regularly transmit all important information which they are able to obtain, to the Communist leaders in the culinary industry and to the leaders in their respective local unions.

Sworn to before me this  
21 day of January, 1941.

Lawrence J. [Signature]

*Eta Seeman*

Notary Public for the State of New York  
My Comm. Expires March 10, 1941

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

KRR:NRL  
[redacted]

September 30, 1943

b3  
b7D

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Re: [redacted]

Attached hereto is an affidavit given by the informant to EDWARD FLORE, General President, Hotel Restaurant Employees International Union, Bartenders International League, A. F. L., in 1941, at which time an attempt was made to rid the union of Communists.

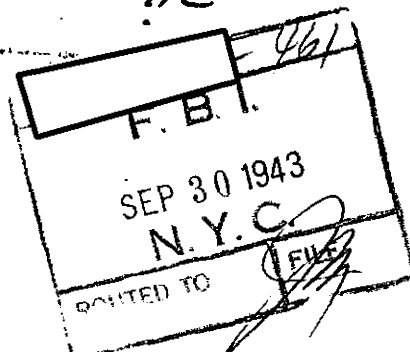
The attached is furnished for informational purposes and should be filed in the confidential informant's file.

KENNETH R. ROUTON  
Special Agent

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH



Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_



b3

October 2, 43.

Henry Dykes:

I had a long talk with Henry Dykes. He remembered me when I was active in the organization and the strike of the workers of the Horn and Hardart Cafeterias in New York City. During the conversation he informed me that he was a member of the Communist Party and that he had had been for a number of years.

We talked about many old members of the Party with whom we worked a number of years ago. He was connected with the Bakery Workers Union when it was affiliated with the Food Workers Industrial Union. The F.W.I.U. was controlled by the Communist Party. The F.W.I.U. was affiliated with the Trade Union Unity League.

The Bakery Union later merged with the American Federation of Labor. It is now known as the Bakery and Confectionary Employees Union Local #1 A.F. of L. It is still controlled by the Communists. The President Frank Dutto is a member of the Party. According to Dykes the Vice - President is also a member of the Party.

Dykes said that he was for a long time financial secretary of the Industrial Unit (Party) in the baking industry. He collected dues from all the members and turned it into the Party Section.

Dykes lives at:

277 West 150th Street  
Apartment 19  
New York City.

Description:

Negro. Weight about 172. Height about 5 feet 10 inches. Complexion black. Eyes brown. Hair black. Age about 44.



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELH

Good  
JHP ✓



462



New York 7, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:MOH

October 9, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: HENRY DYKES  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 2, 1943, concerning HENRY DYKES.

[redacted] stated that he would attempt to obtain further information concerning this party and will report the same to this office.

Copies of this report are being retained in appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E.E. Conroy*  
E.E. CONROY, SAC

Encs. (2)

cc [redacted]

SP2 ALM/EHL  
DECLASSIFIED BY  
ON 8/4/00  
439740

b7D

b3

[redacted] 463

October 2, 43.

Peoples' Committee Executive Session continued.....

## Equal Rights League:

In the event that the National Board of the YMCA. does not act favorably, that is to end discrimination, the group will begin picketing the Y.M.C.A. branches in New York City.

The group is politically aligned with the Socialists. Bernice McMillan and Jim Warner are the leaders.

The recommendation to support the action was approved.

Copies of the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Board of the P.C. were distributed.

## Recording Secretary:

Joseph E. Ford.

## Guest:

Mr. Kirk Jackson from Washington, D.C. appeared before the Committee asking support of the campaign for civil rights for the Negro in the nations' capitol. He said that there was a Bill now pending in Congress known as Civil Rights Bill 1995 (I am not sure of the number) which he urged support of. He requested that New York Congressmen be asked to sign a discharge petition so that the Bill can be taken out of Committee and voted upon.

The recommendation for full support was approved.

## Present:

Adam Powell  
Joseph Ford  
Manning Johnson  
Mrs. Pitner  
Harrison Jackson  
Louise McDonald (left before the meeting started)  
Olivia Stokes.

## Financial Report:

The expenditures for the Summer were approved.

October 2, 43.

Executive Board Peoples Committee.  
Meeting held October 2, 3 P.M.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Adam Clayton Powell, Chairman presided.

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DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 ADM/ELC

#### Election Campaign:

The meeting was called to intensify the work of getting Negro voters out to register in order to vote in the coming elections. We have important elective offices that should and must be filled by Negroes. This is only possible if the Negro electorate registers and votes. We are electing Negroes for the City Council in Manhattan and Brooklyn and also a City Magistrate.

The candidates are:

Francis Rivers, City Magistrate, Republican Party.  
Benjamin Davis Jr., City Council, Communist Party.  
Harold A. Ross Jr., City Council, ~~Democratic Party~~  
Norman Johnson, City Council, (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

Powell stated that he called a meeting of Ross, Ben Davis and their campaign managers to work out the strategy. It was agreed that Ben Davis at his meetings would ask for No 1 vote and NO 2 vote for Ross and Ross at his meetings would ask for No 1 vote and No 2 for Davis. The objective being that if either one failed to get sufficient votes to be elected the votes of will go to the other thus enhancing his possibilities of winning. Powell stated that he regretted that Channing Tobias refused to run. He said that he had an excellent chance to win.

The Ross-Davis campaign will be conducted by the People's Committee on a racial basis. It was agreed that a letter of indorsement and support be sent to the candidates.

The material already gotten out by the Peoples' Committee will be paid for jointly by all the candidates. Rivers has already put an ad in the P.V. The other candidates will do likewise.

#### Youth Center:

The setting up of a youth center was recommended. It was suggested that the Savage Building located at 155th Street and St. Nicholas ave., would be an ideal place or the Jewish Center on 116th Street. The Savage building could be gotten for \$20,000. Down payment of \$20,000. The question was to get organizations, groups and individuals interested.

#### Committees:

The following committees were formed:

Committee on Nominations for all officers of the  
Peoples Committee for 1944

## Executive Board Peoples' Committee continued.....

## Committees:

Committee On Conference. This Committee to work out all the plans for the Conference of the Peoples Committee that will be held in January 1944.

## Program:

Adam Powell, Channing Tobias, ~~Victor~~ Vicki Best, Joseph Ford get together and draw up a draft program of activities for the fall and winter to be submitted to the next meeting of the Executive Committee. There will be three more meetings of the Executive Committee before the Conference. All officers are elected at the Conference which is held in January of each year.

## March On Washington Movement:

Olivia Stokes, delegate to the National Convention of the N.O.W.M. gave a brief report. She criticized the N.O.W.M. for excluding white people and also for adopting the "civil disobedience campaign". ~~Further~~ The adoption of a "civil disobedience policy" which for all practical purposes was not a success in India and is not practical in America is, she said, due to the influence of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The barring of white persons from the N.O.W.M. is a contradiction on the one hand we fight for integration and on the other we fight for separation.

She concluded with an admission that she did not understand the N.O.W.M.

Adam Powell said that he was interested in getting a representative of the N.O.W.M. on the Executive Board of the P.C. He was informed that Rev. Sullivan, a young minister from West Virginia, ~~that~~ is a member of the P.C. is now president of the New York Chapter of the N.O.W.M. A motion was made and seconded that Rev. Sullivan be put on the Executive Committee of the Peoples Committee.

## Elburn Mass Rally:

Adam Powell recommended support of the mass rally at the Golden Gate. Recommendation approved.

## Council On Social Hygiene:

This is a new group that was formed during the last week. Officers have not been elected. Its aim is to combat venereal diseases etc., in the community. Recommendation to support it was passed.

## Equal Rights League:

A small group of students who formed an organization for equal rights came to Adam Powell asking for support in a projected action against discrimination in the white Y.M.C.A. They are planning to ask the YECA National Board which meets this month to end discrimination against Negroes

New York 7, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 9, 1943

JJP:MCH  
100-43415

Director, FBI

Re: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is report of [redacted] dated October 2, 1943, concerning a meeting held by the Executive Board of the People's Committee on October 2, 1943 at the Harlem Branch of the Y.M.C.A. b7D

[redacted] advised that he will continue to report on the activities of the People's Committee.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Encs. (2)

cc-NY [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/4/00

b3

[redacted] - 465

Hickburn mass rally continued.....

Pearl L. Willin, candidate for City Council sent a letter of support and a check on the 6th Avenue Bank for ten dollars.

Several of the parent spoke all pledging to continue the fight till the end.

The parents decided that in the event that they are arrested a sin, The time spent in jail will be alternated between husband and wife.

About 25 or 30 of the parents were on the platform. All of them have been recruited into the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Adam Clayton Powell appeal for funds for the fight.

Joe Rustic:

He said that the newsmen both colored and white are speaking very favorably about the fight against Jim Crow in Hickburn. He estimated that Brock Rogers for a statement in a recent edition of which he said in his opinion was libelous.

Forry Wilson and his band rendered three numbers.



b7D

Good  
JHP ✓



b3

October 3, 43.

Hillburn Protest Mass Rally  
Golden Gate Ballroom  
143rd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.  
Sunday October 3, —3 P.M.

Joe Bostic, Sports Editor, Peoples' Voice presided.

Speakers:

Attorney Thurgood Marshall, N.A.A.C.P.  
Attorney Raymond Pace Alexander, Phila., Pa.  
Alfred Butsch, Columnist newspaper PM.  
A. Clayton Powell, City Councilman.

439740

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/4/00 BY SP2 ALM/EA

Thurgood Marshall:

The Mason-Dixon Line he said is moving farther North. Only a few miles from New York City in the little town of Hillburn an attempt has been made to form a jimcrow system in the schools. Hillburn is one of those small one factory towns where everybody works for at the factory and the factory owner dictates the policy. This is similar to the small towns in the South where one man is a big plantation owner and all the other people are tenant farmers. The plantation owner dictates the policy. The jimcrow school system that prevails in the South has been set up in Hillburn, New York.

Recently in Hillburne a new school was completed. The Negro children like the white children looked forward to the opening of the new school with all its modern conveniences. When the school was opened the Negro children came to enroll. They were told that they would have to go to the old school. That only white students were to attend the new school. Upon being informed of this the parents protested to the Board of Education but of no avail. They refused to permit their children to go to the old school.

The old school is an old building about 55 years old. It still has outhouses. Very small recreation grounds bordering on the highway.

There was an old statute giving the Commissioner of Education the right to set up separate educational facilities when ever and wherever it was deemed necessary. This law was passed in 1896. It was repealed in 1938. From 1896 until 1938 jimcrow educational system was legal.

The parents decided to go on strike because of the refusal of the local officials to admit their children. The parents were threatened with prosecution under the truancy laws of the State if they persisted in keeping their children out of the old [redacted] 466

In order to strengthen their position the local legislative body rushed through a zoning law to circumvent the law passed in 1938 by the New York State Legislature banning jimcrow and discrimination in the educational system of New York State. The law passed by the local body provided that all persons living on one side of route 17 should

October 3, 43.

**Hilburn Mass Rally continued.....****Thurgood Marshall:**

go to the old school and all those living on the other side go to the new school. Since the overwhelming majority of Negroes lived on that side of the route 17 that according to the new zoning law required that they send their children to the old school. About 52 Negro children who live on the other side of route 17 were admitted. However none of the white children who lived in the zone which the law required that all children go to the old school, were enrolled at the old school. They were enrolled in the new school.

The refusal of the Negro parents to enroll their children in the "old school" or Brook's school were accused violating the attendance laws of the State of New York. They were arrested, fined \$10. The fines were suspended. The judge ordered the parents to send their children to "an accredited school". They sent their children back to the "new school" but were refused registration by a Mr. Davidson. The parents are firm and prepared to make any sacrifice to win.

There will be a hearing in Albany, New York, Monday October 4 at 4PM. It is foolish to predict how this hearing is going to end.

**Raymond Pace Alexander:**

We had a case in Berwin, Pa., similar to the one that you now have in Hilburn. Berwin is about 17 miles from Philadelphia. It lies in the heart of a section that has the aggregation of wealthy people in any like area in the country. In Berwin a new school was built to replace the old one. The white children were enrolled in the new school but the Negroes were refused and informed that they had to go to the old school. The "old school" he said, in this case was 54 years old.

A referendum was held to decide whether or not the City Government should issue bonds to the amount of 400,000 dollars for the new school. The Negroes were asked to vote yes on the proposition.

When the New School was opened, Negro children were barred. They were told that the old school would be fixed up for them. The parents refused to send their children to the old school. Every day they would take them to the new school to register them and each time they were turned down. An elderly Negro was brought from Wilmington, Delaware to be principal of the old school. Two young Negro teachers were also employed but the parents refused to let their children attend the school. At first the parents were threatened and later they were arrested for violating the attendance laws of the State. Despite the arrests, fines and other penalties the parents remained firm.

We advised the parents not to allow themselves to be arrested at home but to arrange it so that the arrest would be made at the places where they work. Some of the wives were taken out during preparation of a meal or mowing a lawn etc.

The fight lasted for three years.



Oct. 3, 4

Hilburn mass rally continued.....

Raymond Pace Alexander:

He appealed for support of the parents of Hilburn. The fight may last as long as the Berlin fight. You will be called upon to make many sacrifices but if you remain firm and do not count the cost you will win out.

Alfred Butsch:

He praised the parents for the stand which they are taking against bigotry, Jimcrow and discrimination, in Hilburn, New York. The Board of Education in Hilburn should have been on trial not the parents. The bigots of Hilburn should be on trial not the parents. They are the ones who violated the laws of the State of New York.

Jimcrow and discrimination in our educational system in New York State is outlawed under Section 40 laws of the State of New York. He also quoted other laws to substantiate this contention. The actions of the Hilburn officials, whom he termed as bigots, are attempting to get around the laws of the State of New York.

He called for vigilance to preserve our democratic way of life. We can not afford to permit Jimcrow to walk around on the loose. If we permit Jimcrow and discrimination to pollute our educational system we pollute the very fountain of democracy for the fountain of democracy is the school. Today you are either for or against Jimcrow. There is no such thing as neutrality. All Americans must take their stand to rid America of Jimcrow.

A. Clayton Powell:

We not only have to fight Hitler abroad we have to fight Hitler at home—right here in Hilburn. Hilburn is ~~within~~ within sight of the spires of New York not below the Mason-Dixon line. Reaction is spreading. There is a grave danger that we may win the war on the foreign front and lose it on the home front.

It is far better that we call our armies back home than to allow Hitler to triumph on the home front. Our boys, brother, husbands are fighting all over the world to defeat Hitler and Hitlerism they must not come back to an America of Jimcrow and discrimination. There is the grave danger that the Negro will be in a worse predicament after the war than he was in before the war. The ambassadors of Hitler in America are busy. There must be unity of the Negroes, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Labor to defeat these sons of fascism and drive them into hell.

As soon as I heard about the situation in Hilburn I sent a reporter and a photographer there. The people of Hilburn are going through the same fight that we had to wage in New York City. In those dark days when the Negro people were passing through the valley and the shadow

# Hilburn mass rally continued.....

## A. Clayton Powell:

of unemployment they rallied, they united and were able to pull through. Today with reaction growing we must rally again as never before to beat it down. We had our Harlem hospital. We have our Stuyvesant Town. But we shall remember all those who have been and are now responsible. We are going to pool our strength. We are going to protest. We are going to picket. We are going to withhold our ballots. We are going to use every method physical (non-violent) and political to combat our enemies. Governor Dewey has failed to speak out against discrimination and Jim Crow in the State. Mayor La Guardia and others who approved Stuyvesant Town which excludes Negroes. All those responsible we will remember at the polls. We will not cast our votes blindly for political parties but for candidates and their records.

The Negro is more concerned with making democracy work than any other racial group in America. As Abraham Lincoln said, no nation can endure half slave and half free; I say no nation can exist when nine tenths of the nation is free and one tenth is denied all democratic rights. Their survival of democracy is dependant upon equality and justice for all regardless of race or color. The Negroes, he said, have the task of saving America from destroying the soul of democracy.

He urged unity, stating that every blow against one Negro must be considered a blow against them all. The Hilburn attack is the problem of every Negro in New York State. It is our duty to strive and work for our full democratic rights. It is better that a Negro child die in his mother's womb than to be born into a world of Jim Crow and discrimination. It is better that your right arm was severed from your body than submit to Jim Crow. We must fight discrimination and Jim Crow and for full citizenship rights so that our children and our children's children will enjoy all the blessings of democracy. We must win the war for democracy on the home front. Let it not be said that we remained indifferent and passive.

Speaking of the horrors of war, which he painted grafically, he said that let not these maimed and crippled come back to America of Jim Crow and discrimination but to an America where democracy works. He concluded with a hope that out of this war will come a new world where everybody will live in peace and happiness.

## Attendance:

About 2,000 person were present.

Michael Quill, President Transport Workers Union, C.I.O. did not speak. He sent a telegram pledging support.

Attorney Creighton who is assisting Thurgood Marshall in the Hilburn case was introduced.

New York 7, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 9, 1943

JJP:MEH

Director, FBI

Re: HILLBURN PROTEST MASS RALLY  
Golden Gate Ballroom  
143rd St. and Lenox Ave.,  
New York City  
Sunday, Oct. 3, 1943 - 3 P.M.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of  
report of [redacted] dated October 3, 1943,  
concerning the above-mentioned protest rally.

b7D

[redacted] advised that he would  
report to this office any further information he might obtain  
concerning the Hillburn incident.

Copies of this report are being retained in appropriate  
files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*Jrk*

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Encs. (2)

cc- [redacted]

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/4/00

b3



October 7th, 47.

I have been informed that Ben Davis is making a drive get a number of former leading Party members back into the Party. He is enlisting the support of the oldtimers to talk with them.

The informant who is a member of the Party [redacted] and active leader in the Party stated that the Party has abandoned the policy of asking former Party members issue public statements before they are considered for re-admission. He was assured that any former Party member wishing to return to the Party should re-apply through the Harlem Section and the matter would be handled there. He spoke specifically of former Negro Communists.

b7D

The responsibility for the loss of many leading Negro Communists is laid at the door of James W. Ford whom he stated is being gradually shorn of power and pushed into the background.

They have asked Richard B. Moore and Cyril Briggs to return. He said had not yet decided but that they expressed a willingness. The door is now open for them and any others who wish to return. He asked me to consider returning to the Party. I informed him that I was now only concerned with living a life as free from politics as is humanly possible. I had no desire to return. He said, I know that you are bitter regarding your treatment but I should forget it. He asked me to give it some serious thought and he would talk to me about it at some future time. I told him that the only thing that I am doing is attending a meeting occasionally to keep abreast with what is going on and that is and will be all that I have any desire to do.

There is such a dearth of capable and able material in the Party that the leaders are bending backward to get many of the best people that were expelled or dropped to rejoin the Party. There is considerable dissatisfaction among the rank and file regarding many of the these expulsions.

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439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2 ALM/CHC

Good ✓  
JIP

[redacted] - 4/60

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:MGM  
100-23825

October 13, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: BEN DAVIS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 3 ALN/EHL  
ON 8/7/00

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 7, 1943 concerning BEN DAVIS and also concerning an attempt on the part of the Communist Party to bring [redacted] back in- to the Party.

b7D

[redacted] advised that the person mentioned as "informant" in the attached report is [redacted]. He advised that if he were to go back into the Party it would be as a speaker and that he did not desire to become publicly connected with the Communist Party again. [redacted] stated he believed he could obtain the same information from his present connection with members of the Party as he could by becoming actively engaged in the Party's work. He stated, however, that he was not absolutely definite in his intention not to return to the Party membership and that possibly at a later date he might do so. [redacted] stated that he would keep this office advised of further developments in this regard and that he would be glad to cooperate in any way desired.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,



E. E. CONROY, SAC

✓ Enclosures-2

cc: [redacted]

b3

[redacted] 1154

October 8th, 43.

Rose Gauden

I have known Rose Gauden about seven years. I met her when I was working in the Harlem Section. Ever since that time she has been active in the Harlem Party organization.

Her occupation is nursing. She has been and is now employed at the Harlem Hospital. Her assignment in the Party was to work among the employees of the Harlem Hospital. Rose along with Alma Vossella who was dismissed from the Harlem Hospital succeeded in organizing an effective Party nucleus in the Hospital. This nucleus tried unsuccessfully to organize hospital workers in the a union that was formed by the Party.

On numerous occasions L. B. Barry, James W. Ford, Louise Thomson and other leading Party workers in Harlem met and discussed with her problems of organization and agitation in the Harlem hospital. Proper utilization of the grievances of the employees, rallying public support of the employees, exposing conditions in the hospital which we considered deplorable, organizing pressure groups on a united front basis to demand remedial measures. Leaflets and pamphlets were printed and distributed in and out of the hospital, releases sent to the press. Among the many charges was insufficient facilities, improper care, over congestion, insufficient nurses and other hospital employees, discrimination. The issues raised in connection with Harlem hospital were broadened to embrace all the hospitals. Discrimination against Negro nurses, doctors etc., in the hospitals of New York City. Delegations visited the Commissioner of hospitals. Grievances were presented to the Mayor.

At present she is still active in the Harlem Hospital, according to information. She is actively participating in the work of the Harlem Section and works very closely with Audley Moore and Ben Davis Jr. I have seen her at most of the meetings organized by the Party in Harlem.

Description:

About 5 feet 10 inches. Weight about 150 pounds. Color black. Dark piercing eyes. Hair black. Age about 38. Round attractive face.



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2A/M/EHL

Good  
JVP ✓



b3  
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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:MM  
100-51841

October 13, 1948

Director, FBI

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/7/00

Re: ROSE GAULDEN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 8, 1943 concerning ROSE GAULDEN.

[redacted] advised that ROSE GAULDEN is quite active presently in the Harlem Section of the Communist Party and that she works very closely with AUDLEY MOORE and BEN DAVIS, Jr.

He advised that he would continue to report Party activities of this person.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

Enclosures-2  
cc: [redacted]

b7D

b3

-271

October 9th, 43.

Timothy Holmes

According to information, Timothy "Tim" is quite bitter regarding his treatment by the Party. He has expressed this bitterness to a number of Party and non-Party people. He is still a member of the Party.

Ever since the Government began investigating the passport situation a number of persons were instructed to step out of the limelight until things cool off. "Tim" is bitter regarding how he has been handled in this matter according to the informant. At present time he is working as an elevator operator. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

The informant was not sure of the place. The best information I could get from him was that he worked either on the north side of 36th or 38th street between Broadway and 6th Avenue. I have not checked. He could not or would not give me his home address. He either did not know or he was pursuing the Party policy of not giving anyone the addresses of Party members.



b7D

439740  
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DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Good  
JJP ✓



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New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:MEM  
100-14581

October 18, 1943

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EL  
ON 8/7/00

Director, FBI

Re: TIMOTHY HOLMES  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 9, 1943 concerning TIMOTHY HOLMES.

[redacted] advised that he would attempt to ascertain the correct address of the subject, which he states in this report he had been unable to get. He further stated that he would report to this office any further information he obtained concerning this individual.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,



E. E. CONROY, SAC

Enclosures-2

✓ cc: [redacted]

[redacted]

473

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October 9th, 43.

Angelo Herndon

Angelo is one of the many Negro Party members who feel that the Party has side tracked the struggle for Negro rights, that they are paying lip service only. The program which was enunciated is not consistent with their actions, that in their effort to force the opening of a "second front" to win the war they have relegated the struggle for Negro rights to the background.

Specifically there is a number of them including Herndon who feel that an energetic campaign should be conducted against Jim Crow in the armed forces which the leaders of the Party are willing to go extent of organizing against it and training the slogan for mixed units.

Angelo insisted that a test case be made with full Party backing. This the Party disagreed with on the grounds that such an action was contrary to their win the war policy. He was accused of attempting to avoid military service among other things.

It was on the basis of this failure to get Party support of a test case on Jim Crow in the army that brought about the withdrawal of all support from Angelo and a public pronouncement that the Party could not be responsible for any of his actions.

Angelo planned to appeal to friends, liberals, newspapers for support of the test case in which he would be the person involved.

According to the informant, every effort is being made "to save Angelo for the Party".



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439740

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DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2 AEM/ELC

Good  
d/p



New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:IDM  
100-11149

October 13, 1943

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/ETHC  
ON 8/7/00

Director, FBI

Re: ANGELO HERNDON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 9, 1943 concerning ANGELO HERNDON.

[redacted] advised that the Communist Party is making every effort to save ANGELO HERNDON for the Party and that his dismissal was caused by the fact that the Party was side-tracking the struggle for Negro rights and was merely paying lip tribute to it. Another reason for HERNDON's disfavor in the Party was the fact that they believed he was attempting to evade military service.

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report on any development in connection with ANGELO HERNDON and the Communist Party.

Copies of this report are being retained in appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

Enclosures-2

✓cc: [redacted]

b7D

b3

October 14th, 43.

**George Washington Carver School**

The George Washington Carver School which I reported in the process of formation has already been completed. Its establishment had the full approval of the Party. They have succeeded in getting a group of liberals to join with the Communists in launching the School.

The school is located at 57 West 125th Street, New York City. Phone Atwater 9-6969.

Gwendolyn Bennett, Communist is the Director.

**Board of Directors:**

Leonard Covello.  
Henry Craft  
James Waterman Wise  
Melva Price \*\*  
Adam Clayton Powell  
Canada Lee  
Thelma Dale \*\*  
Paul Robeson. \*\*  
Benjamin Davis Jr. \*\*  
Ernest L. Dimitry \*\*  
Ferdinand Smith. \*\*  
Dr. Arnold Donawa \*\*  
Judge Hubert T. Delany  
Thyra Edwards \*\*  
Dorothy Steele  
Hope R. Stevens \*\*  
Dr. Max Yergan \*\*  
Alta Douglas \*\*  
Rev. Charles Young Trigg  
Alice Keliher  
Edward S. Lewis  
Harcourt Tynes

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DATE 8/7/02 BY SP2ADJ/ETH

\*\* Members of the Communist Party.

The classes will begin October 18th, 43. There will be a fee of \$2 for each course.

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13 op  
HIP

476

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-51181

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
October 26, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCHOOL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There are forwarded herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 14th, 1943 concerning the George Washington Carver School.

[redacted] advised that this school has just been opened and is located at 57 West 125th Street, New York City. He has stated that he will continue to report any information he can obtain concerning the school and its activities.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Encs. (2)

cc [redacted]

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHC  
ON 8/7/00

477

October 28th, 43.

Peoples' Committee  
Y.M.C.A. Harlem Branch.  
October 28th, 43.

Adam Powell, chairman.

Joseph Ford recording Secretary.

439740  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/9/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETM

#### Strike of Conscientious Objectors;

The meeting was called to decide upon action to be taken in support of the strikers at the Federal Correctional Institute in Danbury, Conn. It was reported that the conscientious objectors there are striking against the segregation of Negro and white inmates. Warden Wyl Alexander refused to meet with a committee of the "objectors".

The confab decided to elect a Committee composed of the following persons:

Harrison Jackson, Legal Representative of the P.C.  
Walter White N.A.A.C.P.  
Arthur Garfield Hayes, Civil Liberties Union.  
Rev. Eldridge Brooks  
Nat Mc Dermott.

The above mentioned group to go to Danbury and also visit Attorney General Bennett in support of the Strikers.

Abc Kaufman (white) and three white girls, two of whom were referred to as fiancées of two of the strikers were present. Kaufman is a member of the War Resisters League. He informed me that the strike was organized and lead by his group that is the strike in Danbury and also in Lewisburg. Homer Nichols the lone Negro participating in the strike at Danbury is a member of "Modern Trend".

Abc said that he was in the draft age but that he would resist being drafted and that he may have to go to prison for his views.

#### Hillburn Situation;

Mr. James Allen head of the New York State N.A.A.C.P. requested that Committee take no other action except send a telegram to the Head of the Suffern School for Boys protesting against changing of the boys school into a good school in order to maintain Jim Crowism. He said the situation is tense there and there is possibility of a race riot. It is a matter of time when the person or persons paying for these children attendance at the Suffern School will give it up as too costly.

#### F.E.P.C.

That there is an attempt to scuttle F.E.P.C. A telegram be sent to Attorney Gen. Biddle requesting action to maintain F.E.P.C.

Y.M.C.A. The Peoples' Committee is giving all support to the fight against Jim Crow in the Y.

New York, New York

100-43415  
JJP:MEB

November 1, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740

SP-2 ALM/EHC

Director, FBI

RE: PEOPLES' COMMITTEE,  
Meeting Held YMCA, Harlem Branch,  
October 28, 1943;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated October 29, 1943, concerning a meeting held by the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE in conjunction with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This meeting was held on October 28, 1943 at the Harlem Branch, YMCA, in order to consider what action should be taken concerning the strike at the Danbury, Connecticut Federal Correctional Institute.

Also considered at this meeting was the racial tension at Hillburn, New York, in connection with the Hillburn School Case.

[redacted] advised that he will keep this office informed as to any further information concerning these two matters. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge.

Enc. (2)  
cc: NY file [redacted]

b7D

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479

[October 31, 43.] (u)

March On Washington Movement.  
Meeting held October 30th, 43  
Harlem Y.M.C.A.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Open Forum

CLASSIFIED AND

EXTENDED BY SP-1 a 7/29/80

REASON FOR EXTENSION

FCIM, 11, 1.2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW FOR

DECLASSIFICATION 7/29/90

Speakers:

Layle Lane, Candidate for the City Council.  
John A. Ross, Jr. Candidate for the City Council.  
Benjamin Davis, Jr. Candidate City Council.  
Magistrate Frances Rivers, Candidate City Magistrates Court.

Attendance:

Approximately 100. One white person.

Layle Lane:

She appealed to the persons present to support the Socialist Party and to elect their candidates. The Socialist Party, she said, stands for public ownership and democratic control of all public services. If I am elected I will work for that end. She also spoke against the high cost of living, juvenile delinquency, Stuyvesant Housing project and discrimination.

John A. Ross:

He stated that the election of a Negro to the City Council was a very important task and that he was interested in seeing that a Negro be elected and that Negro be himself. He asked his listeners to vote number one for him and give the others 1 and 2. This he contended would guarantee the election of a Negro.

He urged support of Francis Rivers candidate for the City Magistrates office. He stated that he is against discrimination and would work for legislation in the interest of his own people if he is elected but that he knew the difficulties that one individual has in trying to bring about reforms.

Ben Davis, Jr.:

Praised the Communist Party for selecting him as candidate. His candidacy has gotten the support of many person who are not members of the Party. A large non-partisan committee has been formed to support his election.

I am first of all a win-the-war candidate for it is through the winning of the war will we be able to win the victory at home. He promised to fight against the Stuyvesant Housing project, Jimcrow and discrimination.

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IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 480

(u)<sup>b3</sup>



(2)

[October 21, 43.]

X(u)

March On Washington Movement continued....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Ben Davis continued.....] X(u)

tion. He asked that he be given master one vote and Ross number two. He refused to answer a question as what is the Communist Party and what it stands for. X(u)

Magistrate Francis Rivers:] X(u)

He praised Governor Dewey for appointing him to this post as Magistrate and the Republican Party for selecting him to succeed himself. This is the most important position that a Negro has held and that, he urged his election, in order that a precedent could be established whereby a Negro running for office is elected by all the people. The majority of the people voting for me are white, the Negroes are a minority. This is a very good sign. It is something without precedent. X(u)

If you elect me then you open the door to the election of Negroes to other offices that will require the support of the white populace to elect them. It will open the door to the election of Negroes to the Supreme Courts. What we do in New York will have national repercussions. X(u)

Each speaker was allowed six minutes. X(u)

[ ] X(u)

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b7D

Good  
JDP

✓  
-480

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[ ]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:els  
100-26792

New York, 7, New York  
October 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
MEETING HELD 10/20/43  
HARLEM YMCA  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 21, 1943, concerning a meeting held on October 20, 1943 at the Harlem Branch, YMCA, of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT. (u)

This meeting was an open forum addressed by LAYLE LANE, candidate for City Council, and BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., and JOHN A. ROSS, Candidates for City Council, and also Magistrate FRANCIS RIVERS, candidate for City Magistrate. (u)

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

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IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

E. E. CONROY  
S. A. C.

Two Enclosures (2)

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/CHL  
ON 8/7/00

cc: NY [redacted]

~~CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP-1 on 7/29/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2  
DECLASSIFICATION 7/29/90~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] 481

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October 12th, 43.

Aaron Douglas

He is one of the persons supporting Benjamin Davis for election to the New York City Council. His wife is a teacher in the Public Schools in New York City. He is an artist. I only met him on two or three occasions. These were at Party social gatherings at his home several years ago. At that time both he and his wife were members of the Party. According to information they are still members of the Party. I have not seen him since 1936. I saw his wife recently. She is still teaching.

He has been active in united front movements in Harlem for several years. He works primarily among the middle class element.



b7D

439740

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2ALM/BHL

Good  
JdP



482

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-28627

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
October 26, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE AMERICA NEGROES  
MASS MEETING, NEW YORK COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.  
GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM, 10/17/43  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Dear Sir:

There are forwarded herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 17th, 1943, concerning the mass meeting held by the New York Council of Negro Women, Inc. at the Golden Gate Ballroom, Lenox Avenue and 142nd Street, New York City on Sunday, October 17th, 1943.

[redacted] advised that he will continue to report to this Office any information he is able to obtain concerning the New York Council of Negro Women, Inc. and its activities.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Office.

Encs. (2)

✓ [redacted]

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EMH  
ON 8/7/00

[redacted]

4838/011  
100-28627-441

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October 17th, 43.

Mass Meeting  
Golden Gate Ballroom  
Lenox Avenue and 142nd Street, New York City.  
Sunday October 17th, 43

Auspices: National Council of Negro Women Inc.

Mary McLeod Bethune, President.

Miss Bethune opened the meeting and introduced Miss Louise Mc Donald who presided.

Louise Mc Donald:

Member of the Executive Council, People's Committee; Executive of the National Council of Negro Women and teacher in the public schools in New York City.

Speakers:

Mary McLeod Bethune  
Beulah V. Whitby, Interracial Commission, Detroit, Michigan, President Alpha Kappa Alpha Fraternity.  
Lillian Smith, Editor of "South Today".  
Clifford Mc Evoy, Legislative Director C.I.O. Industrial Union Council.  
Adam Clayton Powell, City Councilman, Chairman, Peoples' Committee.

Mary McLeod Bethune:

Read a prepared speech in which she set forth the following objectives:

- a. Winning the war against nazism and fascism as a prime task of the Negro women of America.
- b. The war has presented Negro women with many new opportunities and many new tasks. The war has created many new jobs, many avenues of employment which sharply poses the question of maintaining war time jobs during peacetime.
- c. Recognition of the power of the ballot and its proper use.
- d. Creation of inter-racial good will and understanding.
- e. Struggle against fascism at home as well as abroad and thereby build a bridge over which thousands will travel.

Beulah V. Whitby:

There is nothing that the war has not touched. Nothing has remained the same. War has opened many doors of opportunity for the Negro in the Armed forces, industry, volunteer services and numerous other essential services.

The main danger attendant with the bright side is that in the turn from a war economy to a peacetime economy Negro women may lose many of the gains they have made. In the Conference which preceded

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

October 17th, 43.

National Council, Negro Women mass meeting continued.....

Boulah V. Whitby continued:

this meeting we asked ourselves, "what will women do with the new opportunities"? Are they sinking those roots that will make these jobs secure? Are they sending down the roots of competency and efficiency? It is through this medium that we hope to attain our present gains in the transition from war to peacetime economy.

The war has broken up the home. We have to consider preservation of the home.

What alignments must Negro women make? During the conference discussion was devoted to organized labor. At the present time we are aligned with organized labor. Will we keep this alignment after the war.

Moreover we have certain political alignments. We regard politics as a sacred instrument. Will we continue our present political alignments after the war?

What are the basic issues upon which we have deep convictions that women must have in the days to come? They are full employment, world citizenship and building of racial harmony.

Lillian Smith:

I have been trying in my mind to bring Harlem and Georgia together. It can be done through proper racial relations. The proper education of children is most important. She stated that she was the director of a childrens school in the South during which time she had some interesting experiences of how children feel about this whole question of segregation. The stories she told revealed that the responsibility for a distorted, wrong concept of race relations was to be placed at the door of the parents. The child's feeling toward other human beings is colored by the color of the skin.

Segregation is a steel frame into which a child is placed in from birth. In it he is shaped formed and distorted. It is a crippling process for both white and Negro children. We must tear down the pattern of degregation. Laws may be passed. They are essential but they are mere sign posts. They show the way. The real change must be made by us human beings. Education of our children is essential.

Clifford Mc Avoy:

"We hold these truths self-evident" etc. Life Liberty and the pursuit of happiness are what our boys are fighting for. We must make these words a living reality.

Life must be made a reality not only for white people, protestants but also for Negroes. We must insist that the Gavigan Anti-Lynching Bill be passed at the present session of Congress.

Liberty must be made a living reality.

Oct. 17th, 43.

National Council of Negro Women mass meeting continued.....

Clifford Mc Avoy continued.....

The Senate Judiciary Committee has before it a Bill that will determine whether or not 12,000,000 Americans have the right to vote and to share in the government. It is the duty everyone present to write or otherwise contact your Congressman to assure the passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill. Write to Senator Meade and urge his support of the Bill.

Everyone should and must take part in politics. Failure to do so means turning over our country to those who would take away all that we have gained. Two members of your race are running for City offices. It is our duty to see that they are elected.

He paid tribute to Adam Powell and asserted that he wanted to see him in Congress.

I urge you to endorse and vote for Ben Davis Jr for the City Council to fill the position now held by Adam Powell. (Ben Davis Jr. is the Communist Party candidate) The C.I.O. industrial Union Council has endorsed Ben Davis. We are not concerned with political labels. We are only concerned with the candidate.

War is indivisible. We must demand and insist upon the unconditional surrender of the Axis powers. The complete destruction of Nazism and fascism abroad and at the same time the complete destruction of bigotry, prejudice and fascism at home. Any organization in America that is against a man because of race, color, creed or political opinion is un-American and should be rooted out.

Adam Powell:

The Negro has passed through the wilderness. He has been passing through for the last forty years. From the end of the period of Reconstruction to the end of World War I has been a difficult and turbulent period for the Negro. Times have changed since the end of the first world war. There is a new Negro and a new white man.

There is and must be a new definition of democracy. This new definition has come about in the last quarter of a century. "We hold these truths self-evident that all men are created equal". This is the definition of democracy by the Founding Fathers that the new definition had to finally rest upon. It is the democracy our boys are fighting for in all parts of the globe and who will be satisfied with nothing less upon their return.

We are going to drive fascism and Nazism out of Rome, Berlin, Tokio and out of America. This is the day of the common man. The future belongs to the Common man. The common man shall inherit the earth.

Oct. 17th, 48

National Council of Negro Women continued.....

Mr. Lewis, representing the newspaper PM:

He said that democracy is indivisible. To the extent that a Negro is denied democracy to that extent I am denied democracy.

**Resolution:** (The resolution embodied all the decisions reached by the the group during their Executive sessions):

The representatives of 800,000 members of the National Council of Negro Women in Conference assembled drew conclusions not only regarding the deficiencies of the government but also the deficiencies of the Negro. The Four Freedoms must be extended to all groups. All the expressed objectives of the war must be realized. The following was outlined:

a. There must be an end of discrimination in the armed forces; that is the ~~army~~, navy, marines, ~~air~~ force and other branches of the armed forces. We must urge the President of the United States to issue a Proclamation under the powers vested him as Commander in Chief, ending discrimination in the armed forces.

In addition to the armed forces there must also be an end of discrimination in the war and navy departments of the Federal Government. An end of discrimination against Negro nurses. Liberal organizations are urged to support the fight.

b. There must be adequate protection given to Negro members of the armed forces.

c. Adequate representation of Negroes on the policy making bodies of the Federal government.

1. Representation Childrens Department, Department of Labor.
2. " health department, Department of Labor.

e. The War Manpower Commission staff should be implemented by the inclusion of Negroes on the staff.

Support of the fight against the poll tax was urged.

Equal pay and facilities for Negro school teachers in the South and support of legislation to this end.

Support of the anti-lynching legislation in Congress.

Support of the policy of international cooperation on the the part of Congress.

Repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Fair Employment Practices Committee to be strengthened to handle the problems of the employment of Negroes because of the widespread discrimination in employment.



October 17th, 43

National Council of Negro Women continued.....

Opposition to the restricting of migration because it prevents the underpaid Negro workers of the South from bettering their conditions.

Adequate price control.

Decent housing. Continuation of urban re-developing program. Continuing of the Federal Housing program.

Support of the program of providing adequate educational facilities.

Total destruction of the fascist element.

Opposition to the segregation of blood by the Red Cross.

Every Negro to register and vote in the crucial elections of 1944.

Attendance:

About 1,500



b7D

Good ✓  
JJP

~~100-28627~~

JJP:els  
100-18924

New York, 7, New York  
October 29, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE:

RE: AARON DOUGLAS  
INTERNAL SECURITY-C

Attached hereto is the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] concerning AARON DOUGLAS dated October 12, 1943.

[redacted] advised that he would report  
to this Office any further information he obtained concerning this  
party.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

cc: NY [redacted]

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/7/00 BY SP3 ALM/EHL

els

FBI
OCT 30 1943
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO [initials]

[redacted]

- 493

October 29th, 43.

James Lustig:

Lustig and worked together for many years on various Committees of the Party and trade union groups organized by the Party. In 1934 we were members of the Trade Union Commission of New York State. Our trade union activity was in the National Trade Union Unity League and the Trade Union Unity Council. Together with Rose Werten, Jack Stachel, Ben Gold, Sam Hessen, Patrick Toohy, Jim Matles, Erving Petash, Ben Gerjoy, John Santos and others worked out the Party policy regarding organizing the unorganized into the trade unions and work inside of the A.F. of L. The work in the A.F. of L. consisted of boring from within.

When ever problems arose affecting members of the Party fractions in the trade unions and rank and file movements (rank and file groups consisted of Party and non-Party people) we were called together for special meetings. These special meetings were held in addition to the regular meetings. Both regular and special meetings covered similar problems the latter being consultory.

His Party activities have been:

- State Committee Communist Party.
- State Trade Union Commission
- National Trade Union Commission.
- National Fraction T.U.U.L.
- National Fraction U.E. Workers.

I do not know of him ever being a member of the National Committee but I do know that he attended meetings and participated in the discussions on trade union matters. He was also an elected delegate to Party Conventions and participated in the work of the Conventions.

We worked together with Jim Matles in organizing the light metal section of the Steel and Metal Workers Industrial Union affiliated with the T.U.U.L. in New York City. The units of this section later became the nucleus of the U.E. Workers C.I.O.

In addition we worked together on the May Day Demonstrations in New York city, anti-war groups, I.L.D., supported the Loyalist Government of Spain, unemployment insurance and numerous other campaigns. He has been active according to my knowledge from 1933 until the present time. I have been informed that he was in the Party prior to 1933. He is considered one of the most able Party trade unionists. In accordance with Party policy he was against aid to Britain before Russia was attacked, supported the Nazi Soviet Pact, went all out for the war after Germany's invasion of Russia and now is a persistent advocate for the "Second Front".

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✓  
good  
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New York, New York

100-1168  
JJP:MEB

November 1, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE:

RE: JAMES LUSTIG,  
SECURITY MATTER - C

[redacted] supplied the attached report dated October 29, 1943 concerning JAMES LUSTIG, his activities and his associates in connection with Communist activities.

[redacted] advised that he would report to this office any further information he obtained concerning this party.

439740  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

8/7/00 BY SP2ALM/HL

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

cc: [redacted]

[redacted] 435

NOV 1 1943
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO [redacted]

October 23rd, 43.

Mass Meeting  
Held Park Palace 110th Street and 5th Avenue, N.Y.C.  
Thursday October 21st, 43.

**Objective of Meeting:**

The election of Benjamin Davis, Jr. to the City Council which was combined with a demand for the immediate independence of Puerto Rico. The meeting was aimed at rallying the Spanish speaking people in support of Davis.

**Attendance:**

56 people. All Spanish speaking except five or six including myself.

The Chairman and the speakers with the exception of one were Latin-Americans. They were introduced in Spanish and spoke in Spanish. The meeting started at 10 P.M. and continued until after 12 midnight. They urged the small gathering to vote for Ben Davis, Jr. Communist candidate for the City Council of New York.

**Cyril Phillips:**

He was the only English speaking. He urged the audience to elect Ben Davis, whom he characterized as a peoples candidate. He cited Ben's activities in the Scottsboro Case, Angelo Herndon case and for the interests of the people to show that he was a foremost fighter for the rights of the people.

Cyril has been a member of the Party for more than 8 years. He worked together in the Harlem Section of the Party. His activity has been mainly among the West Indian people in Harlem. He is a printer by trade. He manages the Arlain Printing Company located at 126th Street and 8th Avenue on the South West corner.

**Description:**

About 6 feet. Weight about 180 pounds. Color brown. Hair black. Eyes brown. Age about 44.

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DATE 8/7/02 BY SP2 ALM/ETH

Good  
JJP ✓

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JJP:els  
100-23825

New York, 7, New York  
October 30, 1943

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: MASS MEETING, PARK PALACE,  
110th St. & 5th Ave., NYC.,  
Thursday, Oct. 21, 1943.  
INTERNAL SECURITY.

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated October 22, 1943, concerning a mass meeting held at the PARK PALACE at 110th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City, on Thursday, October 21, 1943, for the purpose of urging the election of BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., to the City Council. The meeting was attended by approximately 56 persons all of whom were Spanish speaking except for five or six persons.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/7/00

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY  
S. A. C.

Two Enclosures (2)

cc: NY [redacted]

*els*

[redacted]

- 4187

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(3)

Ben Davis rally continued.....

Collection:

Paul Robeson and Hazel Scott gave \$100 each. Adam Powell gave \$50 for the staff of the Peoples' Voice. The admission was from 55 cents to two dollars and twenty cents.

Attendance:

The Golden Gate was packed before three P.M. with hundreds outside. The Golden Gate holds about four thousand. The Renaissance Casino was hired for the overflow. It was packed to capacity. About 1,500.

Leading Communists Present:

James W. Ford. Audley Moore. Elizabeth Barker.  
Alexander Trottenberg Mother Bloor. Elizabeth Gurley Lyun  
Jessie Van Veen. Cyril Phillips. Charles Collins. David Leeds.  
Dr. Jonowa. Otto Ell. Mike Obermier. Frank Weston. Rose Morris.



b7D

Good ✓  
JJP  
100-10549-488

October, 26th, 48.

All-Star Victory Show for the Election of Ben Davis.  
Golden Gate Ballroom, Lenox Avenue and 142nd Street, N.Y.C.  
Sunday October 24th. 3 P.M.

**Chairmen:**

Teddy Wilson, chairman Artists Committee for the election of Ben Davis  
Fred Washington, sister-in-law of A. Clayton Powell, columnist, Peoples'  
Voice, played the role of Louise Beavers' daughter in the picture  
Imitation of Life.

Preliminary remarks were made by Fred Fields.

**Speakers:**

Dr. George Cannon  
Adam Clayton Powell  
Ben Davis, Jr.

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DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2AKM/EHL

**Dr. George Cannon:**

He is chairman of the Soviet-American Medical Council. Enrolled as a  
Democrat. Chairman of the Non-Partisan Committee for the Election of  
Ben Davis.

He stated that he had received many inquiries regarding to his support  
of Ben Davis when he is an enrolled Democrat. He said that the best  
answer is a statement which he made public recently relative to the  
candidacy of Ben Davis. He read that statement. He did not mention the  
paper in which it was printed. The essence of the statement was that  
he was supporting men and measures regardless of party labels and that  
record of Ben qualified him for the City Council.

**Adam Clayton Powell:**

He pledge his support to Ben Davis who he characterized as his logical  
successor. I want to see a man of the People in the City Council and I  
don't care what political label he wears. He must get away from political  
labels and vote for men and measures. Ben Davis must be elected to gua-  
rantee that the break-through we, the people made two years ago when you  
elected me to the City Council shall be maintained.

My people have come of age. They are not going to allow themselves to  
be divided any more. We have won everything for which we have fought o  
for in recent years. I introduce a Bill in the City Council against  
refusal of the Mayor to admit Negro women. It has passed. It started  
a fight that will never cease until Negro women are admitted. Ben  
will not be able to accomplish very much in the City Council but the  
very fact that he is there will go a long way in preventing even the  
suggestion of legislation against the Negro.

There was a certain Man from Jerusalem whom was thrown among thieves.  
When Ben is elected he will be thrown among thieves.

If Ben is not elected it will not be a defeat for Ben or for me, it will



Ben Davis rally continued.....

Adam Clayton Powell:

a defeat for you, the people. Applause and good will are not enough we must work for the election of Ben. House to house canvassing, ringing doorbells, talking to friends are vital.

He concluded with an exhortation not to let the fruits of the war die. Every slave must be free and every worker walk with dignity. The new Negro and the New-White man will make it so. We are going to have a peoples' world, and we are going to have because we are willing to pay the price.

Ben Davis, Jr.:

He expressed appreciation to the artist and to the non-partisan committee for their support of his candidacy. He stated that from the outset it was to be understood that he is win-the-war candidate. That all candidates should be judged on the basis of their views regarding the winning of the war.

The main obstacle to winning the war is jimcrow and to the extent that these inequalities are eliminated we can go forward to winning the war. He called for the elimination of inequalities regarding Africa, China, India and South America. All the colored peoples of the world are watching to see how we in America are going about eliminating jim crow in our country. The fight against discrimination is primarily the fight of the white citizens. They must lead the fight for the elimination of these inequalities.

He attacked the housing project that is to be erected by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company as a jimcrow institution, that is going to be erected in New York City against which the people should fight. He characterized this project as a tribute and a monument to Martin Dies. (Chairman of the Dies Committee).

He called for an end of discrimination in the armed forces, asserting that if Negroes were granted equality in the armed forces "I will guarantee that the Allied armies will put on its greatest offensive against Hitler and will meet the Red Army in Berlin ahead of schedule.

He urged the election of Francis Rivers for City Magistrate.

#### Participating Artists:

Paul Robeson,  
Pearl Primus  
Helen Tamiris  
Ben Webster

Josh White  
Eugene Scott  
Lucy Roberts  
Mary Lou Williams.

Billy Holiday  
Max Pollakoff  
Kenneth Clarke

#### Collection:

The collection was to be made by Rev. James Robinson. He failed to show up so Adam Powell made the collection.

JJP:els  
100-23825

New York, 7, N. Y.  
October 30, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: ALL-STAR VICTORY SHOW FOR  
THE ELECTION OF BEN DAVIS,  
Golden Gate Ballroom, Lenox  
Ave. & 142nd St., NYC.,  
Sunday 10/24/43;  
INTERNAL SECURITY.

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy  
of the report of [redacted] dated October 26, 1943,  
concerning the above-mentioned victory show for the election of BEN  
DAVIS.

This mass meeting was held at the Golden Gate  
Ballroom on Sunday, October 24th, 1943, with a crowd of approximately  
1500 in attendance.

Copies of this report are being retained in the  
appropriate files in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELK  
ON 8/7/20

E. E. CONROY  
S. A. C.

Two Enclosures (2)

cc: NY [redacted]

els

[redacted]

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Nov. 1, 43.

Election Rally continued.....

Vito Marcantonio:

Rise her freedom that he would introduce a Bill in Congress for immediate Puerto Rican Independence. We are talking about giving the Philippines their freedom now that the islands are in the hands of Japs. Lets give P.R. her freedom now while it is in our power to give it.

He explained in English and Spanish how to vote

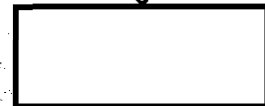
Attendance:

About 150 people were present including the speakers.

Other speakers were Manuel Medina, Dr. Gilberto Concepcion De Gracia. They spoke in Spanish. The chairman spoke in Spanish.



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Nov. 1, 43.

Election Campaign Rally  
Park Palace, 110th Street and 5th Ave., New York City.  
October 31, 8 P.M.

Speakers:

439740

Hulan Jack, Assemblyman 17th Assembly District.  
Judge Ecker, Candidate for Municipal Court.  
Eugene Connolly, Candidate City Council.  
Vito Marcantonio, Congressman.

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DATE 8/7/00 BY SP2 ALM/CHL

Hulan Jack:

He urged the election of Eugene P. Connolly landing him as a progressive who was for the interests of the common man. A vote for Connolly is a vote against discrimination, against rent gouging for improvement of the conditions of the people of Harlem, for better wages and working conditions and for a roll back of prices.

Judge Ecker:

He stated that he has been on the Municipal Court bench for a number of years and during that time has handled many cases of landlords against tenants, injuries due to defective stairs etc.. I have observed the interest of the common man at all times. He asked the audience for support of himself, and Connolly.

Eugene Connolly:

He said that he was a win-the-war candidate. The present world war is a war for democracy. Our boys are fighting for it on all the battlefronts of the world. We must preserve our democratic way here by voting for all win-the-war candidates. There is a grave danger today that we will win the war on the military front and lose democracy at home. He explained how to vote for him and other candidates of the A.L.P. and concluded with a promise that he would when elected bring the question of independence for Puerto Rico before the people of New York for approval in the form of a Resolution that he will submit to the City Council.

Vito Marcantonio:

He called for support of Eugene Connolly and all left wing candidates of the A.L.P. He asked them to skip the Dubinsky-Rose candidates. He called them "bandits", Spanish for bandits. We control the American Labor Party in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Queens. In April we are going to take over the State Organization. We are going to take the A.L.P. out of the hands of the bandits and return it to the working people of the State of New York to whom it belongs.

Urging the support of Connolly, Marcantonio promised that Connolly after his election would spend one night a week in his club taking care of the grievances of the people in the District. Immediately after Connolly has introduced his Resolution in the City Council asking Congress to give Puerto

New York, N. Y.

JJP:MYW  
100-28627

November 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES - NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
ELECTION CAMPAIGN RALLY, PARK PALACE,  
110th Street and 5th Ave., New York City,  
October 31, 1943  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of  
the report of [redacted] whose identity is known  
to the Bureau, dated November 1, 1943, concerning an election campaign  
rally held at the Park Palace, 110th Street and Fifth Avenue, New  
York City, on October 31, 1943.

The sponsors at this rally were HULAN JACK, Judge ROGER,  
EUGENE CONNOLLY, and Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate  
files in the New York Field Division.

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/GHL  
ON 8/7/00

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosures  
cc: NY file [redacted]

b7D

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Nov. 1, 1935.

Election rally continued

Eugene Connelly continued.....,

the Negro people.

Congressman Marcantonio:

The Anti-Poll Tax Bill is before the Senate Judiciary Committee after having been passed by the House of Representatives. Every effort is being made to keep it off the floor. Filibuster on the Connolly Resolution is a delaying action against the Anti-Poll Tax Bill.

There great conspiracy going on. It is a conspiracy of the domestic fascists and the poll taxers to return the former Kings and their satellites to the thrones of Europe. This great conspiracy in our country is planned by the same people deny the right to vote to millions of Negroes and poor whites, maintain discrimination in the armed forces etc..The people must be rallied to thwart this conspiracy.

He asked that we protest against the recent decision by a high Government official that President Roosevelt had exceeded his powers when he ordered the establishment of a Committee to end discrimination in the United States. The decision was handed down in connection with the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

He urged the election of Rivers, Connely and other A.L.P. candidates



Attendance:

about 200

Good  
JLP



-494

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November 1, 43.

**Election Campaign Rally.**

Golden Gate Ballroom, 142 nd Street and Lenox Avenue, N.Y.C.

October 31, 43. 9 P.M.

Charles Collins presided. He explained later that he was pinch hitting for Ferdinand Smith, Secretary National Maritime Union.

**Speakers:**

William Furman, General Organizer Harlem Labor Union.

Frank Griffin, Radio Artists Guild.

Clifford Mc Avey, Legislative Representative C.I.O. Industrial Union Council.

Moran Weston, Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Council.

Dr. Channing Tobias, National Y.M.C.A. Board.

Eugene Connolly, candidate for City Council.

Congressman Vito Marc Antonio.

**Charles Collins:**

/it comes at a time

The present election campaign took on added significance because of the global conflict, at a time when our allies are in a bitter struggle to destroy nazism, our Russian Ally is holding and destroying the enemy on the Eastern front in anticipation of the opening of a second front in the West. Duty of the people to elect win-the-war candidates who will support the President and a quick termination of the war.

He asked the people to vote for Justice Francis Rivers and other American Labor Party candidates. He said that there were some on the ticket that should be skipped but that to ask people to split the ticket would create confusion. On the paper ballot give number one to Eugene Connolly and number 2 to Ben Davis Jr.

He called for the appointment a Negro to the Supreme Court, the placing of a Negro in the President's Cabinet, and of the polltax through the passage of HR 7.

**William Furman:**

He gave a brief history of the Harlem labor union, its struggles and hardships. The Harlem labor Union was born in the struggle for jobs for black people in Harlem. We picketed the stores in Harlem until they gave our black boys and girls jobs. Smilen Brothers Fruit and vegetable market we picketed for 7 months. We picketed the bus lines and forced the bus lines to employ Negro drivers.

He said he was interested in all candidates who were interested in the Harlem labor Union and its work. He urged to election of Francis Rivers stating that considerable work has to be done between now and election day. Hard work, speaking to relatives, friends, neighbors, ringing doorbells and distributing circulars.

**Frank Griffin:**

Called for the election of the candidates after lauding them as honest, capable and progressive. This was the final rally the appeal has been success or failure to put these men in office rest.

the people.

439740  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/7/00 BY SP-2 ALM/EHL

Nov. 1, 43.

**Clifford Mc Avoy:**

The C.I.O. which he represents has shown by word and deed that it is against discrimination. The C.I.O. has consistently fought for equality for the Negro people. The C.I.O. central body in New York City went on record to support all progressive candidates regardless of Party label. Last Sunday in this hall I spoke for the election of Ben Davis, Jr. for the City Council. Tonight I am asking you to vote number 1 for Eugene Connelly and number 2 for Ben Davis; number 3 Stanley Isaacs and number 4 for John Ross Jr.

He asked to group to vote for Rivers and to vote the A.L.P. ticket.

**Moran Weston:**

Stated that he was confident of victory for all the candidates at the polls on Tuesday. He spoke of the need of an enlightened and educated electorate to preserve democracy. He quoted John Payne to substantiate this point. He urged the election of Francis Rivers, Ben Davis, Eugene Connelly and the other candidates of the A.L.P.

**Dr. Channing Tobias:**

He castigated the Democratic Party for its attitude toward the Negro people. A delegation of Negro leaders went to the head of the Democratic Party in New York City asking that one of several qualified Negro lawyers and judges be selected for the City Magistrates Court among those suggested were Judges Tony and Watson and attorney Darwin Talisforde who is Secretary to a Supreme Court Justice. All of these persons were approved by the Bar Association and other groups. The Democratic Party refused to consider any of the recommendations. They selected a white man for the post whom the Bar Association says is not qualified.

The colored people of the community are very angry about it. The Democratic leaders realize that they blundered. They fear that we will all return to the Republican Party fold. In their effort to explain away this brazen act of discrimination they ran a paid ad in a local newspaper citing the jobs they have given Negro citizens. This is an insult which is made more repugnant and viscous by the inclusion of a memorial of a Negro woman now dead.

He praised the Republicans for selecting Francis Rivers, whom he said was qualified. He stressed the great significance of the election of Rivers. It is a step forward and in the right direction and therefore urged the people to go to the polls on Tuesday and give a resounding defeat of the Democratic candidate by the election of Rivers.

**Eugene Connolly:**

Our boys are waging the war today for democracy. While they are fighting abroad we must make sure that we do not lose democracy on the home front. He asked that he be elected and that he would oppose such things as the Metropolitan Insurance Company's "Stuyvesant Town" project; oppose Jim Crow and fight for a roll back of rent and food prices. He said that there is no democracy for white people when it is denied to



New York, N. Y.

JJP:NVV  
100-28627

November 5, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG THE AMERICAN NEGROES -  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
ELECTION CAMPAIGN RALLY, GOLDEN GATE  
BALLROOM, 140th Street and Lenox Ave.,  
New York City, October 31, 1943  
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of  
the report of [redacted] whose identity is known  
to the Bureau, dated November 1, 1943, concerning an election campaign  
rally held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 140th Street and Lenox Avenue,  
New York City, October 31, 1943.

CHARLES COLLINS presided and he explained that he was pinch-  
hitting for FERDINAND SMITH, Secretary, National Maritime Union. The  
speakers at the rally were as follows: WILLIAM FURMAN, CLIFFORD McAVOY,  
MORAN WESTON, Dr. CHANNING TOBIAS, EUGENE CONNOLLY and Congressman VITO  
MARCANTONIO.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate  
files of the New York Field Division

Very truly yours,

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/THL  
ON SP2 ALM/THL

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosures  
cc: NY file [redacted] ✓

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[redacted] 496

October 30th, 43

Thelma Dale:

I only knew of Thelma Dale prior to her coming to New York City, through hearing her named mentioned by Party members in the National Negro Congress. She was considered a very able and active person in the unit of the National Negro Congress in Washington, D.C. She had worked very closely with John P. Davis, National Secretary and had acquired quite a grasp and understanding of the organization and its problems.

Immediately after the resignation of John P. Davis the National Negro Congress was reorganized. George Murphy, Executive Secretary also resigned in the shuffle and voluntarily joined the armed forces. Max Yergan and the other members of the National Executive Board agreed that Thelma M. Dale was the most able and best qualified to fill the position of Administrative Secretary. She was brought to New York City because of the change of the National Office from Washington, D.C. Her work has consisted planning the work for the local councils, budget and raising finances and work of administrative committees.

She met with the National Executive Board after the reorganization, on Sunday February 21st, 1943, in the Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A. At this meeting the plans for regional conferences were worked out. She participated in the planning and direction of the Eastern Seaboard Conference in New York City which was held on April 10th and 11th. Also the regional Conference in Detroit, Michigan.

She directs her work from the offices of the National Negro Congress located at 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City, Room 204.

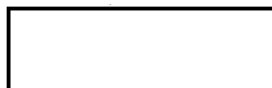
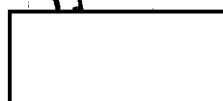
I have been informed that she joined the Party in Washington, D.C. She is at present a member to the Harlem Section of the Party. Her work is entirely devoted to the National Negro Congress.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/CHL

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62-51119

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: THELMA DALE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached hereto is a copy of the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning  
THELMA DALE and her activities.

[redacted] advised that he would report  
to this office any further information he obtained concerning the  
subject or her activities.

JOSEPH J. PENLAN,  
Special Agent

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETH

cc: By file [redacted]

498

[redacted]	
F. B. I.	
NOV 5 1943	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

October 15th, 43.

Celeste Strack

I first met Celeste when I was a member of the American Committee for the Study of Conditions in Cuba. This Committee was formed by the Party for the purpose of throwing the spotlight on actual conditions in Cuba to the end that much of the pressure against the Party and liberal elements would be lessened. A real expose' would give the Party a splendid opportunity to rally the liberal element in America against the reactionary element in Cuba.

At that time she was a member of the Y.C.L. She was the National Womens debating champion. We sailed to Cuba shortly after the Morro Castle burned off the New Jersey Coast. In fact we had some of the members of the Morro Castle crew on the SS Oriente the sister ship when we sailed. The SS Oriente is owned by the Ward Line.

We were arrested in Cuba and placed in the Immigration station at a place that was called "Tiscornia". I am not sure of the name. Our pictures were published in the Cuban papers. We were deported back to America after the intervention of Jefferson Caffery, at that time Ambassador to Cuba. Upon our return we were photographed by all the papers in New York City.

Since that time we have worked together in the Party. She attended meetings of the National Committee.

At the present time she is head of the State Committee of the Y.C.L. in California.

**Description:**

About 5 feet 4 inches. Blonde. Blue eyes. Wears glasses. Weights about 130 lbs. Excellent speaker. Age about 29



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 HON/ER

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JJP:els  
100-37428

New York, 7, New York  
October 29, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE:

RE: CELESTE STRACK  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

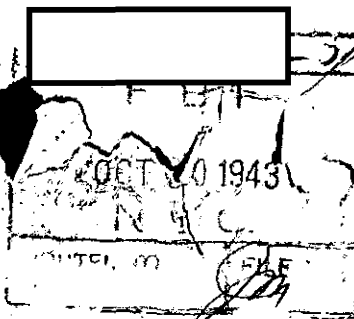
Attached hereto is the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated October 15, 1943, concerning the above-mentioned  
CELESTE STRACK.

[redacted] advised that he would report  
to this Office any further information he obtained concerning this  
individual.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

cc: NY [redacted]

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP9 RMA/ETHC



Nov. 8th, 43.

Peoples' Committee Meeting  
November 3rd, 43.  
Baptist Educational Center  
420 West 145th Street, N.Y.C.

The meeting was called by Miss Olivia Stokes chairman of the Nominating Committee. The object of the meeting was to draw up the whole slate of officers for the Peoples' Committee for the year beginning January 1944.

This report was to be prepared for the next meeting of the Executive Board.

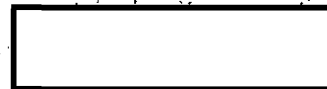
The meeting was not held because of the failure of Adam Powell to attend and make specific recommendations. The meeting was adjourned until a future date.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/19/00 BY SP2 ALB/ELH

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JJP:TW  
100-43415

NEW YORK 7, NEW YORK  
NOVEMBER 15, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE:

Re: PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] concerning a meeting held November 3, 1943 at the BAPTIST  
EDUCATIONAL CENTER, 420 West 145th Street, New York City, on  
November 3, 1943.

[redacted] advised that he would continue  
to report all meetings and activities of the People's Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

Encl.:

CC: [redacted]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELC

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N. Y. C.	
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[redacted]

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November 20th, 43.

### Peoples Community Chorus

The Interracial Goodwill Committee is sponsoring a Peoples Community Chorus. They are appealing to persons with musical ability to join. It is not limited to any denomination. Choirs and choruses and other groups are asked to cooperate.

The chorus will be trained by Hall Johnson, composer and choral director.

The chorus will sing not only spirituals, folk songs but also new patriotic songs

The chorus will appear at a huge mass rally that will be given at Madison Square Garden, New York City.

Rev. Adam Clayton Powell will preside at this affair.

There are a number of organizations cooperating in this endeavor such as the Peoples' Committee, National Negro Congress, Negro Labor Victory Committee, churches and other groups.

Rehearsals will be held three times a week at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 139th Street between Lenox and Seventh Aves.

Rev. Thomas S. Harten, D.D. is General Chairman of the Interracial Goodwill Committee.

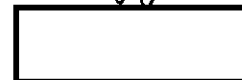
The huge rally will be held early next year. A definite date has not been decided.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/LEHL

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New York 7, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JJP:CG  
100-28627

November 23, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG THE AMERICAN NEGROES  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated November 20, 1943, concerning a "Peoples Community Chorus" which is being planned for sometime in January, 1944 at Madison Square Garden. [redacted] advised that the Interracial Good Will Committee is sponsoring this chorus and is appealing to persons of musical ability to join it. The following organizations are cooperating in this endeavor:

The Peoples Committee  
National Negro Congress  
Negro Labor Victory Committee  
Churches and other groups.

The Chairman of this chorus will be ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. and the General Chairman is Rev. THOMAS HARTEN.

The chorus will be trained by PAUL JOHNSON in the Abyssinian Baptist Church, of which ADAM CLAYTON POWELL is pastor.

The purpose of the chorus will be for the advancement of the colored race, unity, better relations and aid to the war.

The Bureau will be notified as soon as a date for the chorus has been set and any further information obtained will be submitted.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Enc.-2  
cc NY file [redacted]

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November 12th, 43.

Mass Meeting  
Pyramid Trading Company Inc.  
2287 8th Avenue, New York City.  
November 11th, 43.

A. J. Johnson, Chairman.

**Object of meeting:**

The chairman explained that the meeting was called for the purpose of interesting Negroes in buying shares in the PTC Inc. The success of the Negro depends upon a program of trade, industry and commerce. All the listeners were urged to buy at least five shares at 10 dollars each. The chairman started off by buying 100 dollars worth.

**Speakers:**

Several persons spoke in favor of the program of PTC and urged everyone to take part and buy shares. The major theme was unity of the Negroes. The white man could not be trusted, he is not interested in the Negro. The white man is for a white man at all times. The Negro must first become economically independent, that is win economic equality then all other rights will come automatically. All businesses in Harlem should be controlled by Negroes.

The main speaker was a Mr. Robertson, floor detective at the Meisbecker Market, 125th Street near 8th Avenue. He praised the PTC but warned that it would suffer the same fate of similar organizations if it is not run properly. He said the people ought to be told how much money the group has, what its investments are, what are its liabilities. He then inquired if the officers are bonded. He cited examples of persons in similar organizations running away with the money. He concluded with an appeal for unity. The Negro must stick together to save himself. The present war is a race war though a lot of people do not want to admit it. They talk of defeating Hitler but they want to exterminate the Japs.

The chairman stated that the present group is an outgrowth of the African Progressive League with offices at 2219 8th Avenue, New York City. He asked that his hearers come to the office for information.

About 30 people including the chairman and speakers attended.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/02 BY SP2 AAM/HL

Good ✓

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JJP:GG  
100-15431

New York, New York  
November 23, 1943

MEMO:

Re: AFRICAN PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE  
PYRAMID TRADING COMPANY, INC.  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is the report of [redacted] dated November 12, 1943 concerning a meeting held by the PYRAMID TRADING COMPANY, INC. of 2237 8th Avenue, New York City on November 11, 1943.

b7D

[redacted] advised that the PYRAMID TRADING COMPANY, INC. is an outgrowth of the AFRICAN PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE, having its offices at 2219 8th Avenue, New York City. He advised that he will continue to report on the activities of this organization.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP8 ALM/EHL

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

cc - File 100-28627  
[redacted]

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[redacted] 506

NOV 23 1943	
N. Y. C.	
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November 21, 43.

Grand African Dance Festival

Carnegie Hall, New York City.  
December 13th, 43.

The Grand African Dance Festival is being sponsored by the African Academy of Arts and Research. It will be held at Carnegie Hall on December 13th.

Speakers:

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt.  
Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune

Directors:

The Festival is being directed by Asadata Dafora. He is assisted by Effiom Odoik.

African Academy of Arts and Research:

Wingsley Ozumba Udoagwe is the Director of the A.A.A and T.

Address:

55 West 42nd Street, Room 353, New York City.

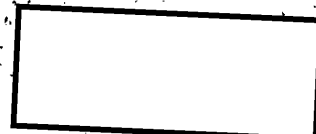
All seats are reserved. Prices range from \$1.10 to \$3.30.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee is assisting in the sale of tickets.



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP3 RLM/ELC

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JJP:CG  
100-28627

New York, New York  
November 23, 1943

MEMO:

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG THE AMERICAN NEGROES  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted]  
[redacted] concerning a "Grand African Dance Festival" sponsored by the  
African Academy of Arts and Research, held at Carnegie Hall, on  
December 13, 1943.

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[redacted] advised that he will report  
any further information he obtains concerning this festival.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/16/00 BY SP2A

cc - File [redacted]

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NOV 23 1943	
N. Y. C.	
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Nov. 22, 43.

Mass Meeting  
Golden Gate Ballroom  
142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.  
Sunday November 21st, 43. 3 P.M.

**Auspices:**

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mr. Barel, President, New York Branch presided.

**Speakers:**

Alma Vessels, Secretary Joint Committee Against Discrimination of Negro Nurses in the Armed Forces. Member Harlem Nurses Association.

Ella Baker, Director of Branches, National Office of the N.A.A.C.P.  
Vito Marcantonio, Congressman.

Alma Vessels (Alma Vessels John):

Negro nurses are barred from service in the armed forces on the basis of their color and by the so called "quota system". The Navy refuses accept Negro nurses. The air corps refuse Negro nurses. Negro nurses accepted in the army under the quota system. There is an unwritten law that Negro nurses admitted are to attend only Negro soldiers. Many qualified Negro nurses have been rejected.

She read two letters. The first was a letter from the American Red Cross Air Corp, Division 21. It stated that the Air corps are not accepting Negro nurses and therefore her application was rejected. The second letter was from Ida Danuelsen, Army Nurses Corp stating that the quota on Negro nurses was met and that since Negro nurses were only used for attendance of Negro soldiers the application was rejected.

She urged her listeners to write to General Norman Kirk, Colonel Blanchfield, Senators, Wagner and Leado in protest against this situation and demand remedial measures.

Ella Baker:

She urged the audience to speak out now against injustice. In peace time when you speak against injustice you are disturbing the peace. In war time you speak out against injustice you are disturbing home moral. When then shall the Negro speak out. The N.A.A.C.P. says now is the time.

There is a wide gap between democratic pronouncements and practices. We can not convince the peoples abroad of the sincerity of our democratic intentions when we deny democracy to minorities at home. Every act of injustice against the Negro is used by the enemies of democracy among the Chinese, Indians, Africans, Asiatics to convince them that America is insincere. She concluded with an appeal for struggle against discrimination and injustice and for full equality and justice for the Negro people.

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2ALM/lehl

Nov. 23, 43.

Mass Meeting continued.....

Vito Marcantonio:

Appealed to the audience to join the N.A.A.C.P. There is an international civil war going on. It is a war of the common people throughout the work to exterminate fascism. It is a civil war against fascism.

Jimcrow and discrimination is fascism. When the history of fascism is written it will state that the seat of fascism was in America long before its advent in Italy and Germany. The question of democracy can not be solved until the Negro problem is settled in America. That is basically what we are fighting for. We must defeat the Axis forces abroad and at home. The two struggles are one and the same and cannot be separated.

The right to vote is curbed, deprived through many devices. The most vicious methods are: 1. the lily-white primaries. Second: The poll tax. He praised the N.A.A.C.P. for the splendid legal battle that has been conducted against the white primaries and predicted ultimate victory. He then traced the history of HR 7 the anti-poll tax bill. When the Bill came up before the House Rankin, Summers, Cox and Hobbs heaped venom as only they are capable upon the Bill and upon the author. They heaped venom upon the Negro people and created a lynch atmosphere in Congress. These are the domestic fascists that we have to fight.

The House of Representatives passed the Bill. It is before the Senate. The plan was to kill the Bill in the Senate Judiciary Committee. We had to change our tactics to prevent it. We found out that Senator Van Nuys Chairman of the Committee is from Indiana, that he comes up for re-election next year. We saw to it that delegations of Negroes came to Washington to speak to him for favorable action on the Bill. The Senator can not get elected without the Negro vote in Indiana. The Committee reported the Bill favorably. Since the Bill was reported out of the Committee there is an attempt to kill by amendment. An attempt will be made to agree on a Constitutional Amendment. We have the 13th and 14th Amendments which are torn up ~~every day~~ 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, denial of civil liberties, Jimcrow. Negro soldiers in the South have to get off the sidewalk to let white slackers pass.

A Constitutional Amendment would require years. It requires two thirds of the House, two thirds of the Senate and two thirds of the States in meantime the people will go on paying the poll tax. The move to amend the Bill must be defeated.

Any Senator can now call up the Bill. No one wants to. It should not be necessary for us to ask Senators Meade and Wagner to sponsor the Bill. But it is necessary because they do not want to offend the sensibilities of the Southern Senators who are opposed to it. This is no time to be afraid of offending the sensibilities of the enemies of democracy. We can't win the war by being afraid to offend the sensibilities of Hitler. We can not win the war for democracy at home by being afraid to offend the sensibilities of the domestic fascists. Write a letter to Senator Meade and Senator Wagner urging them to sponsor the Bill.

Mass meeting.continued.....

Filibuster is planned. They will have to filibuster for one year and two months. There is not enough wind in Mississippi, Georgia and Texas to keep going that long. They will accuse us of responsibility for holding up vital war legislation. The responsibility does not rest with us it rests with the domestic fascists who are attempting to thwart the ends of democracy.

Linsey Warren, Controller General of the U.S. recently ruled that Executive Order 9346 is not mandatory in Government contracts. He sent a letter to President Roosevelt ~~partially~~ of which he read asking that he make his stand clear to the Comptroller General. The President on November 5th stated in a letter "I wish to make it perfectly clear that.....the Order is mandatory".

Fair Employment Practices Committee has been kicked around. I have introduced a Bill making it permanent. I am giving them something else to worry about. I am going about to get the 218 signatures necessary for discharge petition 18.

This is the era of the common man. The common people all over the world are on the march. They are going to see to it hat a new world is born where there will be no discrimination, jimcrow etc.

Attendance:

500



Good  
JJP

100-7629

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JJP:CO  
100-7629

New York, New York  
November 23, 1943

MEMO:

Re: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF COLORED PEOPLE; MASS MEETING 11/21/43  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated November 22, 1943 concerning a mass meeting sponsored by  
the NAACP on Sunday, November 21, 1943 at the Golden Gate Ballroom  
at which VITO MARCANTONIO was the principal speaker.

[redacted] advised that he would  
continue to report upon the activities of the NAACP.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/EBL

cc - File [redacted]

100-53054

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NOV 23 1943	
N. Y. C.	
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[redacted] 510

Nov. 21, 43.

# Negro Labor Victory Committee

Election Victory entertainment and dance.  
Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Ave.  
Saturday November 20th, 43.

## Purpose of the Affair:

The purpose of the affair was to celebrate the election of Ben Davis, Jr., Peter Cachione, Stanley Isaacs to the City Council and Francis Rivers to the City Magistrates Court. It also had the objective of raising much needed funds to continue its work. Its activities have been very limited because of the near depletion of the treasury.

## Membership:

The meeting and affair was the occasion for the launching of a drive for 50,000 dues paying members. These members are called Associate members. Membership fee is one dollar. Until recently the Negro Labor Victory Committee was composed only of affiliated organizations and groups. This shift to "Associate members" represents a change in policy. It still maintains its original structure which is uniting labor, fraternal, social, civic and other progressive organizations and the major emphasis is placed upon it. In order to work effectively and sustain the organization a sustaining membership was felt necessary. Applications for membership were distributed.

## Speakers:

Charles Collins, Executive Secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee.  
Moran Weston, Field Secretary, N.L.V.C.  
Peter Cachione, Communist City Councilman.  
Stanley Isaacs, City Councilman, Former President, Borough of Manhattan.

Collins and Weston thanked the audience for past and present support and urged those present to join the N.L.V.C.

Cachione and Isaacs thanked the people for their support and wished them a good time at the affair.

Judge Rivers did not appear. Ben Davis Jr., according to information was in Camp Unity resting from the strain of the election campaign.

Quill did not show up.

## Entertainment:

Music by Cass Carr and Orchestra. Ralph Cooper introduced the entertainers "Washington Paul" and a women singer.

## Attendance:

About 3,500.

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SPAN/MLH

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

LIP:CG  
[redacted]

New York, New York  
November 23, 1943

b3

MEMO:

Re: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted]  
dated November 21, 1943 concerning an Election Victory Entertainment  
and Dance sponsored by the Negro Labor Victory Committee at the Golden  
Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, Saturday, November 20,  
1943.

b7D

The purpose of the affair was to celebrate the election of  
BEN DAVIS, JR. PETER CACHIONE, STANLEY ISAACS, to the City Council and  
FRANCIS RIVERS to the City Magistrate's Court.

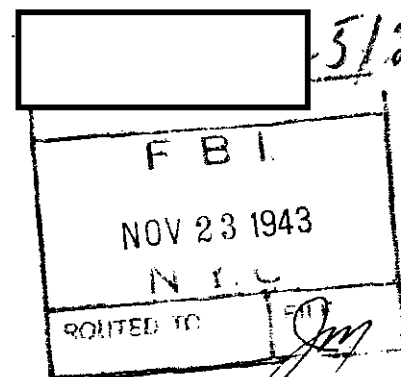
[redacted] advised that he would continue  
to report on the activities of the Negro Labor Victory Committee.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2ALM/ELC

cc - File 100-27339

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November 14th, 43

Executive Council Meeting continued.....

Committee Chairmen continued...

## Youth

Olivia Stokes

Rev. Ben Richardson

The above persons will serve as advisors of the Youth group. A section of the members of the "Modern Trend" quit because of inactivity and now want to join the Peoples' Committee. They will constitute the nucleus of the Youth group of the Peoples' Committee.

John Harman was dropped because Ada Powell explained that he was not the best person to have on the Committee because of his very bad record with the Consumers Cooperative movement which he has headed in Harlem.

The other changes were made to strengthen the Committee.

## December 7th Affair:

The December 7th affair is being held to raise funds for the work of the Peoples' Committee during the coming year. At the present time there is only a little over \$6 in the treasury. Adam Powell made a loan of one thousand dollars to the Committee to be paid after the affair.

Top flight personalities in the entertainment world will participate. Among them Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Kirby, the Savoy Ballroom Orchestras and other celebrities.

Ben Davis has pledged for the Communist Party to sell 3,500 tickets. Peter Cashione and Mike Quill have agreed to take large blocks of tickets. The tickets will sell at \$1.10. Any overflow will be sent to the Savoy Ballroom.

## Speakers:

Adam Powell  
Mike Quill  
Ben Davis  
Francis Rivers  
Peter Cashione

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Ads will be placed in the Amsterdam News, New York Age and Peoples' Voice. Thousands of circulars and handbills and other means of advertisement will be used.

The affair will be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom 147th Street and Lenox Avenue.

There are 1,200 members on the Peoples' Committee. Each will be responsible for five tickets.

Executive Council Peoples' Committee continued,....

Incorporation:

Harrison Jackson, chairman of the Legislative Committee was instructed to proceed to have the Peoples' Committee incorporated for the protection of the name.

Legislative Committee:

The Legislative Committee was changed to the Law and Legislative Committee. This was done in order to embrace all the work of the Committee. Alton Pope was placed on this Committee because of his ability to draft proposed legislation.



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*Good ✓*  
*dJP*



November 12th, 43

Executive Council Peoples' Committee  
November 13th, 43.  
Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A. 2:30 P.M.

Adam Powell, presided.

Report of the Nominations Committee:

The report of the Committee was accepted with the following changes:

Executive Officers

Genevieve Chinn, Treasurer.  
Louise Mc Donald, Secretary.

Executive Council

Julius Thomas to replace Warren Banner.  
Vicki Best to replace Louise Mc Donald  
Leon Sullivan to replace Olivia Stokes  
Rev. Ansapansa Johnson to replace Rev. S.H. Sweeny.

The Executive Council to be increased to 25 members to include the following:

Ben Davis Jr.  
Theresa Parker  
Rev. Harten  
J. Finlay Wilson  
Rev. Shelby Rooks  
Alice Ware  
Stanley Isaacs  
Dorothy Harman

Committee Chairmen

Women the name of Fannie Robinson was suggested. (Not decided)  
Francis Williams to replace Joan Harman. (Consumers)

Delegations

Anna L. Moore to replace Leon Sullivan.

Fellowship:

~~Franklin Jackson~~ Maude Gadsen  
Louise Pitner

Fund Raising

Fannie Robinson

Legislative:

Harrison Jackson  
Harry Bragg  
Allen Pope

Survey:

Detained Thelma Hale

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

New York, New York

JJP:JWS  
100-43415

November 24, 1943

MEMO

RE: THE PEOPLES' COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached herewith is a report of [redacted] dated November 14, 1943, concerning the meeting of the Executive Council of the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE held on November 13, 1943 at the Harlem Branch YMCA.

This meeting was presided over by ADAM POWELL, and the report of the Nominations Committee for officers for the coming year was accepted with a few changes which are set out in this report.

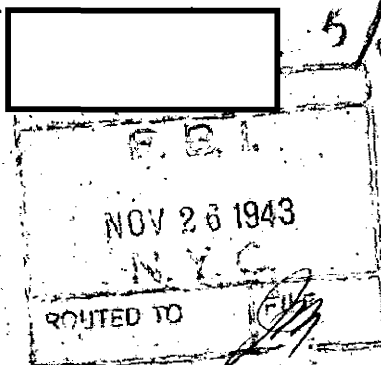
[redacted] advised that he would continue to report on the activities of the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE.

JOSEPH J. PHALEN  
Special Agent

Enclosure

cc: NY File No. [redacted]

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2ALM/ETH



T.U.U.L. continued.....

The unions of the T.U.U.L. grew up until the latter part of 1934. The National Committee after a discussion of the new situation decided that it was no longer possible to build the revolutionary trade unions because of the difficulty in combatting the "red scare" which was being used very effectively but most important was that the workers were moving into the A.F. of L. and that if a change of policy was not immediately forthcoming the T.U.U.L. unions would remain small, narrow sectarian groups composed of Party members, sympathizers and revolutionary workers. The slogan was raised "back to the A.F. of L., into the main stream of the labor movement".

The Political Bureau meeting with the Trade Union Commission of the National Committee met and decided that the National Board recommend to the T.U.U.L. unions to seek affiliation in their respective fields with the unions of the A.F. of L.. They were to seek the best terms possible for admission but that they must go into the A.F. of L. at any price if concessions such as share of leadership on the official staff and Executive bodies could not be attained.

At a meeting of the National Convention of the T.U.U.L. in New York City in 1935 held at the headquarters of the Needle Trades Workers Union Jack Stachel presented the recommendation for the National Board. It was adopted after considerable opposition was overcome.

The T.U.U.L. unions individually sought and gained admission to the A.F. of L.

Most of the leaders of the T.U.U.L. are at present either in the A.F. of L. or the C.I.O. holding key positions. Others hold leading position within the Party organization.



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November 3, 43.

## Trade Union Unity

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ABM/ENL

### Introduction:

The Trade Union Unity League was the Communist trade union center in America. It was referred to as the "left wing trade union center" and the "revolutionary trade union center." It came into existence as a result of the drastic change in Party policy with regard to the trade unions.

Proir to the formation of the T.U.U.L. the "left wing tared union center" was the Trade Union Educational League which was a mere propaganda center whos policy was "boring from within" the unions of the American Federation. It attempted to organize a pwwerful opposition within the A.F. of L. for the purpose eventually unseating the "A.F. of L. bureacrats" and the placing of Party members, sympathizers and progressives into key positions where they can weild considerable powere over the labor movement. At that time the labor movement was the A.F. of L. and the Railroad Brotherhoods. The T.U.U.E.L. was formed in 1930. It was abolished in 1927 or 28.

### Formation of the T.U.U.L.

The T.U.U.L. was formed in Cleveland, Ohio in September, 1929. There were over 600 persons present most of them active rank and filers in the A.F. of L. unions many of whom had been expelled by the leaders of the A.F. of L. on account of their Communist activities. The main emphasis at this meeting was placed on the new line "build the revolutionary trade unions through the organization of the unorganized". The program adopted consisted of:

- A. Formation of revolutionary industrial unions in those industries where no uions exist or where the A.F. of L. unions refuse or are unable to organize the workers.
- B. Continuation of the policy of the T.U.E.L. of boring from within the A.F. of L. unions and the Railroad Brotherhoods, continue the organization and strengthening the left wing for the purpose of revolutionizing the "old unions". The policy of the left wing was to fight for a militant wage policy, militant strike policy, against callaboration with the Democratic and Republican Parties, for workingclass political struggles.
- C. Formation of rank and file committee in the "old unions" for the elimination of the policy of class collaboration and to get rid of the "bureaucrats" or "reactionary leaders"
- D. Defense of the Soviet Union. Against Imperialist War. Against Discrimination against Negroes and closer collaboration of the Industrial Unions with the "old unions".

### International Affiliation.

The T.U.U.L. was affiliated with the R.I.L.U. (Red International of Labor Unions). The headquarters of the R.I.L.U. was in Moscow, Hamburg, Germany

November 3, 40.

## Trade Union Unit/ League continued.....

The T.U.U.L. like the T.U.U.L. was founded on the principle of the class struggle, the organization of the workers for the eventual overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The T.U.U.L. like other "left wing trade union centers" in other "capitalist countries" were affiliated with the T.U.U.L. The backbone of the T.U.U.L. was the Soviet trade unions. The T.U.U.L. participated in the political struggles of the Communist International.

## Policy and Structure of T.U.U.L.

The basic policy of the T.U.U.L. was that of "class struggle". In its declaration policy it stated that the "ruling class and the toiling masses have nothing in common"; "they are irreconcilable enemies". All the exploited, victims of capitalism, native and foreignborn, Negroes, women, youth, skilled and unskilled workers are to be organized into industrial unions. These industrial unions participated in the struggles of the Communist Party.

The T.U.U.L. was composed of affiliated National Industrial Unions. The National Board was composed of representatives of the affiliated unions. The T.U.U.L. decided on all policies actions, rallied support for all its affiliated groups.

In addition to the National Board there was a National Bureau that conducted the day to day work of the Board.

It also organized T.U.U.Cs. (Trade Union Unity Councils). These were City or local delegated offices consisting of representatives of local unions of the National Industrial Unions and groups not formed into national unions.

## Affiliated Unions:

Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union  
National Miners Union.  
National Textile Workers Union.  
Lumber Workers Industrial Union.  
Food Workers Industrial Union.  
Steel and Metal Workers Industrial Union.  
Auto Workers Union.  
Shoe and Leather Workers Industrial Union.  
Furniture Workers Industrial Union.  
Transport Workers Industrial Union.  
Taxi Workers Union.  
Packaging Workers Union.  
Office Workers Union.  
Lumber Workers Union.  
Other unions were formed in agriculture, cannery, rubber.  
Rank and file committees were formed in railroad.

## Activities of the Unions:

The Needle Trades Industrial Union was the largest affiliate. It

## Trade Union Unity League continued.....

lead militant struggles of the furriers and dressmakers, fur dyers and other branches of the needle industry. Led strikes in New York and Chicago.

The National Miners Union was born out of split of the United Mine Workers conducted by a rank and file movement organized and led by the Party under the slogan "Save The Union". It led strikes in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky.

The National Textile Union led strikes in Massachusetts, Allentown, Pa., and R.I.

Marine Workers Industrial Union led strikes in New York City, Buffalo, New York and California.

The other unions led strikes of tobacco, agricultural, auto workers, food workers, meat packers, metal, steel, shoe and furniture workers. Hat pickers, cotton pickers, grape pickers, rubber and numerous others.

### T.U.U.L. Membership:

During the years from 1931 until 1934 the T.U.U.L. membership grew to more than 140 thousand members.

### National Office:

The National Office was located at 3 West 15th Street, New York City. It was later removed to 80 East 11th Street, Room 326, New York City.

### Official Organ:

The Official Organ of the T.U.U.L. was the magazine "Labor Unity". It was published monthly. The Editor of the magazine was Patrick "Pat" Toomey who is at present head of the Communist Party State Committee in Michigan. The majority of the articles written for this publication were from leading Communists such as Israel Amter, Jack Stachel, James W. Ford, Jack Johnstone, Bill Dunn, William Weinstock, Anna Rochester, Grace Hutchins, Robert W. Dunn, James Fagan, Rose Morris, Manning Johnson, Pat Rush etc..

### T.U.U.L. Officials:

Jack Stachel  
William Z. Foster, National Secretary.  
William F. Dunn  
Jack Johnstone  
Ann Burlak  
John J. Ballam  
Pat Rush  
Tony Minerich  
Zorich  
Jay Rubin  
Ben Gold  
Irving Potash  
Andy Overgrade  
Rose Morris

T.U.U.L. continued.....

Officials of T.U.U.L. continued.....

Mike Obermier  
 Sam Kramberg  
 Nathaniel Honig  
 Tom Myerscough  
 Max Purlow  
 John Meldon  
 Jim Matles  
 Sam Weisman  
 Sam Mesin  
 William Weinstock  
 Roy Hudson  
 James Lustig  
 William Weinstone  
 Sam Burt  
 Sam Burland

Other Activities of the T.U.U.L.

1. Formation of the Unemployed Councils which led "hunger marches" local, state and national.
2. Organized mass violations of injunctions.
3. Formed workers defense groups in demonstrations, strikes to prevent police interference, troop interference and to combat mill, mine, factory police.

Unemployed Actions:

The Unemployed Councils had their birth during the unemployed demonstrations which were held all over the country on March 6th, 1930. In 1931 there were more than 150 Unemployed Councils leading demonstrations, "hunger marches" for relief and unemployment insurance before city, state and federal government bodies. The Unemployed Council later merged with an independent group formed by the Socialist thus forming the Workers Alliance.

Workers Defense Corps:

The workers Defense Corps were composed of specially trained men and women to prevent the local, state police forces from breaking up demonstrations, picket lines and "hunger marches". They were specially trained in disarming police both patrolmen and mounted policemen. Extra heavy sticks were carried on placards which could easily be used as a club. They were trained in the art of catching tear gas bombs and hurling them back at police and troops. Special instructions were given in how to treat persons who are affected by various gasses used by policemen and troops. These instructions were based on confidential reports sent out by the government to the law enforcement agencies regarding types of gases to use to quell mobs.

T.U.U.L. continued.....

#### International Relations:

1. Maintained fraternal relations with the militant tared union organizations of all countries.
2. Conducted a militant struggle against imperialist war and for the defense of the Soviet Union.
3. Participated in demonstrations against war and created groups against imperialist war and for the defense of the Soviet Union in the factories, especially in those industries which are war industries.
4. Supported the efforts of the peoples in the colonial and semi-colonial world to overthrow their exploited.
5. Supported the victims of Hitler.

#### Relation To The Communist Party:

The T.U.U.L. was formed by the Communist Party. Its program and policy and structure worked out by the National Trade Union Commission, approved by the Political Bureau and the National Committee.

These National Trade Union Commission headed by Jack Stachel made the directives and decisions for the T.U.U.L. which were presented to the National Board where they were ratified. The decisions and directives were presented by leading members of the Commission who were also so members of the National Board and National Bureau of the T.U.U.L. It was the duty of the Party fraction to guarantee the execution of the decisions and directives.

The fractions in the National Unions and the local unions were responsible for carrying out the line.

The T.U.U.L. stated publicly that it is not a political organization. It leads the economic struggles of the workers. It based upon class struggle, the policy of class against class. The T.U.U.L. supports the Communist Party because of its revolutionary class policy and leads class political struggles. The T.U.U.L. can not support the Democratic and Republican Parties because they are supported financially and otherwise by the capitalists who are the historical enemies of the workers. It leads the workers in their economic demands, but points out that only by the overthrow of the capitalist system will the workers finally free themselves from low wages, unemployment etc.

#### Abolition of the T.U.U.L.:

With the coming of the NRA thousands of workers began to flock into the unions of the A.F. of L. Many unions sprang up over night. The upsurge of the workers was in the main toward the A.F. of L.

New York, New York

JJP:JWS  
100-26699

November 24, 1943

MEMO

RE: GREATER NEW YORK INDUSTRIAL  
UNION COUNCIL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached herewith is a report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated November 3, 1943 concerning the TRADE UNION UNITY LEAGUE.

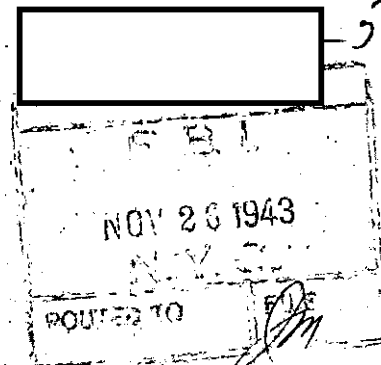
[redacted] advised that he was closely  
connected with this League in its formation.

JOSEPH J. PHALEN  
Special Agent

Enclosure

cc: NY File No. [redacted]

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November 12th, 43

Meeting of the Nominations Committee  
Appointed by the Executive Council of the Peoples' Committee  
November 12th, 43.  
Earlen Branch Y.M.C.A. 6 P.M.

Olivia Stokes presided.

Work of the Committee:

The work of the Committee was to go over the slate of officers for the Peoples' Committee for the year 1944. The present officers considered on the basis of their activity during the last year to determine whether they should be recommended for retention. The Nominations Committee was unable to agree on certain members of the Peoples' Committee because they have failed to attend meetings and take an active part in the work. The following suggestions were made in the report to the Executive Council:

1. That organizations do we want represented on the Executive Council?
2. Are there certain individuals that ought to be retained despite the fact that they have not functioned but because of their organizational and personal standing? Roy Wilkins, A.A.A.C.P., Warren Barker and Rev. S.T. Eldridge were mentioned in this respect.

Slate Recommended:

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Chairman  
Cunning Tobias, Vice Chairman  
Anna L. Moore, Treasurer.  
Theresa Parker, Secretary.  
Joseph Ford Administrator.

Executive Council

Leon Sullivan, President, Labor on Washington Movement.

Charles Buchanan

Charles Collins

George Cannon

Joe C. Davies

Ernest Dimitry

Robert Douglas

S. T. Eldridge

John Harris

Henry Hault

Clifford Mc Avoy

Louise Mc Donald

Samuel Patterson

Lonelen Phillips

Gwendolyn Samuels Bowen

Olivia Stokes

Rev. Augustine Johnson, Pres. Inter. Denominational Ministers Conference.

Roy Wilkins

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Nominations Committee of the Peoples Committee continued.....

Committees (Chairmen)

Women

Mrs. Anna Perry

Consumer

John Fernen

Delegations

Leon Sullivan

Education

Ernest Dinitry

Employment

Edward Lurie

Fellowship

Maude Jensen

Fund Raising

Louise Pitner

Grievances

Lionel Barrow

James E. Allen

Investigation

Julius Holland

Legislative

Harrison Jackson

Harry Bragg

Political Education

Lawrence Johnson

Public Meetings

Gladie Esmond

Publicity

Sam Barry

Public Information

Agg Lennon

Social Service

Henry Kraft

Survey

Warren Lanner

Youth

Olivia Stokes



Nominations Committee of the Peoples' Committee continued.....

New Committees Recommended:

Womens Committee  
Political Education  
Youth

Label Stumpers, Rev. S. I. Sweeney, Warren Bangers were dropped because of their inability to function on the Executive Council. The Executive officers that were dropped for the same reason.

Lorenzo Davis, Chairman of the Committee on Employment has been inducted in the Army.

The Committee on Office Help was dropped because it was considered unnecessary.

The name of Benjamin Davis, Jr. Communist City Councilman was suggested for the Executive Board and later as chairman of the Committee on Political Education. This was rejected by the Committee because he is a known Communist.



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New York, New York

JJP:JWS  
100-43415

November 24, 1943

MEMO

RE: THE PEOPLES' COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached herewith is a report of [redacted] dated November 12, 1943, concerning a meeting of the Nominations Committee appointed by the Executive Council of the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE in order to draw up a slate of officers for the Executive Council's approval for the year 1944. This meeting was held on November 12, 1943 at the Harlem Branch YMCA, and a slate of officers was drawn up along with recommendations.

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report on the activities of the PEOPLES' COMMITTEE.

JOSEPH J. PHALEN  
Special Agent

Enclosure

cc: NY File No. [redacted]

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 AKM/ELC

[redacted] - 520

NOV 23 1943
N. Y. C.
RECORDED TO

*SM*

November 26th, 43.

March On Washington Movement.

There is considerable discontent among the top flight officers of the M.O.W.M. This discontent flows from:

- a. Objection to the reappointment of E. Pauline Myers by A. Phillip Randolph as Executive Secretary. Neal Scott, Dr. Lawrence Ervin and Layle Lane were opposed to her reappointment but in spite of their opposition she was reappointed by Randolph. Their contention is the Pauline is not able to carry the responsibility the position entails.
- b. Refusal of Randolph to take a leave of absence from the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters for the period of one year to devote his time exclusively to building of the M.O.W.M.
- c. Aldrich Turner had several sharp disagreements with Pauline Myers regarding expenditures without his approval.
- d. The non-violent direct action program should be scrapped. It is felt that such a program is incapable of catching the imagination of the Negro people. The program has provoked considerable criticism that has not done the organization any good. They left an opening for the Communist element to attack the organization.
- e. The M.O.W.M. should base itself on two programmatic issues namely, making the Fair Employment Practices Committee permanent and abolition of Jimcrow in the armed forces.
- f. The M.O.W.M. failed to exploit the opportunities that F.E.P.C. provided get loyal and devoted members of the M.O.W.M. on regional committees of F.E.P.C. The result is that Communists and pinks have gotten into key positions.

All the top officers of the M.O.W.M. were surprised when they read in the Negro press of Randolph's speech in Denver in which he declared that in all probability there will be a march to Washington, D.C. in the spring. The matter was not discussed in the Executive Board nor with the top officers. All comment was reserved.

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Good ✓  
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JJP:GMA  
100-26792

New York 7, N.Y.

December 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated November 26, 1943, concerning the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT.

This report states that the top officers of the MOWM were surprised when they read in the Negro press of A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH's speech in Denver recently, in which he declared that in all probability there will be a march to Washington, D.C., in the spring.

The report further states that the matter wasn't discussed in the Executive Board nor with the top officers.

This report sets out that there is considerable discontent among the top flight officers of the MOWM. [redacted] advised that he would continue to report upon the activities of the MOWM.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate file of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
Special Agent in Charge

cc: File [redacted]

439740  
RECEIVED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
8/10/00

522

November 26th, 43.

Interracial Goodwill Mass Meeting  
Held November 25th, 43.  
Academy of Music --Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Auspices: Interracial Goodwill Committee.

Rev. Thomas S. Harten Chairman.

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Attendance:

2,400. About two thirds Negroes. One third white people. ~~xxxx~~

Speakers:

Samuel Patterson, Organizer International Workers Order.  
Shirley Graham, Director Research and Promotion, Interracial Goodwill Com.  
Alfred W. Hawkins, Kings County Post #116 American Legion.  
Mrs. Beth Levin Seigel, National Chairman Interfaith Affairs Com. Am. Jewish Cong.  
Margaret Belchenty, Director of "Y" Service Center, State Org. Am. Youth for Dem.  
Dr. Dan O. Dodson, Professor New York University.  
Attorney Milton Gold.  
Crystal Bird Fauset, former member Pennsylvania State Legislature.  
Adam Clayton Powell, City Councilman.  
Moran Weston, Executive Secretary Negro Labor Victory Committee.  
Peter Cacchione, City Councilman.

Rev. Thomas S. Harten:

This meeting is one of a series of meetings organized by the Interracial Good Will Committee for furthering good will among white and Negro people. This meeting was arranged long before hell broke loose in the Bedford-Styvesant section of Brooklyn lead by Hitler's stooges. I decided to take up this matter at this meeting. I was advised to call it off I refused. Considerable pressure has been brought against me to call off the meeting. Our boys are fighting for democracy abroad. We want some of it here. He announced two mass meetings that will be held, one in the Brooklyn Academy of Music January 2, 1944 and the other in Madison Square Garden on March 2, 1944. These meetings are being arranged in conjunction with labor groups.

He urged the audience to applaud Communist Councilman Peter Cacchione when he walked to the platform. He stated that he campaigned for the election of Cacchione as his first choice for reelection to the City Council. Cacchione speaks often on Sunday morning at my church. I was interested in seeing him get reelected because I was afraid that he would take my church away from me. Read the newspapers PM and the Daily Worker.

Shirley Graham:

She welcomed the people to another of a series of interracial goodwill meetings aimed at creating a better understanding among races. She deplored race riots and declared that Hitler is winning the war in Detroit, Los Angeles and Hilburn, New York. She urged unity and democracy for all. She quoted the last line of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Interracial Goodwill mass meeting continued..... Nov. 26th, 43.

Samuel Patterson:

Pledged the support of the 50,000 members of the I.W.O. in New York and the 18,000 in Brooklyn to the campaign waged by the Interracial Goodwill Committee. He branded the Grand Jury report as the work of fascist element. It is a demonstration of desperation similar to the desperation of Hitler. This desperation is born of the election to the City Council of Peter Cacchione, Benjamin Davis, Jr., Stanley Issacs and Mike Quill. Their election shows that the people are on the march and no force of reaction can stop them.

He praised the work of Dr. Harten stating that the I.W.O. will always support any group that is out to put fascist minded people on the run. Negro people will not be satisfied with 2nd class citizenship. They will fight for equal rights, equal opportunity that is the hope of our fighting boys.

Alfred W. Hawkins:

Pledged the support of his post of the American Legion. Expressed the hope that the Negro soldiers fighting on the battlefields of the war are not making sacrifices in vain that they will come back to an America that will extend to them the things for which they now fight.

Mrs. Beth Levin Siegal:

We want to put democracy. I am interested in the Open Door Community Center of Rev Harten because I feel that the establishment of interracial goodwill should and must start in the neighborhood in which we live. If democracy is to be put to work it must be put to work in every neighborhood and in every community. She urged unity and co-operation to understand each others problems.

Margaret Selebanty:

Characterized the meeting as anti-fascist. The fascist element in Brooklyn smear the Negro and threaten the Mayor. This situation reflects a serious lack of unity. It threatens our war effort because it creates division and disunity at home. It destroys the confidence of Negro youth in the aims and objectives of the war. We must destroy this philosophy that pits one race against another. Brooklyn will not be another Detroit (riot). This is the way Hitler works. He divides to conquer. We must answer the newspaper attack. We must offer a constructive program to remove the ills of the community. Recreational and other facilities for youth will be a start. We must help to build unity of whites and Negroes.

Dr. Jan O. Dodson:

He stated that he was born in Texas near Texarkana. His father was a share cropper. The problem of interracial goodwill was one of education. Not the type of education of the past. The colleges have ruined many a good plow hand.

Nov. 26th, 43.

**Interracial Goodwill mass meeting continued.....****Dr. Jan O. Dodson continued....**

There is no such thing as a crime wave. It is an attempt to set group against group because some people have a political axe to grind. He urged the removal of the conditions that breed crime.

**Attorney Milton Gold:**

Hitler is here. He is right here in Brooklyn. I joined in the protest with all Americans against a subtle poison that will destroy our America. The poison spread by the underground is more dangerous than poison gas. Some curious meetings have been held recently in Brooklyn

Any crime among Negroes is caused by lack of human and democratic rights. We can pardon many Negroes for violations of the law because they are forced into conditions and circumstances that breeds crime. Crime is the product of conditions. Poverty breeds crime. Substandard housing breeds crime. Discrimination breeds crime. Denial of democratic rights breed crime. Eliminate these conditions and crime will rapidly disappear.

**Crystal Bird Lambert: (Consultant of the Director of National Defense)**

The question of interracial goodwill is the most important before America. It is paramount at this time because it is one with the development of our democratic institutions. There are fascists in America not because of race or nationality but because of their attitude toward their fellow Americans. We can not help but have a feeling of concern about our happiness and well being. Selfishness is at the bottom of all wars.

We must take care in the selection of people for public office. The vote is not something you think about just before election. You should keep it in mind all the year around. There are people who desire to exploit. We should know something about the attitude of those that we elect locally and nationally.

Every soldier returning must be given a job. We should start looking into that now. The enemies of WPA called it boondoggling and wanton waste of government funds. If industry is unable to provide jobs then the government must assume responsibility for the care of its citizens. Government aid and aid is preferable to aid from private charities. Someone criticized giving federal funds to Negro unemployed in her presence and she said "the Negro has worked so long for nothing; it is about time he got paid for doing nothing". This war must guarantee the ordinary man and woman economic security. The matter of jobs should not be left to Congress but should be discussed by the people locally.

Our boys who are fighting in India, the South Seas, Europe and China with the peoples of these countries against fascism will return with an enlightened point of view as must symbolize our future attitude toward one another. America cannot be a leader among the nations unless her hands are clean in this matter of race. Negroes are not yet being used in combat units. We must resolve that those who die will not have died in vain.

Interracial Goodwill mass meeting continued.....

Adam Clayton Powell:

The remarks of David Lieberman has done a grave disservice to the Jewish people and to racial unity. It given rise to many anti-semitic statement among Negroes in Harlem. We Negroes should not permit the statements of one individual to influence our opinion of a whole race. There is also considerable anti-catholic sentiment developing in Harlem as a result of the actions of Father Belford. We should not permit his actions to influence us against catholicism.

The Negro and the white, the Jew and the non-Jew, the catholic and the Protestant will not allow the remarks of David Lieberman at the meeting of the Flatiron Civic League to disrupt our common relations. Negroes must not allow Lieberman's remarks to influence them against the Jewish people, anymore than they must allow the remarks of Father Belford influence them against all catholics. For every Father Belford or Father Coughlin there are a thousand Catholics like Dr. Francis E. Mc Mahon. Let no home grown fascists provoke us to commit the acts they want us to commit. Nothing will please Sumner Sirtl more than to see a race riot in Brooklyn. He wants to provoke a race riot in Brooklyn.

A great change is taking place among the people. The people are bringing about a democratic revolutionary change by due process of law. The Brooklyn Grand Jury resents that change. The Kings County Grand Jury cannot stand the sight and voices of Quill of the Bronx, Isaacs and Davis of Manhattan and Cacchione of Brooklyn in the City Council. The common man is on the march..

#### Interuption.

Immediately after Adam Powell concluded the attorney representing David Lieberman at the Police Departmental hearing, arose and descended the floor to correct certain remarks made by Adam Powell against his client. At first he was booed down. Rev. Marten came to his rescue and asked the audience to be democratic. He was invited to the platform but refused. He stated that David Lieberman was coming up for trial and that remarks such as were made were prejudicial. David Lieberman is and always has been a friend of the colored people and I want to correct any impression to the contrary.

Moran Weston:

Pledged support of the Interracial Goodwill Committee and asked the audience to attend the African Dance Festival on December 15th at Carnegie Hall. It was arranged by a group of African Students. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune would be the speakers. He said that he had spoken to Miss Bethune over long distance and that she had agreed to be present and to speak.

Peter Cacchione:

Environment breeds crime. In the better neighborhoods there is the least crime. Crime rises in any neighborhood to the extent of the peoples living conditions produce the soil for its growth. The Grand Jury recommends the free use of police clubs as a solution.



(5)  
Peter Cacchione condemned.....

If that that suggestion was followed there beatings and killings behind prison walls. This would be the same as the Nazis are doing in the occupied countries of Europe.

The Grand Jury report was seized upon by certain people to attack the Negro and the City Administration. These people including the Brooklyn people have always been against decent housing, they have been anti-labor against the reforms of the New Deal during the thirties. I am not here to apologize for Mayor La Guardia. The Mayor has weaknesses but democracy should thank God for La Guardia.

Who can the attackers on Bedford-Stuyvesant help except Hitler? Search their record and you will find among them no trade unionists and no Negroes. You will find that perhaps everyone has real estate connections.

I am going to try to get the name of all the members of the Grand Jury and expose them. They want to drive the Negroes out of the Stuyvesant-Bedford Section. After branding the members of the Grand Jury as fascists he said, that a fascist is a Negro hater, anti-semitic, anti-labor, anti-New Deal etc.. He concluded with an appeal for unity and support. If the Grand Jury is desperate because of the election of Davis, Gill, Isaacs and myself to the City Council we will give them something more to worry about next year because we are going to put candidates like them into the state legislature, the State Senate and in the Congress of the United States.



Good ✓  
115

100-28627

b7D

JJP:GMA  
100-28627

New York 7, N.Y.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

December 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES.  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION.  
INTERNAL SECURITY.

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning a mass meeting held November 25, 1943 at the ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Brooklyn, New York, under the auspices of the Interracial Goodwill Committee. b7D

There were approximately twenty-four hundred in attendance at this meeting, about two-thirds Negroes and one-third White. The meeting dealt with the present Bedford-Stuyvesant situation and was addressed by a list of speakers, including the Reverend THOMAS S. HAUTEN, who was Chairman of the meeting, the Reverend ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr., and PETER CACCHIONE.

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report on the activities of the Interracial Goodwill Committee and any other racial meetings in which this office is interested.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate file of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*Jm*  
B. E. CONROY,  
Special Agent in Charge

439740  
8/10/00  
SP2 ALM/EHL  
cc: [redacted]  
ENTER  
REAS.  
FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Nov. 27th, 43.

Negro Labor Victory Committee

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Co-Chairmen:

OFFICERS:

439740  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Ferdinand Smith, Secretary, National Maritime Union, C.I.O.  
George Ellington Brown, International Vice President Hotel and  
Restaurant Employees International Alliance, A.F. of L.

1st Vice Chairman:

Adelaide Lockhart, Ladies Auxiliary Dining Car Employees Union Local  
370 A.F. of L.

2nd Vice Chairman:

Roger Stroughton, President Harlem Labor Union.

Executive Secretary:

Charles Collins, Organizer Hotel and Club Employees Local 6, A.F. of L.

Field Secretary:

M. Moran Weston, member American Newspaper Guild, columnist Amsterdam  
Star News.

MEMBERS:

Assemblyman Eulan E. Jack.

Frank Griffin, Fur Dressers and Dyers, C.I.O.

Lyndon Henry, Treasurer; Fur Dressers and Dyers Union Joint Board, C.I.O.

James Alston, Financial Secretary; Business Agent Amalgamated Meat cutters  
Local 623, A.F. of L.

Arphay Lewis, Building Service Employees Employees Int. Union Local 144, A.F. of L.

Dorothy Funn, Executive Board Teachers Union. Now in Washington, D.C. working  
National Negro Congress.

Theodore Jackson, President Dining Car Employees Union Local 370, A.F. of L.

Thomas Jasper, Fur Floor and Shipping Clerks Union, Local 125, C.I.O. Now in the  
U.S. armed forces.

Arntur Garvin, Hotel Front Service Employees. Now in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Frank Haylett, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, Lodge 309.

Ewart Guinier, State County and Municipal Workers of America. Now in the U.S.  
Armed Forces.

(2)

Negro Labor Victo. Committee continued.....

Hope R. Stevens Legal advisor.

Office Staff:

Hermie Dumont  
Hazel Liebran  
Una Mulzac

Address:

67 West 125th Street, New York City.  
Room 43.



Good  
ddp

100-27339

b7D

JJP:GIA  
100-27339

New York 7, N.Y.

December 2, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE.  
INTERNAL SECURITY.

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report dated November 27, 1943, of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

This report is being forwarded in view of the fact that it is a revised list of the executive board members and officers of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE.

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report upon the activities of the NEGRO LABOR VICTORY COMMITTEE.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate file of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY,  
Special Agent in Charge

cc: File [redacted]

439740  
8/10/00 SP 2 AL m/ETH

[redacted] 326

November 27th, 43.

Langston Hughes

Langston was among the first Negro intellectuals that joined the Party. He has never been known generally, not even in the Party circle as a member of the Party. He was known to such persons as James W. Ford, Samuel Patterson, Harry Haywood, Otto Hall, Louise Thompson, D. C. Amis, Timothy Holmes and others in the top circles.

Being an outstanding Negro poet his name in united front movements carried prestige and weight. He wore the badge of liberal or progressive. The Party exploited this to the utmost in the Scottsboro Case, The American League Against War and Fascism, National Negro Congress and other united front movements. His name was used to draw other Negro intellectuals and professionals into these movements, and with considerable success.

Langston has always been strictly a racialist ~~un~~revinced in all his poetical works. He came into the Party on the basis of its program on the Negro question. Shortly after Russia's entrance into the war he like Angelo Herndon felt that the Party was abandoning the struggle for Negro rights. Up and until Browders release from the Federal Penitentiary this view was prevalent. The major responsibility for this was placed on the shoulders of James W. Ford.

Since then Langston has not been so keen on the Party. His pen first last and always is for the rights of his people. He has not been expelled neither has any public issue been made of it. He is spoken of as a "progressive poet". His name in the last year has been conspicuous by its absence from united front movements organized and lead by the Party. He has not participated in any united front movements here in my knowledge for over a year.



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Good ✓  
JLP



527

100-25116

F. B. I.
DEC 3 1943
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO

JJP:GMA  
100-25776

New York, N.Y.

December 2, 1943

MEMO:

RE: LANGSTON HUGHES  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached hereto is the report of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] concerning LANGSTON HUGHES.

[REDACTED] advised that he would report to this office any  
further information he obtained concerning this subject.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN

cc: File [REDACTED] ✓

439740

ALL  
PER  
DATE

8/10/00

SP 2 ACM/EHL

528

F. B. I.	
DEC 3 1943	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

New York City

COB:RMJ  
100-25857

December 8, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI


RE: PAUL ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised the New York Office on December 7, 1943 that he had been in receipt of reliable information to the effect that the subject is to run for Congress on an independent ticket in the 1944 elections. Informant was unable to state what particular Congressional district ROBESON will run in.

[redacted] stated he would keep the New York Field Division apprised of any additional developments in connection with the subject's nomination and campaign for Congress.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

cc. New York File [redacted] ✓

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/ELC  
ON 8/10/00

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529



December 8th, 43.

Pearl Harbor Anniversary Celebration  
December 7th, 1943.  
Golden Gate Ballroom  
142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.

Auspices: Peoples' Committee.

Objective of Affair:

To celebrate the election of "progressive candidates" and to raise funds for the work of the Peoples' Committee for 1944 and to announce that Adam Clayton Powell is running for Congress next year.

Attendance:

Approximately 3,800. Several hundred white persons were present.

Speakers:

Adam Powell  
Ben Davis Jr., Communist City Councilman.  
Judge Jona J. Goldstein  
Judge Francis Evers  
Stanley Isaacs

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Adam Powell:

He praised the affair as a testimonial to Negro and white unity. Praised them for the election of Francis Evers to the City Magistrates Court. Two Years ago you elected me to the City Council. I am now going somewhere else and you have seen fit to elect someone to take my place and up and coming Negro Ben Davis.

Paul Robeson:

He characterized Davis as a fearless and consistent fighter for all the people and that they had made an excellent choice in electing him. He praised the Communist Party as the Party of the common people. Ben Davis election makes history in our country because he stood not as a representative of the parties that we have known for so long but as a representative of the new and coming Communist Party. He represents those forces that met at Moscow and at Yalta and says that there shall be unity in the world and in the United States.

Ben Davis:

Paid tribute to Paul Robeson for having contributed much to the Negro art and democracy. He thanked the audience for their support in his recent election. He said that they voted for his election because they are dedicated to the cause for which he fought, win the war, victory over Hitler, support of President Roosevelt and victory against the little Hitlerites here at home. Harlem is today a second class community. I promise you that I will fight until Harlem is a first class community. He concluded with an appeal for the reelection of "that fighting Congressman Vito Marcantonio".

Pearl Harbor Anniversary Celebration continued...

Judge Francis Rivers:

Judge Rivers was introduced by Judge Jonah J. Goldstein. Judge Rivers thanked the electorate for their support.

Judge Jonah J. Goldstein:

Praised Judge Rivers characterizing him as a man qualified to fill the office. If we can not make democracy work in Manhattan, he said, where on earth can we make it. Rivers election was a great tribute to democracy.

Stanley Isaacs:

He stated that he had worked with Councilman Adam Powell for the last two years, that they had collaborated on all matters and pledged that he would continue the good work he had done by working with Ben Davis. The first step that he along with other progressive Councilmen will be to make Styvesant "Town" impossible.

Fred Washington:

Columnist Peoples' Voice and Editor-in-Law of Adam Powell introduced the entertainers who consisted of:

Lionel Hampton  
Cootie Starkie  
Teddy Wilson  
Gene Krupa

There were others whose names I did not get.



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b7D

Good  
dip



New York, New York

JJP:MJC  
100-43416

December 18, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: PEOPLES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

439740

SP 2 ALM/ELHC

Dear Sir:

8/10/00

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report concerns the Pearl Harbor anniversary celebration held at the Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd Street and Lenox Avenue, on December 7, 1943 under the auspices of the Peoples Committee.

This report shows that approximately 3,800 persons attended this affair of which several hundred were white.

The speakers were: PAUL ROBESON, ADAM POWELL, BEN DAVIS, Jr., Judge JOHN J. GOLDSTEIN, Judge FRANCIS RIVERS and STANLEY ISAACS. The purpose of this celebration was to celebrate the election of BEN DAVIS, Jr. and Judge FRANCIS RIVERS; also to raise funds for the work of the Peoples Committee for 1944 and to announce the candidacy of ADAM CLAYTON POWELL for Congress in the coming elections.

Copies of this report will be retained in the appropriate file in the New York Field Division.

[redacted] advised that he will continue to report upon the activities of the Peoples Committee.

Very truly yours,

EWK

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encls. (2)

cc [redacted]

b7D

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531

December 17th, 43

Mass Meeting  
Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th Street, New York City  
December 16th, 43. 8 P.M.

Auspices: Harlem Washington Heights Consumers Council

Johns H. Harmon, presided.

Objective of Meeting:

The objective of the meeting was for price and rent control in the Harlem area and protest ousting of Negroes from defense jobs

Speakers:

Isaias P. Moley, O.P.A. Administrator.  
Louis H. Fink, Director Rent Control.  
Dr. Edward Reich, Director Consumer Education-Board of Education.  
Edward Strong, National Negro Congress.  
Benjamin J. Davis Jr. Communist City Councilman  
Hermann Osborne, West Indies National Council.  
Donnellan Phillips, Consolidated Tenants League.

All the speakers spoke on price and rent control and support of the hold the line order of President Roosevelt. They asserted that the continuation of government subsidies were necessary in order to avoid inflation and urged support of the subsidy program.

Benjamin J. Davis Jr., in addition to talking about price control and rent control stated that there were certain reactionaries in Congress who were seeking to hinder the war program by their attack on subsidies. The war, he said, is a peoples' war and the people will have the last word regarding the war and the peace. The peoples in the islands of the South Pacific now under Japanese rule will accept nothing less than their freedom. They will be reluctant to be transferred from Japanese master to British masters. There are powerful financial interests that seek to continue the enslavement of the people.

Bonita Williams:

Read a resolution setting forth the following:

- a. Letters to Congressmen demanding support of subsidies.
- b. Delegation to Albany urging the Governors support of subsidies.
- c. Delegation to City Hall demanding support of subsidies.
- d. Opening of a Nation Board in Harlem.
- e. Opening of an O.P.A. office in Harlem to be manned by volunteers
- f. Building of a City Market in Harlem.
- g. Urge Board of Education to have a course on consumer education for school children, teaching them price and rent control

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/ELK



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(2)

Consumers mass meeting continued....

Attendance:

About 100. 20 white people.

Adam Clayton Powell did not speak.

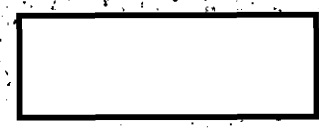
Sponsoring Organizations:

Peoples' Committee  
Beauticians Volunteer Corps  
National Negro Congress  
West Indies National Council  
United Mutual Benefit Association  
National Lawyers Guild  
Consolidated Tenants League  
New York City Consumers Council



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New York, New York

JJP:MJG  
100-28627

December 27, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW YORK FIELD  
DIVISION

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report dated December 17, 1943 concerns the Harlem-Washington Heights Consumers Council and a meeting held by them at the Abyssinian Baptist Church on December 16, 1943.

[redacted] advised that this Council is controlled by a Communist faction. [redacted] advised that he will report any further activity of this Council to this office. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*JVK*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encl. (2)

cc: [redacted]

439740

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2AKM/ETL

[redacted] 533

December 13th, 43

African Dance Festival  
Carnegie Hall, New York City  
December 13th, 43.

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP 2A HUN/ML

Kingsley Ozumba Ubadivie presided.

The affair was mainly African songs and music with the exception of speeches made by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Miss Mary McLeod Bethune.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt:

Congratulated Mr. Ubadivie for the presentation of the African Dance Festival which, she asserted, was a means of acquainting Americans with African folk lore and culture of which they know so very little.

The future of the world depends upon knowing more about each other and developing our mutual interests.

Mary McLeod Bethune:

Characterized the festival as an important step toward fraternity and better understanding among peoples and expressed pride in the fact that the royal blood of Africa coursed through her veins. She urged greater cooperation and understanding among peoples which is the foundation of world fraternity and brotherhood.

A telegram was read from Charles Collings, Negro Labor Victory Committee which was read by the chairman.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee worked directly with the African Academy of Arts and Research in the organization of the festival.

Mrs. Weston, Frank Griffin and Charles Collins worked directly out of the office the African Academy of Arts and Research. When I was in the office I found them working there. Their object evidently is to establish firm contact with African students in this country with whom they can work upon their return to Africa.

Attendance:

Carnegie Hall was practically filled. Overwhelming majority of people were white.

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Hand  
DAP

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

534

New York, New York

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8/10/00 SP2ALM/EHL

JEP:ELJG  
100-28627

December 27, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the African Dance Festival held at Carnegie Hall on December 13, 1943 under the auspices of the African Academy of Arts and Research.

[redacted] advised that there were numerous Communists present at this meeting and that they more or less handled the affair although they took no active part in the affair itself.

[redacted] advised that he would report to this office any further information he obtained concerning the activities of this organization. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encl. (2)  
cc: [redacted]

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December 18th, 43.

Peoples' Committee

Adam Powell is contemplating the purchase of the Jewish Community center located on 113th Street between Lenox and Fifth Avenue in New York City. It was offered to him by the heads of the bank that control the property.

I understand that it can be purchased for 35,000 dollars. There will not be any down payment. The Committee to pay the interest, 3% amortization.

It is suggested that the Center be made the Cultural Center of Harlem that is a place for meetings of clubs, organizations, mass meetings, recitals etc. The center has beautiful club rooms, swimming pool, auditorium etc..

It is estimated that it will cost about five thousand dollars to put it in tip top shape.

The funds are to be raised by the exploitation of the exploitation of the first juvenile delinquency. A few wealthy persons will be contacted for support of the center.

Nothing definite has been worked out yet. Everything is now in the discussion stage.

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DATE 8/10/02 BY SP-8 ALM/EHC

Good  
JIP

536

New York, New York

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JJP:MJG  
100-28627

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2ALM/HL

December 27, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW YORK FIELD  
DIVISION; PEOPLES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report dated December 18, 1943 advises that ADAM POWELL is contemplating the purchase of the Jewish Community center located on 116th Street and Lenox Avenue for the purpose of making a Cultural Center out of it for Harlem.

[redacted] advised that POWELL believes the Peoples Committee should go through with this deal. Most of the negro organizations in and about Harlem can have offices here and centralize their activities.

[redacted] advised that he will keep this office informed of any further information he receives concerning this transaction. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate file in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*JRK*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encl. (2)  
cc: [redacted]

b7D

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[redacted] 53

December 18th, 43.

Peoples' Committee  
Meeting of the Executive Committee  
December 18th, 43. Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A.

Rev. Ben Richardson presided.

Order of Business:

Report Nominations Committee  
Incorporation of Peoples' Committee  
Annual Report  
Fair Employment Practices Committee  
George Washington Carver School  
Finances

439740  
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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ARM/ETC

Report Nominations Committee:

The report of the Sub-committee on Nominations given at the last Executive Committee meeting was approved. Letters of acceptance were read. The only person declining was City Councilman Stanley Isaacs who stated that numerous meetings made it impossible for him to function.

The Bloomingdale, Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx groups are to be included into the set-up of the Peoples' Committee. This was agreed upon but the persons who are to represent these groups were not discussed. There are active persons in these areas but they are yet to be contacted and drawn into the general organization.

Incorporation of the Peoples' Committee:

Attorney Harrison Jackson reported that the papers necessary for the incorporation of the Peoples' Committee have been drawn up and that one of the local Judges was going over the papers. He declined to state the name of the Judge. The papers will be filed within at least one week. He asked that the Committee authorize the expenditure of \$50 which was necessary for completion of the action. This was approved. The papers will be signed by Adam Powell, Ben Richardson and Joseph Ford.

Annual Report:

The Annual Report prepared by Joseph Ford and read by Manning Johnson briefly told of the work of the Peoples Committee for the past year. It stated:

1. That thousands of jobs had been gotten for Negroes in defense plants.
2. Election of progressive candidates regardless of political Party mentioning Ben Davis Jr. for City Council, Stanley Isaacs Mike Quill, Peter Cacchiione and Francis Rivers.
4. Public mass meetings held.

December 19th, 43

Peoples' Committee Executive Committee

Annual Report continued.....

4. Trips to Washington, D.C. on important conferences.

The report was approved and copies are to be made and mailed to all Executive Committee members.

Fair Employment Practices Committee:

Letters and telegrams to be sent to President Roosevelt in support of the P.E.F.C. stand on Jim Crow and discrimination in the railroad industry. This recommendation made by Thelma Dale, National Negro Congress representative was approved.

Attorney Harrison Jackson recommended that a letter be sent to President Roosevelt asking that P.E.F.C. be made permanent. There were differences regarding the advisability of writing to the President at this time. The Committee felt that this was a legislative matter and referred it to the Committee on Law and Legislation. Thelma Dale called the attention of the Committee to the Marcantonio Bill on P.E.F.C. and urged support.

George Washington Carver School:

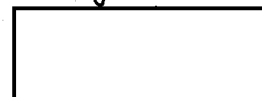
Rev. Ben Richardson stated that six professors and members of the Board of Directors of the School resigned because the School was Communist controlled. All the newspapers gave prominence to their actions. He recommended that letters be sent to all the members of the Board of Directors who were not a party to this action thanking them for their stand in the interest of democracy and disclaim the actions of those resigned. The recommendation was approved.

Finances:

The financial report was postponed to the next meeting when it was revealed that it was not yet complete all income was not in and all expenses not yet deducted. The partial report showed an income of over twenty six hundred dollars.



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New York, New York

JJP:WJG  
100-43415

December 27, 1943

439940  
RECEIVED  
DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Director, FBI

Re: PEOPLES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report dated December 19, 1943 concerns a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Peoples Committee held on December 18, 1943, Harlem Branch Y.M.C.A. This report is being forwarded to the Bureau in view of the fact that it refers to the incorporation of the Peoples Committee which is presently in progress.

[redacted] advised that he will continue to report on the activities of the Peoples Committee. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*JHK*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encl. (2)

cc: [redacted] ✓

b7D

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12/18/40

Arthur Reed:

Reed is a West Indian. He has been making speeches on the "soap Box" in Harlem according to my recollection since 1934. He is strictly a "nationalist". He is generally considered a "Negro Nationalist". In his speeches he has consistently advocated unity of "black folks" and agitated against white business in the Community.

He worked with Ira Kemp in the Harlem Labor Union. After Kemp's death he became President and remained in that capacity until he was forced to resign by District Attorney Thomas W. Dewey. After his resignation left the city for a while. He later returned.

Since his return he has made few speeches with the exception of a few for the March On Washington Movement.

For years he was the center of all "Negro Nationalistic" propaganda in Harlem. In fact some of the individuals who were convicted for pro-Japanese propaganda were connected with him in various activities. He at no time according to my recollection said anything favorable to the Japanese. It can be also said that he never spoke for them. The main theme of his talks were for unity of black folks, jobs for Negroes and Negro ownership of all businesses in Harlem.

During the spring, summer and fall he held street meetings at which collections were taken up. This in addition to the Harlem Labor Union and the advertisement of certain businesses were the only sources of his income according to my knowledge. What other sources he had I am not in a position to state.

At the present time he has a little group called the African Patriotic League, located at 254 West 135th Street. He is the President. They meet every Sunday Evening.

I have been reliably informed that he is forming a corporation that is selling shares to open Negro businesses in Harlem.

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b7D

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DATE 8/10/00 BY SP2 M/M/ETC

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JJP

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New York, New York

JJP:MJC  
100-

December 18, 1943

MEMO

Re: ARTHUR REED  
SECURITY MATTER

Attached hereto is a copy of a report of [redacted] concerning ARTHUR REED, who presently has a little group called the African Patriotic League located at 254 West 136th Street. This report sets out background information on the above mentioned subject.

[redacted] advised that he will inform this office of any further information he receives concerning this individual and which will be of value to the office.

cc: [redacted] ✓

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

439740

8/10/00

SP 2 ALM/KHC

[redacted]

541

*J. Mear*

b7D

b3

New York, New York

JJP:MJG  
100-28627

December 18, 1943

439740  
RECEIVED  
DEC 18 1943  
SP 2 ALM/ELC

MEMO

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW  
YORK FIELD DIVISION

[redacted] advised on December 13, 1943 that the Peoples Committee had been formed in Queens and that it was affiliated with the Peoples Committee in Harlem which is headed by ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. The chairman of the Peoples Committee in Queens is EARL WHITFIELD and a woman by the name of MAYO is secretary. The headquarters for this committee is 105-2 Northern Boulevard, Queens. This committee claims a membership of 200. [redacted] advised that he would attempt to ascertain further information concerning this committee.

cc: [redacted]

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

[redacted]

342

*J. P. Phelan*



December 10th, 43.

Democratic Party.

There are three Democratic Party Organizations in the territory designated as Harlem, they are:

- a. 17th Assembly District  
New Deal Democracy  
115 West 116th Street,  
New York City.
- b. Fred Dickens Democratic Association  
19th Assembly District  
315 Lenox Avenue,  
New York City.
- c. Beaver-Ramapo Democratic Club.  
21st Assembly District  
716 St. Nicholas Avenue,  
New York City.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Leaders of the Clubs:

19th:

Fred Dickens, real estate business.

17th:

James Pemberton, business or occupation unknown.

21st:

Herbert Bruce, Liquor Store proprietor.

I have visited all the above clubs and know that there is no pro-Nazi activity conducted. Dickens is a pro-Roosevelt Democrat. He has refused to participate in any activity except that directly involving the organization.

James Pemberton has been in one racket or another for many years. He is only interested in himself and how he can make a dollar. He participates in the activities organized by the Party, that is, the united front activities. He is a close friend of Congressman Vito Marcantonio. In fact Marcantonio pays him to deliver those Districts that he is running in for him. He works with Adam Powell from time to time. He is not a Communist and is not interested in Communism except what he can get out of it.

Herbert Bruce is considered a smart West Indian. He consistently refuses to take part in any activities conducted by the Communists. The Communists have sought to purge him. They used Adam Powell this year to assist in ousting him but without success. He is strictly a Democrat and a machine man.

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502

New York, New York

JJP:MJC  
100-28021

December 18, 1943

439720

MEMO

DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW  
YORK FIELD DIVISION

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted] dated December 10, 1943 concerning the Democratic Clubs in the 17th, 19th and 21st Assembly Districts of New York City all of which are located in the Harlem area.

It had been reported to this office that pro-Fascist activities were being conducted in these clubs by a flimsy received from G-2 on December 2, 1943. It will be noted that the report of [redacted] states that no such activities are being conducted in these clubs.

cc: [redacted]

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

[redacted] 544

ROUTED TO

*[Handwritten signature]*

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP8ALM/ELC

Harlem Labor Union

The Harlem Labor Union grew out of a movement organized by Ira Kemp (now deceased) to force Harlem merchants to give employment to Negroes. At the time practically all the jobs in the business establishments were filled by white persons. A few Negroes worked here or there as porters and in other unskilled capacities. This offered an issue of very popular appeal.

Street meetings were held throughout Harlem urging the people to fight for jobs for Negro boys and girls. The amount of money spent by Negroes in Harlem business places and moreover these establishments took out yearly to other parts of the City, the treatment of Negro customers, exorbitant prices etc.. In fact every ill of Harlem was laid at the door of the Harlem merchant. During these depression years with thousands of Negro families on relief gave impetus to this movement.

The Communists were opposed to it. They held meetings excoriating Ira Kemp and Arthur Reed, Paris, Lawson. The leaders of this movement returned the complement by excoriating the Communists. They went as far as breaking up Communist rallies/heckling and physical violence.

The Communists' opposition to the job campaign initiated by Ira Kemp led to the Communists' isolation from the Negro masses who had come to believe that the solution to their problem to a large extent rested in getting the many available jobs that were held by white non-community residents. The Communists changed their tactics asserting that they were in favor of jobs in the community for Negroes but not on the purely racial grounds advocated by the the Kemp group. This did not help them because they remained on the outside.

Merchants all over Harlem were picketed. The Uptown Chamber of Commerce became frantic. They appealed to the law enforcement agencies for redress. Finally the Deck Shoe Stores succeeded in getting an injunction against the Kemp group. Fortunately at that time the results of the activities in Harlem had their repercussions in other cities. Other groups were formed in Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia. The leaders of the New York group wanted to extend their organization to those cities. In fact some of the leaders visualized a national organization. This however fell through.

The New Negro Alliance, ~~which was based upon a program~~ similar to the Harlem Labor Union was enjoined by the U.S. D.C. of the District of Columbia in 1937 in a conflict with the Sanitary Grocery Company. Later the U.S. Supreme Court grouping this decision with that of the Deck Shoe rule that Negroes have a right to picket for jobs in their neighborhood. This decision gave impetus to the activities of the Harlem Labor Union.

December 8th, 43.

Harlem Labor Union continued.....

In the decision handed down in the ~~New Negro~~ alliance versus the Sanitary Grocery on July 27th, 1937 the Kemp group was barred from activity because it was not a labor organization and as such had no right to picket. They immediately sought and obtained a charter from the State of New York giving them the right to organize the Negro workers in Harlem. The injunction in the Beck Shoe ~~Cases~~ which was issued against the Kemp group was operative until the Decision was handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court. They had of course gotten their Charter before. They picketed to unionize the establishments and as a condition demanded a certain percentage of Negro employees.

The organization developed into quite an influential force. The leaders began to use their prestige and their position to shake down merchants. These facts were brought before District Attorney Hovey as early as 1937 and also in 1939. They were called in and told to resign or face prosecution. Kemp had already died. Arthur Reed, Paris, James Lawson and Thornhill (later convicted of pro-Japanese activities) were told to resign. They did.

Rodger Straughn, and William Furman took over. They are the present leaders. They have departed from the anti-Communist program and are accepted by the Communists and participate in all the United Front activities of the Communist Party in Harlem.

The leaders of the Harlem Labor Union have been staunch Republicans and have worked for the election of Republican candidates in the Harlem area. Ira Kemp was a candidate on the Republican ticket for the Assembly in the 19th Assembly District. It is rumored that it was because of the intervention on the behalf of the Republican Party leaders that District Attorney Thomas E. Hovey did not bring them to trial.

The organization has several hundred members. It was formerly located at the Hotel Vane 135th Street near 7th Avenue. At present they are located at 336 West 116th Street, New York City. Phone Mon. 2-0876.

They also had a unit in Brooklyn but were finally compelled to disband on the grounds that their Charter did not give them jurisdiction in that borough.

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b7D

is over  
Ad P

New York, New York

JJP:MJG  
100-28627

December 18, 1943

MEMO

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION  
AMONG AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW  
YORK FIELD DIVISION

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted] con-  
cerning the Harlem Labor Union which is located at 238 West 119th Street,  
New York City. This report contains certain background information concerning  
the Harlem Labor Union.

[redacted] advised that he will keep this office  
informed of any information concerning this union which will be of value.

cc: [redacted] ✓

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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52/6

Exhibit "A"

BALANCE SHEET

as of

December 31, 1937

ASSETS

Cash on Hand	\$ 1,403.86	
Loans Receivable	68,715.90	
Furniture & Fixtures	8,556.33	
Deferred Assets	<u>151.72</u>	
Total Assets		78,827.81

LIABILITIES

Loans and Accounts Payable	<u>10,429.88</u>
----------------------------	------------------

SURPLUS

68,397.93

## Exhibit B

## CASH STATEMENT

		1937		1936	
		Paid	Received	Paid	Received
Dues	\$		77,116.67		69,446.75
Initiations			4,427.97		3,271.81
Org. Supplies & Buttons			5,599.84		3,511.39
Donations - Organizations			67,829.29		59,617.83
Donations - Individuals			59,379.59		56,753.42
International Solidarity (Sche.1)	35,083.61		35,538.54	33,645.27	34,159.03
9th Convention				17,869.59	21,353.01
Wages	20,106.95			20,035.00	
Organization Expense	9,722.47			7,270.74	
Labor Struggles Supported(Sche.2)	19,345.88			14,456.12	
Traveling	11,876.84			4,734.76	
Telegraph, Cables Communication	8,076.33			7,582.79	
Telephone	2,345.48			2,028.15	
Postage & Express	2,041.08			2,201.46	
Stationery & Supplies	4,549.70			4,686.86	
Rent	4,800.00			4,800.00	
Agitprop	10,237.34			10,650.42	
Plenums	5,101.11			3,284.32	
Recruiting Drive	1,775.94				
Orgconference	520.23				
Taxes	356.61				
Editorial Expenses	550.00				
Traveling Auditor	504.59				
Painting & Repairs	1,756.54				
1936 Election Campaign	289.95			152,017.91	146,156.80
Miscellaneous	1,008.22			1,690.04	
Subsidies - Districts (Sche.3)	31,979.92			25,548.14	
Subsidies - Organizations	34,900.83			30,915.98	
Subsidies - Individuals	3,240.80			3,081.81	
Party Press	21,506.64			25,059.28	
Loans Receivable	24,750.72			17,370.72	
Loans Payable			8,424.72	3,500.00	
Furniture	1,302.03			1,024.30	
TOTAL RECEIVED			258,316.62		394,270.04
TOTAL PAID		257,729.81		393,453.66	
Balance 1/1			817.05		.67
Balance 12/31		1,403.86		817.05	
		259,133.67	259,133.67	394,270.71	394,270.71

Schedule 1

## INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

<u>Paid</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1936</u>
Anti Nazi	\$	238.08
Brazil	70.00	1,482.69
Bulgaria	400.00	
Canada	364.26	3,358.81
Cuba	5,769.45	4,210.00
Chile	93.25	
China	100.00	
Costa Rica	380.00	100.00
Caribbean	5.94	457.56
Ethiopian Aid	62.50	
Germany	8,195.00	7,645.00
Ireland	1,200.00	1,200.00
India		130.45
Italy		655.00
Mexico	6,825.15	2,033.87
Nicaragua	200.00	
Philippines	2,225.96	3,868.56
Porto Rico	1,054.10	1,115.25
Portugese	6.00	
Delegations & Communications	8,132.00	7,150.00
TOTAL	<u>35,083.61</u>	<u>33,645.27</u>

Schedule 2

## LABOR STRUGGLES SUPPORTED

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1936</u>
Steel	\$ 5,600.22	3,593.54
Auto	4,094.10	1,013.44
Textile	2,786.61	781.00
Railroad	1,907.75	1,250.00
Marine	1,858.75	2,998.55
Unemployed	1,085.00	95.00
Metal	205.00	
Rubber	85.00	200.00
Oil	490.00	18.00
Mining	135.00	675.00
District #17	120.00	462.54
Miscellaneous	978.45	1,986.82
TOTAL	<u>19,345.88</u>	<u>13,073.89</u>



Schedule 3

## SUBSIDIES

## Districts

District	1937	1936
1	\$ 485.00	484.00
2	-	-
3	521.00	1,061.85
4	625.00	221.81
5	2,910.00	2,473.89
6	1,510.00	1,053.50
7	364.00	116.00
8	1,210.00	123.00
9	1,305.66	8.94
10	878.00	941.02
11	299.94	99.55
12	115.75	60.19
13	143.25	1,501.31
14	30.00	317.00
15.	-	-
16	3,056.61	1,581.42
17	3,057.64	3,854.22
18	443.43	589.79
19	323.65	803.34
20	1,257.09	842.43
21	1,307.00	1,772.38
22	749.00	734.50
23	840.25	853.89
24	1,398.80	1,115.51
25	1,675.94	1,101.42
26	372.72	5.00
27	830.00	683.00
28	720.00	367.95
29	1,404.91	1,600.05
30	1,349.03	435.00
31	809.90	326.39
32	623.00	419.57
33	1,024.60	-
34	93.75	-
35	245.00	-
TOTAL	31,979.92	25,548.14

May 26-30, 1934  
10<sup>th</sup> convention

b7D

New York, 7, New York

32,112  
100-42321

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 7, 1944.

Director, FBI

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is a balance sheet for the Communist Party for the years 1936 and 1937, which was obtained from [redacted]

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. [redacted]

[redacted] advised that this balance sheet was obtained by him at the tenth National Convention of the Communist Party held in New York City from May 23 to 30th, 1938, at which time he was a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A. [redacted] advised that these balance sheets were passed out to all the members of the Central Committee at that time and that they were supposed to have been destroyed at the end of the Convention.

[redacted] stated that he would supply this Office with any other information he could possibly obtain concerning the finances of the Communist Party.

This balance sheet is being forwarded to the Bureau for whatever value it may have, and photostatic copies are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

J. E. CONROY  
SAC

Encls.  
C.C. [redacted]

439740

8/15/00

SP-2 A.M. EHL

-548

[December 30th, 43.]

(u)

# March On Washington Movement.

CONFIDENTIAL

The March On Washington Movement is going through a very turbulent period. A number of the most active members have resigned as a result of what they call "white domination". This clique is allegedly composed of Aldrich Turner, Layle Lane, Dr. Ervin, Neal Scott and Ne Laurie. (u)

This group opposed the re-appointment of E. Pauline Myers to the position of National Executive Secretary. She was re-appointed by A. Phillip Randolph in spite of their objections. The opposition considered Pauline as a good agitator but a very poor organizer. They contended that and organizer was necessary. It was suggested that A. Phillip Randolph ask for a leave of absence from the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters for the period of one year and devote his time exclusively to the building of the March On Washington Movement. Mr. Randolph refused. The opposition contended that the re-appointment of Miss Myers was unthinkable. (u)

E. Pauline Myers resigned in a bitter controversy. At the present time she is Administrative Assistant to Dr. W.M. Jernagin, Director of Washington Bureau, Fraternal Council, Negro Churches. Dr. Jernagin is an active leader of the National Negro Congress in Washington, D.C. He has been with the National Negro Congress since its inception, in fact mobilized not only delegates from Washington, D.C. but from other parts of the Country. He has a large church in Washington, D.C. (u)

The entire office staff including Miss Van Buren have been dismissed in a complete re-shuffling in the office. The explanation "need to cut down expenses". (u)

The office is maintained by the members of the "clique" plus A. Phillip Randolph. They used their financial backing to determine matters. (u)

Rev. Leon Sullivan, President New York Chapter considered resigning but for some reason has changed his mind. He explained to me that he is too busy to assume the responsibility and too he is slated to head a group that is forming to combat juvenile delinquency which will make additional demands upon his time. Sullivan is also a member of the Executive Board of the Peoples Committee. (u)

On Thursday December 30th, the M.O.W.M. met to work out the technical arrangements for a mass meeting that is to be held on ~~Thursday~~ January 9th, 1944. Leaflets were given out for mass distribution and groups in the community to be contacted for support. The meeting will be held at:

St. Phillips Episcopal Church

(u)

Good  
JLP

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4/30/90

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DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/CH  
ON 8/15/00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, 7, New York

JUN 11 1944  
10-23792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 8, 1944.

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report, dated December 30, 1943, refers to the dismissal of the entire office staff of the N.O.W.N. in New York and the resignation of M. [redacted] MYERS, who was National Executive Secretary, having been appointed such by A. PHILIP BALDWIN over the objections of several leading members of the N.O.W.N. The report states that Miss MYERS is presently Administrative Assistant to Dr. M. JERNIGAN, Director, Washington Branch, Fraternal Council, Negro Churches, and that Dr. JERNIGAN is an active leader of the National Negro Congress in Washington, D. C. The report states that the N.O.W.N. is going through a very turbulent period and that a number of the most active members have resigned as a result of what they call "clique" domination. (u)

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division and [redacted] advised that he would keep this Office informed as to any further information he obtained concerning this matter. (u)

[redacted] advised that a mass meeting is to be held on January 9, 1944 at St. Philips Episcopal Church, 110 West 10th Street, New York City, under the auspices of the N.O.W.N. to fight Southern railroads defiance of R. I. C. This meeting will be covered and the Bureau advised. (u)

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ENTERED

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FILED

SP-1 4/30/80

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Very truly yours,

E. S. CONNOR  
SAC

W.C.

C.C.

DECLASSIFICATION 4/30/90

439740

SP 2 ALM/ENL  
8/15/00

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

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December 30th, 48.

**Peoples Committee**

I have been reliably informed by a leading Democrat that Dr. Channing Tobias, Member of the National Board of the Y.M.C.A. is planning to run for Congress against Adam Powell.

Adam Powell sought to get Channing Tobias to run for the City EX Council. Tobias refused. He is now aspiring for the Congressional Nomination on the Republican ticket. Tobias is seeking the nomination, I have been informed, not through the District leaders but through the heads and influential leaders in the Republican Party. He is working both with the Dewey and the Wilkie factions, playing both ends against the middle in order to get the nomination.

Tobias is the Vice Chairman of the Peoples' Committee. It is too early to say what will develop in the Committee. Powell has not yet discussed the matter with the members of the Committee. Every effort will be made to get Channing Tobias not to run.

Leading Negroes of Harlem are divided. They do not consider Powell the Knight in Armour that will deliver the Negroes but he is by far better than Channing Tobias. Powell they claim has used his position to do something for the Negroes. Tobias has done nothing and, moreover, he is soaked with the conservatism of the Rockefeller and other vested interests.

Many persons would like to see A. Phillip Randolph run for Congress. They consider him the most logical person but Randolph will not deviate from his absolute opposition to participation in politics. The only person, in my opinion, that can beat Powell is Randolph.



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SPAN/DEHL

✓ Good  
J.V.P.



351

New York, 7, New York

JSP:ED  
100-43418

439740

CONFIDENTIAL  
SP2AKM/EHL  
812/100

January 8, 1944.

Director, FBI

RE: PEOPLES COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated December 30, 1943.

This report is being forwarded to the Bureau in view of the fact that it states that Dr. CHANNING TOBIAS, member of the National Board of the I.W.O.A. is planning to run for Congress against ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.; that TOBIAS is seeking the Republican Party nomination through the Dewey and Millkie factions. It is interesting to note that TOBIAS is Vice Chairman of ADAM CLAYTON POWELL's Peoples Committee. The report further states that many people in Harlem would like to see A. PHILIP RANDOLPH run for Congress against POWELL also.

[redacted] advised that it was not thought that he, A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, could be induced to run.

This informant advised that he would keep this Office advised of any further information he received concerning these matters.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E.B. CONRAD  
SAC

b7D

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552

# This is Johnny-



Dear Mr. Congressman:

I support your efforts for a Federal Soldiers' Vote Bill which will guarantee our armed forces the right to vote. I urge you to continue your fight for its passage.

Name .....

Address .....

## Give him the right to vote!

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP 2 ALM/EHL

553

F. B. I.	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO J. J. Chalm	FILE 10

# This is Johnny \* \*



\*\*\*\*\* your son, your husband, your sweetheart, your brother. There are 11,000,000 Johnnies for every star in the homes of America from coast to coast. Where is he today? In the fox-holes of the Pacific, in the mud and trenches of Italy, the sub-zero Arctic of Alaska, on the ships that go down and the ships that come thru, over the blazing skies of Berlin.

## ***This Is Johnny!***

Yet there are those here in America who would deny him the right to vote! Who would dare, you ask? The majority of the Republican Congressmen, in alliance with the Southern Poll Tax Democrats, fight the Green-Lucas Federal Soldier Vote Bill giving our men and women in the armed forces and the merchant marine the right to vote.

## ***WHY?***

They fear the soldiers will support our President in his win-the-war and the peace program.

Do they come right out and say what they're up to? Of course not! They hide this attempt at the biggest vote steal in American history by talking about States' Rights. They say each state should conduct its own balloting among the soldiers. The election would be over before the ballots reached them. And what's more, the majority of states have no provision for conducting a soldier vote and only 7 state legislatures meet in 1944. When you get right down to it, "States' Rights" is a fancy way of saying—"YOU CAN'T VOTE."

## ***JOHNNY DEPENDS ON YOU!***

- ★ Who else is there to stand up and say "Who has a better right to vote?"
- ★ Who else is there to back up our President's words "... we here in the U. S. had better be sure that when our soldiers and sailors do come home ... they will find a government which, by their votes as American citizens, they had a full share in electing ...?"
- ★ Don't let him down! Act today—write Rep. Eugene Worley, Chairman of the House Elections Committee, Washington, D. C. Write and visit your Congressman. Insist that they fight for a Federal Soldiers' Vote Bill.

Issued by N. Y. County Committee of the Communist Party 147 - 4th Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.

# Give him the r to vote!



ight

New York, 7, New York

JJP:ND  
100-4091

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 8, 1944.

Director, FBI

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the copies of a circular and two copies of party postal card which are being distributed by the New York County Committee of the Communist Party, 147 Fourth Avenue, New York, 3, New York. The purpose of this circular and the card is a request to support the vote of the soldiers in the armed forces.

These circulars and cards were obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This informant stated that he would advise this Office any further information he received concerning this campaign on the part of the Communist Party.

Very truly yours,

E.E. CONNELLEY  
SAC

Encls.  
C.C. [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/HL  
ON 8/15/00

[redacted]

-535-

January 2nd, 44.

Harlem Victory Club  
200 West 135th Street, New York City. Room 134  
Victory Dance.

This affair was given by a club composed of Communist Party members and fellow travelers for the purpose of celebrating the victorious election of Benjamin Davis first to the City Council of the City of New York.

The affair was held at the:

Lido Ballroom  
160 West 146th Street, New York City.  
New Years Eve Night  
10:30 P.M. until 6:30 A.M.

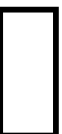
I remained until 2:30 am. None of the listed stars showed up before I left. It was strictly a Communist Party affair. The name Victory Club was devised to draw in people who would not come to a known Communist Party Affair.

There were about 600 people present. Approximately 75 were white. Among these were such outstanding Communists as:

Herodes Ollbert  
Archie Moore  
Pinodette Bassett  
Ralph Boyce  
Dr. Deane  
Charles Collins  
Cito Hall

They collected signatures for the support of Federal legislation for the soldiers vote and gave out leaflets for the mass meeting at Carnegie Hall Sunday January 2nd, 44.

439740



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/10 BY SP 2 AEM/KHC

Good  
ddp



556

New York, 7, New York

JJP:MB  
100-23826

January 8, 1944.

TO: GRANDIN

RE: BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR.  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Attached hereto is report of [redacted] dated January 1, 1944, concerning a meeting held on New Years Eve at the Harlem Victory Club, 200 West 135th Street, New York City, which meeting was held at the Lido Ballroom, 160 West 146th Street, New York City.

This affair was given by a club, composed of Communist Party members and "fellow travelers" for the purpose of celebrating the victorious election of BEN DAVIS, JR. to the City Council.

The following outstanding Communists were present, among the five hundred or more, at the meeting:

MERCEDES GILBERT  
AUDLEY MOORE  
THEODORE BASSETT  
JUDIE ROYCE  
DR. DONOWA  
CHARLES COLLINS  
OTTO HALL

439740

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP 9 ALM/EHL

[redacted] advised that he would keep this Office informed of any further similar activities.

J. J. PHILAN  
SPECIAL AGENT

C. C. 100-28-37

[redacted]

[redacted]

JAN - 8 1944  
N. Y. C.  
ROUTED TO [redacted]  
[initials]

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December 13th, 43.

I was informed that a conference was held recently between Adam Clayton Powell, City Councilman and Chairman of the Peoples' Committee and Democratic Leaders Flynn of Bronx, New York. The Conference dealt with the political situation regarding Negroes in the Bronx.

During the last three or four years there has been a large influx of Negroes into the Bronx. At the present time there is quite a large community which has become a political factor. It is reliably stated that Powell told Flynn that he should approve without a fight a Negro Assembly District Leader in that area and also a Negro as a candidate for the Assembly. This I understand was agreed.

I was informed that Adam Powell will suggest persons for these positions.



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Good ✓  
JJP



b3



538

New York, New York

JJP:ELJG  
100-28627

December 27, 1943

MEMO

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION ALONG  
AMERICAN NEGRO, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted] dated December 18, 1943 concerning a meeting between ADAM CLAYTON POWELL and Democratic Leader FLYNN of the Bronx in which it is stated that POWELL told FLYNN that he should approve without a fight a Negro Assembly District Leader in that area and also a negro as a candidate for the New York State Assembly. This report states it is understood that he agreed to this.

[redacted] advised that he would report anything further he learned concerning this.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

cc: 100-22864 ✓  
[redacted]

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INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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[redacted]	
F. B. I.	
DEC 27 1943	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

*[Signature]*

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:kob  
100-56886

January 15, 1944  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: ANTI-SEMITIC OUTBREAKS IN NEW YORK AREA  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised on January 14th, 1944 concerning the Harlem area that there is strong anti-semitic feeling existing there among certain negro groups. He stated, however, that this feeling has existed for sometime and that there does not appear to be any change in it.

Sources of information and confidential informants in the colored areas of New York have advised that this feeling exists, upon being contacted in connection with other investigations conducted by this office.

Any further information obtained concerning the situation in the colored areas in this Field Division, will be promptly submitted to the Bureau.

CC [redacted]

Very truly yours,

*OKK*

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/6HL  
ON 8/15/60

*KUE*

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January 14th, 64

Harlem-Washington Heights Consumer Council  
Meeting held January 13th, 63. 8:30 P.M.  
Beauticians Volunteer Corps 2065 7th Ave., New York City.

John Harmon presided.

There was a general discussion of the mass meeting that was held recently at the Abyssinian Baptist Church. The essence of the criticism was that it was interesting, informative but poorly attended. This was attributed to the considerable indifference, passivity that prevails among the people of Harlem with regard to price and rent control. Ways and means will have to be worked out to overcome this situation. The officers are to meet Wednesday January 15th to work out a program.

John Harmon explained that the Harlem-Riverside Council broke up because there was an effort to split the white and Negroes in the Council also lack of funds. This situation has been overcome. They opened new headquarters on Broadway, and in the Dunbar apartments. Effort will be made to organize a branch office around 185th street and 7th Ave.

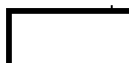
Charles Collier Jr., invited the group to cooperate with the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem on Consumer problems.

John Harmon resigned stating that he could not continue as chairman because his job would not permit him to do so. He is employed by the C.P.A. investigating prices in the stores in the Harlem area.

Mrs. Sally Gaines was elected chairman.

The Civilian Volunteer Defense group in Harlem are going have class on price control at the George Washington Carver School starting February 3. These classes will be held twice a week. Thirty students will attend.

Ruth Gorman, Jewess, member of the Communist Party for many years in Harlem is very influential in the group and is one of the officers.



439740

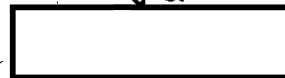
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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561

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-28627

~~Confidential~~  
January 15, 1944

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES—NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report, dated January 14th, 1944, concerns a meeting held on January 13th by the Harlem-Washington Heights Consumers Council at the Beauticians Volunteer Corps, 2065 Seventh Avenue, New York City. This report advises that JOHN HARRISON, who presided at this meeting explained that the Harlem-Riverside Council broke up because there was an effort to split the white and negroes in the Council, and also because of lack of funds. He said this situation has been overcome and a new headquarters has been opened in the Dunbar Apartments on Broadway, New York City and that efforts were being made to organize a branch office around 125th Street and Seventh Avenue.

[redacted] advised that the Harlem-Washington Heights Consumers Council is controlled by a Communist faction and that he will keep this office advised as to its activities.

Copies of this report are being retained in appropriate files of the New York City Division.

Very truly yours,

*JWX*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosure (2)  
CC [redacted]

b7D

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562



NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOS  
100-28627

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
January 15, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES—NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the  
Bureau, advised that the Harlem-Riverside Consumers Union will hold a  
meeting on January 19th, 1944 at the Beautician Volunteer Corps, 2065  
Seventh Avenue, New York City. He advised that this meeting was for the  
purpose of starting a membership drive.

The New York Field Division will attempt to have coverage of  
this meeting and the Bureau will be advised.

Very truly yours,

*JVK*

R. F. CONROY  
SAC

cc [redacted]

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH  
ON 8/15/00

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-563

Peoples Committee  
132 West 138th Street, N.Y.C.

January 11th, 44.

Adam Clayton Powell Jr.

He sent out special delivery letters to all members of the Executive Board of the Peoples' Committee and heads of organizations which stated in essence that he has confidential word that F.E.P.C. (Fair Employment Practices Committee) will be scuttled.

This letter urges that telegrams be sent immediately to:

- a. The President of the United States.
- b. Malcom Ross, 261 Constitution Ave., Washington, D.C.
- c. Congressman Howard Smith, House of Representatives.

Executive Council, Peoples' Committee:

This Council is meeting Wednesday January 19th, 8:30 P.M.  
at 132 West 138th Street, New York City.

The Order of Business will be :

1. The Annual City Wide Peoples' Committee Conference.
2. The Peoples' Committee role in relation to F.E.P.C., the Poll Tax and the right of soldiers to vote.
3. Final nominations for the 1944 Executive Council.

439746  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Good  
JEP

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564

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-43415

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
January 17, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: PEOPLES' COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report dated January 11th, 1944 concerns the Peoples Committee and a meeting which is scheduled for January 19th, 1944 at 132 West 138th Street, New York City, for the purpose of discussing the annual City Wide Peoples' Committee Conference and other issues.

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The report advises that ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. had sent out special delivery letters to all members of the Executive Board of the Peoples' Committee and heads of organizations, urging that telegrams be sent immediately to the President; MALCOLM ROSS, 261 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C; and Congressman HOWARD SMITH, House of Representatives, concerning the FEPC. POWELL'S letter stated that he had confidential word that the FEPC will be scuttled.

[redacted] advised that he would report anything further he learned concerning this matter.

The meeting of the Peoples' Committee on January 19th, 1944 will be covered by this office and the Bureau will be advised.

Very truly yours,

*AVK*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosures (2)

✓ EC [redacted]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
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SHOWN OTHERWISE.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
January 17, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised on January 14th, 1944 that a "Non-Partisan Political Forum" will be held on January 19th, 1944 at the YMCA, 180 West 135th Street, New York City, under the auspices of the March on Washington Movement. He stated that the subject of this forum would be "What Should Be the Political Strategy of the Negroes in 1944". The meeting is to be addressed by the following:

JULIUS ADAMS, editor, "Amsterdam News"  
LUDLOW WERNER, editor, "New York Age"  
HERBERT L. BRUCE, District Leader, Democratic Party.

The New York Field Division will attempt to have coverage of this meeting and the Bureau will be advised.

Very truly yours,

*J.J.K.*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY *SP2 ALM/EHL*  
ON *8/15/00*

CO [redacted]

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY *SP2 ALM/EHL* on *7-30-80*  
REASON FOR EXTENSION *2*  
FCIM, 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION *7-30-90*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*566*

**March On Washington Movement**

January 8th, 43.

Y.M.C.A. 135th Street near 7th Ave., New York City.

January 7th, 43: 44) \* (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL

ON 8/15/00

Layle Lane:

Layle Lane reported that efforts are being made to get a group of Congressmen to sponsor a non-partisan Bill to make the Fair Employment Practices Committee a permanent thing. Benjamin Mac Laurin and A. Phillip Randolph have been lobbying in Washington and have met with some success. A list of all New York Congressmen and Senators was distributed to be contacted and urged to support the proposed Bill. Some of the Congressmen have been contacted some are favorable and some are doubtful or non-committal.

She also urged everyone present to contact the Congressmen and Senators urging their support of the proposed Bill for a permanent F.E.P.C. This proposed Bill will be based upon the 14th Amendment and be in opposition of the "Partisan" Bill proposed by Vito Marcantonio.

Benjamin Mac Laurin:

Ben stated that he had some degree of success contacting Congressmen while in Washington. He was far more successful than A. Phillip Randolph. Things look very favorable but considerable pressure will have to be brought to bear.

On January 20th and 21st there will be a National Conference and demonstration on F.E.P.C. This Conference and demonstration will be staged in Washington, D.C. He urged the New York Council to send representatives. The delegates will contact Congressmen and make an effort to see President Roosevelt.

He criticized a number of members for inactivity. Those who criticize the M.O.W.M. should realize that the Movement is no stronger than the membership and that they must put their shoulders to the wheel and push. Only a few People are now carrying the full financial responsibility and called for help to raise funds.

A Big Town Hall rally will be held in February in New York City.

Committee On Organization:

The report recommended the holding of two public forums. One dealing with the role of the church in relation to the Negro. The other political trends with regard to the 1944 Presidential elections.

Attendance: 35 all Negroes.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 17th, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Director, FBI

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

439740  
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report dated January 7th, 1944 concerns a meeting held by the MOWM on January 5th, 1944 at the Harlem YMCA. At this meeting LAYLE LANE reported that efforts were being made to get a group of Congressmen to sponsor a Non-Partisan bill to make the FEPC a permanent thing; that BENJAMIN MacLAURIN and A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH had been lobbying in Washington and had met with some success. (u)

This report further advised that a national conference was to be held in Washington by the MOWM on January 20th, and 21st, 1944 concerning the FEPC with respect to having representatives contact Congressmen on this matter and also to make an effort to see President ROOSEVELT. (u)

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report upon the activities of the March on Washington. Copies of this report are being retained in appropriate files of the New York Field Division. (u)

Very truly yours,

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY [redacted] 7-30-80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, 11-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 7-30-90

E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosures (2)

cc [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(January 10th, 44) X(4)

March On Washington Movement.  
Public Mass Meeting to Fight Southern Railroads' Defiance of P.E.P.C.  
Sunday January 9th, 44  
St. Phillips' Episcopal Church  
214 West 134th Street, New York City.

Rev. Leon Sullivan presided.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Speakers:

Rev. S. T. Eldridge, Chairman New York Baptist Alliance.  
Vincent Baker, Christian Youth Council.  
Mr. Kerr, National Chairman Citizens Committee for Defense Of Lynn  
Algernon Black, Chairman City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem.  
A. Phillip Randolph, National Director N.O.W.M.

Rev. S.T. Eldridge:

He praised A. Phillip Randolph characterizing him as one of the few great Americans, pledged to support him and urged those present to do likewise. The N.O.W.M. has a great program because it relates to better life for Negroes.

People say now is not the time to raise the issue of discrimination, Jim Crowism and denial of full citizenship rights; they say you are rocking the boat but if you do not raise these issues now, if you do not rock the boat now when are you going to do so. It is all the right time to demand first class citizenship for Americas' most loyal citizens.

Our boys who are in the armed forces are going to come back and they will not be content with anything less than what they fought for democracy equal opportunity. He concluded with an appeal for Negroes to get closer to God with whose help they could achieve success. He excoriated the white clergymen, particularly those in the South who preach the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man and yet fail to take a positive stand against Jim Crowism, lynching, discrimination etc.

Vincent Baker:

Pledged support of all Christian youth to preserve P.E.P.C.

Kerr:

At the recent hearing in Supreme Court of the appeal in behalf of Winifred Lynn the Government answer to the brief file by the Attornies of Lynn gave Governmental sanction to discrimination in the armed forces. The arguments of the Government was that separate units of the armed forces have a recognized tradition in the United States. It is based upon a sound policy and that to undertake to alter that policy would be disastrous for the war effort.

He gave a recitation of the history of the case. Stating that it was the first test case of discrimination in the armed forces. He urged greater effort to defeat the legalizing of segregation in the armed forces.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



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Classified by SP-1 [signature] on 7-30-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite 7-30-90

March On Washington Mass Meeting continued.....

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Algernon Black:

He stated that there five layers in human relations. The lowest is the total dislike of other people because racial and other reasons. Next is the enslavement of other people that is exploitation of others. Tolerance of others that is the attitude I dont like you but I will tolerate you. ~~Cultural~~ Cultural that state where people will be educated to work in harmony and understanding. Finally that people recognize from the point of view of ethics the equality of all people.

The education of the people is essential to bring them to the ethical approach. This is a long process. We can not however wait until all the people are educated. Laws must be passed to make many who for one reason or another are not willing to change. It must be a simultaneous process. He urged the making of F.E.P.C. a permanent institution by law because it would require years to educate heads of the Southern railroads and many union people that they should not discriminate against Negroes and that they should be given the opportunity to work. The making of F.E.P.C. law must be tied up with a works program for the post war period. A works program similar to CWA. If private industry in the post war period does not provide jobs the Government should create works projects.

A. Phillip Randolph:

(14) F.E.P.C. came about as a result of the activities of the M.O.W.N. Today F.E.P.C. is imperiled. Powerful interests consisting of Southern railroads and railroad unions and other reactionaries who seek to destroy F.E.P.C.

The President has set up a committee to investigate the railroads and the Unions to determine why they defied the decision of F.E.P.C. We do not need another Committee to investigate. It is now a question compelling compliance. I agree with Mr. Black that you can not wait until everybody is educated. It is here a case of enforcement of the law.

We are making an effort to get a Bill introduced into Congress making F.E.P.C. a permanent institution. Judge Eastie, Thurman Godson and a few attorneys of the Civil Liberties Union are drawing up a Bill that will be approved at the National Conference in Washington, D.C. on January 30th and 31st.

Attendance: about 600 people . About 30 white people.

Solos were rendered by Miss Catharin Van Duren and Mr Mac Parlans.

The collection of \$7 dollars was taken up by Dr Lawrence Ervin.

 (u) Good JVP  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 20-20792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7D



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOS  
100-26792

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN  
IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE  
SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
January 17, 1944

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

Re: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There are enclosed herewith the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report, dated January 10th, 1944, concerns a public mass meeting held by the March on Washington Movement at the St. Phillips' Episcopal Church, 214 West 134th Street, New York City on Sunday, January 9th, 1944 for the purpose of fighting Southern Railroads defiance of FEPC. (u)

At this meeting A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH advised that efforts were being made to get a bill introduced into Congress making FEPC a permanent institution; that GEORGE HASTIE, THURMAN DODSON and a few attorneys of the Civil Liberties Union are drawing up a bill that will be approved at the National Conference in Washington, D. C. on January 20th, and 21st. (u)

[redacted] advised previously and the Bureau was so advised, that the MOWM was attempting to have Congressmen draw up this bill and present it. He stated, however, that that was the original plan, but indications had been that it would not be successful, so it was decided that the bill should be drawn up and then the Congressmen requested to sponsor it. (u)

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report on the activities of the MOWM. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division. (u)

Very truly yours,

SAVK

E. E. CONROY,  
SAG

Enclosures (2)  
cc [redacted] Inc. (1)

Classified By SP2 ALM/EHL on 7-30-80  
Exempt from GDS Category 2  
Date of Declassification 7-30-90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

570

January 4th, 44.

New Emancipation Celebration  
Carnegie Hall, New York City  
January 2, 44.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/RHL

Rev. Thomas Harten presided.

Speakers:

Assemblyman William T. Andrews  
Saul Mills Secretary-Treasurer, Greater New York C.I.O. Union Council  
Herbert T. Bruce, Democratic leader 22 Assembly District  
James Pemberton, Democratic leader 17th Assembly District.  
Attorney Henry J. Richardson, Jr. National Director, Local Aid Bureau  
National Bar Association.

Rev. A. Clayton Powell  
Councilman Peter Cacchione  
Councilman Benjamin Davis Jr.  
Congressman Vito Marcantonio.

Goodwill Chorus:

This is the first public appearance of the Peoples' Chorus which I reported being formed under the director of Hall Johnson. It consisted of more than 200 voices. They wended several numbers. They will sing at the Goodwill Rally at Madison Square Garden on March 2, 1944.

Mary Helen Harten:

Read the "Proclamation of Emancipation".

Shirley Graham:

She is director of Research and Promotion, Open Door Community Center. She stated the Open Door Community Center has as its aim the creation of goodwill among all races. It is endeavoring to bring together people of all races together for the common good of all.

Assemblyman Andrews:

He asserted that he was going to do his best to introduce into the State legislature Bills that would outlaw injustices against the Negro people. Simultaneous with the spreading of goodwill must be laws placed on the statute books guaranteeing and protecting the rights of minority groups.

Saul Mills:

Praised the work of Rev. Harten. The most important thing to do now is to save the Fair Employment Practices Committee and make it permanent. There are people who seek to render it ineffective and useless. He urged a spirited pressure campaign in its support. He also pledged to send a voluntary group of recreation experts to the Open Door Community Center to assist the Director in her work.

Herbert T. Bruce:

New Emancipation Celebration.continued....

Herbert F. Bruce:

Praised the work and the objectives sought by Dr. Harten stating the realization of the civil rights of the Negro depended organization and the spreading of the program of interracial goodwill.

James Pemberton:

Criticized Senator Wagner for failure to sponsor the anti-poll tax Bill HR 7 in the Senate. He said that Wagner does not wish to hurt the feelings of Southern reactionary colleagues. He urged the Negroes to protest to Senator Wagner and remind him that the Negroes are not satisfied with his actions and that they will remember him when he comes up for re-election. The whole of organized labor should stand united with all forces on this issue.

Attorney Henry Richardson:

He read a long prepared speech citing legal actions taken to extend the Civil rights of Negroes. Called for the abolition of the poll tax. Praised the work of Rev. Harten.

Rev. A. Clayton Powell:

He stated that Rev. Ben Richardson was attacked and severely beaten New Years morning about 1:30 am in Times Square. He was saved from more serious injury by a white sailor who came to his assistance. He asked the audience not to get too worked up over the incident that for every white hoodlum that would attack a Negro there are thousands like the sailor who came to Ben Richardson assistance. The unity of Negro people with labor and other goodwill groups are going stop this sort of thing. (The Tehran Conference wrote a new emancipation proclamation. It has given the people to hope for and to work for. He urged greater activity to get the poll tax abolished during this Congress. He urged that Senator Neads be asked in telegrams and letters to sponsor the Anti Poll Tax Bill in the Senate. The passage of the Federal Soldiers vote Bill is a prime task.)

Congressman Vito Marcantonio:

The above section under Powell in ( ) were the remarks of Marcantonio. He further stated that there is a powerful coalition of Southern Democrats and Northern Republicans who were out to kill the anti-poll tax Bill either through a vote on cloture or tabling of the Bill. He said that a vote for cloture should be opposed because the reactionaries in the Senate have not got enough wind in their stomachs to filibuster until Congress adjourns in the meantime the people will become so indignant that they will force them to act on the Bill. The problem is to get a sponsor. It is a sad commentary that we are unable to get Senators from liberal New York to sponsor the Bill. They are afraid to offend the polltaxers and the reactionary republicans.

Peter Cacchione introduced Benjamin Davis Jr. as a bold and fearless fighter for the common people regardless of race.

Emancipation Celebration continued....

Ben Davis Jr.

Thanked the people who supported him in the elections of last year for the City Council. He said that he received about 22,000 votes from white voters and about 18,00 first choice votes from Negroes. He said this was significant. It showed that people are today voting for men and measures irrespective of Party. Everybody knew that I am a Communist. There was not attempt to hide the fact. I campaigned strictly as a Communist. He said that he was a peoples Councilman and that he would work for the best interests of people.

He said that he wanted to take this occasion to protest against the fascist attacks on the Jews. These attacks are organized and instigated by the Chritain Fronters, Christian Mobilizers, America Firster and other F.R.K. groups. This condition will continue to exist as long as they allow policemen with avowed fascists ideas to remain on the force. He condemned Police Commissioner for white washing this officer and pledge to speak out against anti-semitism.

He condemned the Styvesant housing project because of its jimcrow policy and pledged that he would introduce a Bill making it impossible to have such monuments to jimcrow erected in New York City. In this respect, I am going to work with Peter Cacchione, Mike Quill, Stanley Isaacs and other progressives in the Council.

On the fourth term he said that we should support President Roosevelt for a Fourth Term or a liberal candidate.

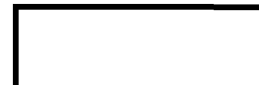
Attendance;

900. About 150 white people.



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Good  
H/P



NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-23627

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
January 17, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES—NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are the original and one copy of a report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report, dated January 4th, 1944 concerns a meeting, "New Emancipation Celebration", held at Carnegie Hall, New York City on January 2nd, 1944. This meeting was under the auspices of H.T.B. C. Afro Protective League and Cooperating Organizations. The general chairman of the Committee was the Rev. Dr. THOMAS S. HARTEN and the meeting was addressed by the following individuals:

Assemblyman WILLIAM T. ANDREWS  
SAUL VIVIS, Secretary-Treasurer, Greater N.Y.  
C.I.O. Union Council  
HERBERT T. BRUCE, Democratic leader, 21st Assembly  
District  
JAMES PEMBERTON, Democratic leader, 17th Assembly  
District  
Attorney, HENRY J. RICHARDSON, Jr., National Dir-  
ector, Local Aid Bureau, National Bar Association  
Rev. A. CLAYTON POWELL  
Councilman PETER CACCHIONE  
Councilman BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR.  
Congressman VITO MARCANTONIO

It is stated in this report that the "Peoples' Chorus", which is being formed under the Rev. THOMAS S. HARTEN and the Rev. ADA CLAYTON POWELL, JR. and directed by HALL JOHNSON, made its first appearance and it consisted of more than 200 voices. This chorus will sing at the Good Will Rally at Madison Square Garden on March 2nd, 1944.

[redacted] in this report stated that BENJAMIN

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ON 8/15/00

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NY 100-28627

January 17, 1944

DAVIS, JR. stated that he would support President Roosevelt for a fourth term or a liberal candidate.

[redacted] will advise of any other meetings held by this organization. Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

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There are also enclosed herewith two copies of circulars concerning this Emancipation Celebration. Similar copies are being retained in the files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*JWK*  
E. E. CONROY,  
SAC

Enclosures (4)

✓  
cc [redacted]

January 11th, 43.

Algernon D. Black.

He is Chairman of the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem. Elected about two years ago when the Committee was formed. The Committee grew out of the charges of a "crime wave" in Harlem. The Committee has sought remedial measures. It is not a "pressure group". It seeks to get results through contact of influential people in high governmental and economic and social circles.

Charles A. Colliers Jr., and his Secretary are the only paid persons on the staff. Collier was formerly with the Urban League. He is Executive Secretary.

Adam Clayton Powell is a member of the Board of Directors. I have been informed that Ferdinand Smith, Secretary National Maritime Union is going to be recommended for the Board. I do not know the members of the sub-committees but I have been informed that there are some members of the Communist Party on these Committees.

Algernon is a graduate of Harvard University. Phi Beta Kappa. Associate Director of the Ethical Culture Institute. Lectures on the radio on ethical culture. Considered a liberal. He is not a member of the Communist Party according to my knowledge. He leans more in the direction of the Socialist Party.



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573

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-0

January 17, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Re: ALGERNON D. BLACK  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted] concerning ALGERNON D. BLACK, who is assistant director of the Ethical Culture Institute and who is not believed, by [redacted] to be a member of the Communist Party, but leans more in the direction of the Socialist Party.

[redacted] advised that he would report any further information he received concerning this individual.

JOSEPH J. PHELAN,  
Special Agent

Attachment

✓ [redacted]

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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

[redacted] 574

F. B. I.
JAN 18 1944
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO [redacted]



January 1944.

**Winifred Norman**

Winifred has been actively working for the Party among the youth for several years. She was a member of the Executive Board of the New York Youth Congress and helped to organize the Town Hall Meeting Of Youth in Washington D.C. This Town Meeting was held in February 1941.

She was placed on the Executive Board because she was a representative of Harlem Youth Congress. The Harlem Youth Congress was a part of the American Youth Congress. In 1938, 39 and 40 she held Executive positions in the youth set-up.

In September of 1941 she was chairman of the Steering Committee initiating the formation of a Committee for a National Conference of Negro Youth.

Took a leading part in the formation of the New York State Conference of Negro Youth. In this group she is Director of Publicity.

At present she is co-chairman of the New York State American Youth for Democracy (formerly the Y.C.D.). She is also National Vice Chairman of the American Youth for Democracy.

She is a graduate of Hunter College and New York University.

Former employee of the United States Employment Service.

Member of the Executive Board of Local 28, State County and Municipal Workers, C.I.O.

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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-54694

January 17, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Re: WINIFRED NORMAN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted]  
dated January 10th, 1944 concerning WINIFRED NORMAN.

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[redacted] advised that he would report any  
further information obtained concerning this individual.

JOSEPH J. FITZGERALD,  
Special Agent

CC 100-6026  
[redacted]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

[redacted] 576

JAN 18 1944
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO

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January 10th, 44.

Stephanie St Clair alias Madam St Clair alias Stephanie Hamid alias Gauchette

Stephanie was the wife of Abdul Soufi Hamed the "Black Hitler of Harlem". For number of years prior to his death Souf conducted a vociferous campaign in Harlem against the Jews, branding them exploiters, robbers and enemies of the Negroes. He advocated the driving of Jewish businesses out of Harlem and the opening of Negro businesses. He had considerable following. He was killed in a plane crash.

All the time Stephanie supported him had been in the policy racket since 1929 and was considered a wealthy banker of numbers. In 1938 she tried to kill Soufi. She was convicted and given 2 to 10 years. She has since been paroled and is now working at Martins Frocks, 253 West 26th Street.

After Soufis' death the movement fell apart. After Stephanies' trouble with Soufi she took no more interest in the work.



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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETHC

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK

JJP:KOB  
100-0

January 17, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Re: STEPHANIE ST. CLAIR, with aliases Madam St. CLAIR;  
Stephanie Hamid, Gauchette  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is a report of [REDACTED]  
concerning the above mentioned individual, who was the wife of ABUL SOUFI  
HAMID, the "Black Hitler of Harlem".

[REDACTED] submitted this information because  
there had been several inquiries as to this person.

[REDACTED] advised that he would furnish this  
office any further information he received concerning this individual.

JOSEPH J. PHILAN,  
Special Agent

CC [REDACTED]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP 2 ALM/EHL

[REDACTED] 578

F. B. I.
JAN 18 1944
NEW YORK
ROUTED TO

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January 13th, 44.

Daily Worker Anniversary Mass Meeting  
Madison Square Garden, New York City.  
Monday January 10th, 44.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP 3 ALM/EHL

Louis Budenz, Managing Editor Daily Worker, presided

The meeting was a culmination of the meeting of the National Committee which approved the estimate of the present situation and objectives made in the report of Earl Browder. Browder's report embraced all of the conclusions drawn by the National Committee. There are only a few observations that I wish to make based upon discussion with leading members of the Party.

The results of the Tehran and Cairo Conferences, the victories of the Red Army attest to the growing strength of the Party and creates a favorable opportunity to work among millions. In America there is a traditional two Party system which is supported by the overwhelming majority of the American People. The American people are not ready to break with the Two Party system thus the Party is still isolated from those decisive sections of the People. It was decided to drop the word Party and adopt the name Communist Political Association. It will enable Communist to work within the existing two party system, supporting "progressive candidates for leadership and public office. It will afford Communist leaders in the trade unions, liberals and progressives to use the machinery of the bourgeoisie to rally the millions who follow the two Parties for progressive measures. Only in those special situations where liberal candidates are not available rather than support reactionaries Communist Party members will enter as candidates explaining to the people the reasons for their action.

Among the speakers at the mass meeting were in addition to Earl Browder Adam Clayton Powell, former City Councilman and candidate for Congress, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Member of the National Committee, Communist Party; Frederick Myers, Vice President, National Maritime Union, Israel Anter, Chairman Communist Party State Committee; Mike Gold, Columnist Daily Worker; Peter V. Cacchione, City Councilman, Benjamin Davis, Jr. City Councilman.

All the speakers praised the work of the Daily Worker in labor struggles, combating anti-semitism, discrimination, support of the President's war program and the election of progressive candidates to public office.

The appeal of Adam Powell in his speech for the election of truly peoples' representatives all over the country gave tangible expression to the Party program to run "progressives" in all political subdivisions, for State, legislature and Senate, City Bodies, Congress etc. They seek out persons to engage in primary fights where "liberals" are not running.

A play Great Tide Rolling was presented which depicted the role of the Daily Worker in all the campaigns engaged in by the Party economic, social and political.

The theme was to increase the circulation of the Daily Worker.

Approximately 22,000 people attended. Several thousand Negroes were in the audience.

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New York 7, New York

JJP:EHL  
97-169

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 22, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: DAILY WORKER  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the DAILY WORKER ANNIVERSARY MASS MEETING held at Madison Square Garden, New York City, January 10, 1944.

[redacted] advised that he did not set out the speech given by CARL BROWDER in view of the fact that it appeared in the Daily Worker. He stated that he would continue to report on any information he receives concerning the Daily Worker or Communistic activities.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

✓ cc: [redacted]  
2 enclosures

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ONE PEOPLE!

ONE FIGHT!

ONE VICTORY!

# Act Now!

A NEWS LETTER

## THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr. *Chairman*132 WEST 138th STREET  
New York CityJOSEPH E. FORD *Administrator*  
AUDUBON 3-1210

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

WARREN BANNER  
CHARLES BUCHANAN  
CHARLES COLLINS  
GEORGE CANNON  
MAC C. DAVIES  
ERNEST DIMITRY  
ROBERT DOUGLAS  
S. T. ELDRIDGE  
JOHN HARMONHENRY KRAFT  
CLIFFORD MCAVOY  
LOUISE McDONALD  
SAMUEL PATTERSON  
DONELAN PHILLIPS  
MABEL STAUPERS  
OLIVIA STOKES  
S. H. SWEENEY  
ROY WILKINS

## COMMITTEES

*Consumer*  
JOHN HARMON  
*Delegations*  
MANNING JOHNSON  
*Education*  
ERNEST DIMITRY  
*Employment*  
LORENZO DAVIS  
*Fellowship*  
MAUDE GADSEN*Fund Raising*  
LOUISE PITNER  
*Grievance*  
LIONEL BARROW  
JAMES E. ALLEN  
*Investigation*  
JULIUS HOLLAND  
*Legislative*  
HARRISON S. JACKSON  
*Office Help*  
VIVIAN WENHAM*Public Meetings*  
GOLDIE ROSEMOND  
*Publicity*  
LUDLOW WERNER  
*Public Information*  
ACY LENNON  
*Social Service*  
HENRY KRAFT  
*Survey*  
THELMA DALE

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Administrator of the People's Committee

December 18, 1943

During the year ending the People's Committee has been active on every social, political, industrial and defense front in constant combat with the forces of racial discrimination.

EMPLOYMENT

One of the most encouraging jobs has been done in the field of employment. We have been able to place over 2,000 men in unskilled jobs. The bulk of such persons have been placed with the American Smelting Co. No less than 2,000 men have gone from our offices into the aircraft industries. 1,000 men & 375 women have been sent to the Wright Co. These men and

ladies have secured skilled training through the National Technical Institute at 250 West 49th St. This training was extended to age groups of men and women..and included persons with deformities. More than 2,000 referral cards were printed and put at the disposal of our Committee..as were ads and notices in the local press. And it also answered our "Act Now" programme.

A singular inroad into a field ordinarily closed to Negroes was made when the pleating & Stitchers Union through its representative, Jack Schwartz, requested the Committee to send them hundreds of women to be trained in this industry. The wage

scale ranges from \$1.00 to almost \$2.00 per hour when the skill required is attained.-----

We have cooperated with many other agencies in the matter of placement. The Brooklyn Urban League, The N. Y. Urban League, the Y.M.C.A., the Negro LABOR Victory Committee. Domestic jobs have been numerous but the competition offered by better paying defense jobs has left them a-begging. People are slow to accept low paying positions and this is as it should be.

#### TRAINING

The People's Committee has undertaken the task of getting Negroes prepared for skilled jobs because the Administrator was given to know that the time would come when labor shortages would make industry accept Negroes. This information came to the administrator directly from Mr. McNutt in Washington D. C. This advice was well given as the crises has proved.

#### HOUSING

An example of rank jim-crow was about to become a reality in N. Y. when the Stuyvesant Housing Project was planned and voted on. The chairman took the fight to the enemy and with the aid of many fair-minded Negroes and Whites he was able to do a great deal toward stopping the erection of this social ghetto in what is supposed to be the bulwark of Freedom. The matter is not yet closed..the victory is not won but we are on the alert for the return of that enemy. We have worked with the Consolidated Tenants League in all of their fights for the rights of tenants.

#### TRANSPORTATION

In the matter of transportation our gains have not been as spectacular as they were last year. But the even more important task of holding our Victories was undertaken successfully. All the men put to work are still on their jobs, or in the Armed Forces and will be rehired after the war. The Third Ave. R. R. Co. saw the good work of these Negroes and contacted the chairman and asked him to send them as many men as possible to fill jobs in many capacities. Jobs with the Brooklyn Street



Car and Bus Co. have been filled by Negroes as Motormen and conductors on these vehicles. We are happy to have had a hand in this placement.

#### POLITICS

The presence of the People's Committee on the political front was seen and felt. We backed Ben Davis, Francis Rivers, Norman Johnson, Michael Quill and all good public-minded Candidates. We were very instrumental in achieving some victories. In the case of Brooklyn the Victory was not won by the candidate but the job of unifying the Negro people for the first time was done so that the future holds great promise. All Parties were supported not because of parties but because we believed in the men they offered. The next big job is yet to be done. It will be done and soon our Chairman will have to take a plane from his Congressional office in Washington to attend these meetings.

#### DISCRIMINATIONS

Judicial discriminations have been frequent in the days of last year. Every time they have appeared we have met them and corrected as many as possible. Our expert at law, Mr. Harrison Jackson continued his brilliant career as a real people's lawyer. This was brought out in his masterly handling of the race Riot trials. He was able to free almost every client. On Dec. 15th we were able to provide bail for Mrs. Mary Parker who was railroaded into jail for calling a White man a dirty name. He called her the same name first but that made no difference to the biased judge who sentenced Mrs. Parker to 2 years. A White lawyer in court called the P. C. and offered his services free in appealing the case. The P.C. purchased the minutes and bailed our Mrs. Parker.

#### RIOTS

On August 1st, the Negroes of Harlem grew weary of the persecution long practiced against them in war and peace--at home and abroad. The shooting of a Negro soldier by a White Officer was

the immediate provocation for the outbreak. The damage was great and the wisdom of the Mayor and the police was responsible for the low rate of casualties. Our Chairman got into action at once and in the name of the Committee called a meeting at the headquarters of the Committee and together with over 300 representatives of labor, Civic, political and Social organizations of the City mapped out plans to end the disturbance and to correct the evils that caused it and to prevent another such outbreak. This was the People's Committee at work. (This group was gotten together in 3 hours by phone.)

The Committee has acted as a clearing house for Welfare, Placement, Income Tax and relief. These are services we have been delighted to render. In addition to the above-mentioned--we attend all meetings on Poll tax or any kind of meeting for the betterment of all minorities.

As regards Finances what monies we have received have come from collections at Mass Meetings, and public gatherings. The Chairman has again this year contributed all out of proportion to what he has been requested. Coupled with fees from memberships, the Committee has been able to operate. It has not been easy but somehow the job has been done and with the continued aid of our members and friends it will go on.

Several Mass Meetings were held during the year to point up the work of the Committee. They took place as follows:

Let My People Go

June 7th--Madison Square

Report to the Nation.

Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7th.

With the exception of the June 7th meeting all the others were held at the Golden Gate through the exceptional kindness of Mr. Charles Buchanan. The administrator has made several trips to Washington D. C. on additional training for minorities in post-war. This has been cleared through the War Man Power Commission. This report is partial but a fair idea of the work done and to be done is apparent. Joseph E. Ford, Administrator

January 20th, 44

Peoples Committee Executive Council.  
Abyssinian Baptist Church.  
13 West 128th Street, New York City.  
Wednesday January 19th, 44.

Adam Clayton Powell presided.

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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 BMM/EHL

#### Report of the Administrator of the Peoples Committee.

Copies of the Report were given to each member. The copy is attached.  
The Report was accepted.

#### Annual Conference:

The Annual Conference will be held on March 4th, 44. It will begin at 12 noon for the registration of delegates. Procedure shall be as follows:

- a. Opening Session
- b. Panel Discussions
- c. Final Session to be a huge public mass meeting.

The 4th of March was selected because it is Crispus Attucks birthday.

The following subjects will be discussed:

- a. Fair Employment Practice Committee
- b. Juvenile Delinquency
- c. Legislation
- d. Opening of a huge youth canteen in Harlem.

All members of the City Council, State Legislature and members of Congress will be invited to participate.

The slogan of the Conference will be "Negroes in Winning the War and the Peace".

#### Fair Employment Practices Committee:

It was recommended that we urge the members of the groups which we represent to send personal letters to the F.E.P.C. and the President.

The Smith Committee investigation it was stated aimed at scuttling F.E.P.C. The Negro Congressman from Chicago is prepared to introduce a Bill in the House regarding making F.E.P.C. permanent.

#### Queens Delegation:

A delegation of three women and one man representing the Queens group asked for support of the Inter-racial Conference which they are holding on February 27th.

Peoples Committee Executive Council continued....

Rev. Barton of the Inter-racial Goodwill Group of Brooklyn failed to reply to the request of Adam Powell to become a part of the Peoples' Committee.

Minutes:

There is approximate \$2,400.00 in the treasury.

Present:

Adam Powell  
Joseph Ford  
Audley Moore  
Lamont Johnson  
Clavin Stokes  
Thomas Dale  
Mac Davies  
Henry Ernest  
Julius Holland  
Denzil Phillips  
Louise Pinner  
Louise McDonald



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*Good*  
*J.P.*



New York 7, New York

JJP:EHL  
100-43415

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 22, 1944

439140  
SP 2 ALM/ELK  
8/15/00

Director, FBI

Re: THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, which was held on January 19, 1944, at the ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, 132 West 138th Street, New York City. Forwarded also is the annual report of THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE, 1943, which was distributed to the members of the Executive Council at this meeting. Photostatic copies are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

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Report of [redacted] advises that the annual conference will be held on March 4, 1944, and the procedure will be as follows:

- a. Opening Session
- b. Panel Discussions
- c. Final session to be a huge public mass meeting.

The following subjects will be discussed:

- a. Fair Employment Practice Committee
- b. Juvenile Delinquency
- c. Legislation
- d. Opening of a huge youth canteen in Harlem.

[redacted] advised that the subject, "Opening of a huge youth canteen in Harlem" has been suggested and is to be advocated by ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr. He intends to bring all youth

[redacted]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Ltr. to Director  
NY 100-43415

January 22, 1944

groups in Harlem under this center and intends to work along with and bring in the American Youth for Democracy, which has just opened a Harlem Youth Center at 2236 8th Avenue, New York City, known as the Harlem Youth Center.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division. [redacted] advised that he will continue to report on the activities of THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE.

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Very truly yours,

*E.E.*  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

✓ cc: [redacted]  
3 enclosures

**Mass Meeting**

January 18th, 44.

The Jamaica Progressive League  
Abyssinian Baptist Church  
138 West 138th Street, New York City.  
Sunday January 16th, 44.

Mr. Canatrick, presided. Introduced by G. B. Trow President of the League.

**Objective of the Mass Meeting:**

To rally moral and financial support for the Peoples' National Party of Jamaica, B.W.I. Important elections are coming up funds are needed to elect peoples' candidates.

Rev. Ethereald Brown, Secretary of the League.

He read a letter which he said was sent to him from the Secretary of the Peoples' National Party. This letter appealed for funds for the election of the Party candidates. The Jamaica Democratic Party and the Jamaica Labor Party have plenty of funds because they are subsidized by the rich but the contributions coming into the Peoples' National Party are small and must have help from Jamaicans in the U.S.

He also read a letter which he claims he received from a group of representing the Dutch West and West Indies asking support for self government.

Both communications were approved.

**Mrs. Ivy Bailey Bailey Essien:**

Jamaica Progressive League formed in 1953. The West Indies National Council and the Peoples' National Party were born as a result of the League activities. They now have Domingo and Manley in Jamaica who are directing the campaign of the Peoples' National Party. They are keeping the League informed of developments and how the League can give direct support morally and financially.

There are three political parties in the field. The Jamaica Democratic Party which is headed by a rich Syrian merchant with plenty of funds available. The Jamaica Labor Party that was headed by wealthy merchants. They will do the bidding of the rich.

The program is for right of the people to own the land through breaking up of the large plantations, public health to eliminate malaria swamps along the coast; free education up to and including high schools, universal suffrage free market for sale of produce.

Finally an appeal for the election of the candidates of the Peoples' National Party and for funds.

**Adam Clayton Powell:**

Freedom for Jamaica is a blow for freedom for the people all over the world. Where ever a blow is struck for freedom it helps men of color the world over.

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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2ALM/CHL



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Jamaica Progressive League continued.....

Adam Powell continued....

Self government for Jamaica is the practical application of the Four Freedoms. They must be applied everywhere. Every man of color in the Dutch East and West Indies must be given their freedom.

Transcendent pressure is being developed in world. The development in Jamaica is a yielding of this pressure which will grow until all men are free.

There is more democracy today in Jamaica than there in America. Here ten million people are not allowed to vote unless they pay a tax. There are six million whites and four million blacks who can not vote because of the polltax which must be abolished.

He concluded with an appeal for support of the People's National Party and predicted a new world after the war where everybody will be free.

A collection was taken up.

There were about 600 people present. Majority Jamaicans.



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H P ✓





New York 7, New York

JJP:EHL  
100-28627

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

January 22, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
THE AMERICAN NEGROS NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith are the original and one copy of the report of [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning a mass meeting held on January 16, 1944, at the ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, 132 West 138th Street, New York City, under the auspices of the JAMAICA PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE. Forwarded also is a copy of a circular distributed by the JAMAICA PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE announcing this meeting which was for the purpose of sending financial aid to the PEOPLES NATIONAL PARTY of JAMAICA to aid it by having its representatives elected to the House of Representatives in Jamaica in their coming election.

The speakers at this meeting were Mrs. IVY BAILEY ESSIEN, REV. A. CLAYTON POWELL, JR., REV. THEODORE BROWN.

Copies of this report and the circular are being retained in the appropriate file in the New York Field Division.

[redacted] advised that he would report any further activities of the JAMAICA PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE, which he described as being controlled by a Communist faction.

Very truly yours,

439740

8/15/00

SP 2 ALN/EHL

41

E.E. CONROY  
SAC

cc: [redacted]  
3 enclosures

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JMG:DEC  
100-26011

New York, New York  
January 28, 1944

BUREAU

MAX YERGAN, INTERNAL SECURITY C. RE N.Y. TEL JANUARY TWENTY-FIFTH CONCERNING  
SUBJECT'S CONTEMPLATED TRIP TO CANADA. [REDACTED]

b7D

ADVISES HE TODAY DETERMINED THAT YERGAN DEPARTED NEW YORK CITY FOR CANADA ON  
JANUARY TWENTY SEVEN. METHOD OF TRAVEL UNKNOWN. YERGAN OSTENSIBLY WILL BE  
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNCIL OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS BUT ACCORDING TO INFORMATION  
RECEIVED BY INFORMANT FROM WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE A RELIABLE SOURCE YERGAN IS  
ON A CONFIDENTIAL MISSION FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY THE DETAILS OF WHICH ARE  
UNKNOWN. INFORMANT ALSO ADVISES YERGAN MAY HAVE STOPPED OVER IN DETROIT,  
MICHIGAN BEFORE ENTERING CANADA OR MAY DO SO UPON HIS RETURN IN CONNECTION  
WITH A NEW CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS BEING FORMED IN THAT CITY.  
INFORMANT WILL FURTHER ENDEAVOR TO ASCERTAIN THE EXACT DESTINATION OF SUBJECT  
AND ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL DATA CONCERNING THE NATURE OF HIS TRIP. IN THE  
EVENT INFORMANT IS ABLE TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OF VALUE IT WILL BE  
IMMEDIATELY AFFORDED THE BUREAU. A COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS BEING MAILED  
TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

CONROY

c.c. N.Y. [REDACTED]

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Dictated: 4:40 p.m.  
Typed: 4:45 p.m.

Approved by Supervisor:  
Approved Front Office:  
Received Teletype Room:

586

January 21st, 44.

Citizens' Anti-Discrimination Committee on Brooklyn Navy Yard.  
Mass Meeting, Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 138th Street, N.Y.C.  
January 18th, 44.

Lorenzo Davis, Chairman of Committee presided.

The meeting was called for the purpose of delving into discrimination in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. This discrimination allegedly affects Negro employees. The meeting however turned out to be in the main a drive to unionize the Negro employees of the Navy Yard. The charge of discriminatory practices against Negro employees was used to get them together and to urge them to join the union.

All the persons present were urged to join Local 137 C.I.O. United Federal Workers which has its principal address at 341 Sands Street, Brooklyn across the Street from the Navy Yard. They were asked to come there either before or after work and sign up.

Tables were provided for all those in the audience who had complaints of discrimination to go and fill out a complaint form. A number of persons filled out such forms.

Edward Lawson:

He spoke as a representative of P.E.P.C. giving a detailed explanation of its function, its powers and limitations and perspectives. He urged the audience to file only valid complaints not on the basis of supposition and hearsay. Assuring them the regional P.E.P.C. office would be glad to handle and cooperate to the end that justifiable complaints are eliminated.

Other Speakers:

Maurice Rosenberg  
Mr. Serebs, Unite Federal Workers C.I.O.

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2ALM/EHL

Lorenzo Davis, Brooklyn Urban League. I was informed by George E. De Tar Industrial Relations Secretary, New York Urban League that Davis is a member of the Communist Party.

Rosenburg and Serebs are both Communists and have been active for a number of years.

A collection was taken up.

About 500 people attended. There were about 25 or 30 white people.

b3  
b7D

good  
JIP

587

New York, New York

JJP:IV  
100-28627

February 1, 1944.  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INFLUENCED AGITATION AMONG  
THE AMERICAN NEGROES  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

439940

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated January 21, 1944 concerning the "Citizens' Anti-  
Discrimination Committee on the Brooklyn Navy Yard".

b7D

This report states that a mass meeting was held on  
January 18, 1944, of which the Bureau was previously notified, at the  
Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 West 130 Street, New York City for the  
purpose of delving into discrimination in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The  
chairman of this committee was LORENZO DAVIS and the meeting was addressed  
by BERNARD LAMON, MAURICE ROSENBERG, and Mr. SHREEVE, United Federal Workers,  
CIO.

[redacted] advised that all persons present were urged to  
join Local 127, CIO, United Federal Workers, which has its principal  
address at 241 Sands Street, Brooklyn, New York, across the street from  
the Brooklyn Navy Yard. [redacted] stated that the meeting which was called  
for the purpose of delving into discrimination at the Brooklyn Navy Yard  
turned out to be in the main a drive to unionize the negro employees of  
the Navy Yard. [redacted] advised that he would continue to report upon  
the activities of this committee.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate  
files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours

*Jm*  
D. E. CONLEY  
S.A.C.

Enclosure  
cc: [redacted]

b3

588

January 29th, 44.

# March On Washington Movement:

The M.O.W.M. is holding a mass meeting at Town Hall

Monday Feb. 7th. 8 P.M.

Town Hall is located at 55 West 43rd Street New York City.

This meeting is for the purpose of rallying support for the House of Representatives Bill 3986 which was introduced Congressman Dawson from Chicago, Ill. The Dawson Bill was introduced in opposition to the Bill introduced by Vito Marcantonio. The introduction of this Bill has caused considerable controversy mostly in Communist Party circles. The Communists are mobilizing support for the Marcantonio Bill.

The argument of the Communists against the Dawson Bill is that it will take too long to get it out of Committee and for that reason the Marcantonio Bill should be supported. The supporters of the Dawson Bill contend that the Marcantonio Bill is too general.

The mass meeting will call for the support of H.R. 3986. This Bill aims to make the Fair Employment Practices Committee a permanent institution.

## Sponsors:

Representative William Dawson, Democrat, Ill.  
Representative Thomas Gordon Democrat, Pa.  
Roy Wilkins Assistant Secretary N.A.A.C.P.  
Senator William Langer, Republican N.H.  
Nathaniel Winkoff Secretary-Treasurer Joint Board Trade Union, N.Y.  
Samuel Golchak President United Retail Wholesale & Store Employees.  
Aime Arnold Hodgeman, Executive Secretary, National Council for a Permanent F.E.P.C.  
Rev. John La Farge Executive Editor of America.

Rev. Allan Knight Chalmers will preside.

This meeting is being called under the auspices of the National Council for a Permanent F.E.P.C. A. Phillip Randolph is Chairman. Rev. is Co-Chairman. The office is at 217 West 126th Street, New York City.

This Committee was formed through the initiative of the March On Washington Movement and is an adjunct of the movement.

Classified by *SP2 ALM/ELH*  
Exempt from GDS, Category *2*  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP2 ALM/ELH*  
ON *8/15/00*

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

589

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, New York

439140

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELC  
ON 8/15/00

JJP:IV  
100-26792

Classified by SP-1 GSK/CU on 7-30-80  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
7-30-90  
February 1, 1944  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated January 23, 1944 concerning a mass meeting to be held at Town Hall, 123 West 43 Street, New York City, on Monday February 7, 1944 at 3 P.M. Forwarded also is a circular distributed by the NOWM concerning this rally which is to be for the purpose of supporting bill #3986 which was introduced in Congress by Representative WILLIAM DAWSON in opposition to the bill introduced by WEND WILLIAMS for the purpose of making the FEPC permanent. (u)

(This meeting is being called under the auspices of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC with offices at 217 West 125 Street, New York City. A. PHILIP RANDOLPH is chairman of this council. He is also national head of the NOWM. The speakers at this meeting will be as follows: (u)

Representative William Dawson, Democrat, Illinois;  
Representative Thomas Scanlon, Democrat, Pennsylvania;  
Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary, N.A.A.C.P.;  
Senator William Langer, Republican, North Dakota;  
Nathaniel Winkoff, Secretary-Treasurer, Joint Board Dressmakers, New York;  
Samuel Wolchak, President, United Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Employees;  
Anna Arnold Hedgeman, Executive Secretary, National Council for a Permanent FEPC;  
Reverend John LaFarge, Executive Editor of America.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

44 D.M. 2/1/44

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NY 100-26792

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Letter to Director

February 1, 1944

Circulars are being distributed by the Workers Defense League, 112 East 19 Street, New York City, announcing this mass meeting and advocating its support.

Appropriate coverage of this meeting has been arranged by the New York Field Division and the Bureau will be advised.

[ ] advised that he will continue to report upon the activities of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT and the National Council for a Permanent FEPC. (u)

Copies of this report along with copies of the circular are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours

*Jm*  
S. E. CONROY  
S.A.C.

Enclosures

cc: [ ]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b3  
b7D

January 26th, 44.

**Free India Committee**

Harlem Ashram, 125th Street and 5th Avenue, New York City  
Independence Day Demonstration.

**J. Holmes Smith:**

I met with J. Holmes Smith Sunday afternoon January 23rd, 44. He informed me that the Harlem Ashram jointly with Free India Committee of the Fellowship of Reconciliation are celebrating the fourteenth anniversary of Indian declaration of independence. The celebrations will be held in New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

In Washington the group under the leadership of J. Holmes Smith will march to the Capitol with placards and banners, then down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House after which they shall go to the British Embassy where a picket line will be formed.

In New York and Philadelphia there will be picketting of British Consulates.

These demonstrations will be held on Wednesday January 26th, 44.

Banners and placards will ask for freedom of India's leaders. Freedom for India. Freedom for Puerto Rico will also be asked.

He informed me that he was interested in three things namely, freedom for India; freedom for Puerto Rico and social justice for the Negroes in America.



b3  
b7D

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Good  
J.P.



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New York, New York

JJP:IV  
100-23627

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

February 1, 1944  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Sir:

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG  
THE AMERICAN NEGROES  
NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the report of [redacted] dated January 25, 1944 concerning an interview had by him with J. HOLLIS SMITH, head of the HARLEM ASHRAM, 125 Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City. This interview pertained to the intended picketing of the British Embassies on January 26, 1944 in Washington, New York City, and Philadelphia.

[redacted] advised that he would continue to report upon the activities of the HARLEM ASHRAM.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Office.

Very truly yours

*Jm*  
E. J. CONROY  
C.A.S.

Enclosure  
cc: NY [redacted]

2/1/44 441 P.M.

592

New York 7, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FCZ:JW  
100-26603

February 1, 1944

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
District No. 2, New York Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

[redacted] advised on January 26, 1944 that MARY ORNESAK conferred with ALBERTO MONFAN of the New York Worker's School, at which time MARY stated that she received a letter announcing a school for negro comrades to be held from March 1, 1944 to March 15, 1944. She asked if it were a full time school and was told that it was. MONFAN advised MARY that MARY BAKER in the New York State Headquarters Communist Party could give her additional information regarding this school.

b7D

[redacted] advised on January 31, 1944 that the Communist Party is holding a school for negro comrades but does not know the exact dates or the place where it is to be held. He stated that the school is to be a special class training for negro functionaries as relating to negro questions in light of the policy laid down by EARL BROWDER in a speech at the Daily Worker Rally at Madison Square Garden. He further stated that the most prominent negroes in the Party would be invited for this training and that a few white people would be invited. According to information received by [redacted] the lecturers at this school will be EARL BROWDER, BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., JAMES FORD, JACK STACHEL and THEODORE BASSETT. The informant advised that he would attempt to obtain more detailed information concerning this special school and when this information is received, it will be furnished to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*JW*

F. P. CONROY  
SAC

cc - NY [redacted]

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108 P.M. 2/2/44

January 25th, 44

Harlem Youth Center Club  
American Youth for Democracy  
Friday January 21st, 44.

John Hudson Jones, Chairman presided.

**Objective of Affair:**

Opening of the Harlem Youth Center of the American Youth for Democracy. Rally the youth of Harlem for membership in the AYD. The Center is located at 2336 8th Avenue, New York City. 3rd Floor.

**Center:**

The Center has been equipped with lathes, milling machines, emery wheels, drill presses, precision tools and equipment for musical entertainment. According to the speakers it will be used for recreation as well as for training of youth in the use of the machines and tools in order that they may qualify for work in the defense industries.

**Speakers:**

Winifred Norman  
Claudia Jones  
Meyer Katsome, columnist, Peoples' Voice

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

**Kenneth Spencer:**

He sang one number "Freedom Road". After which he autographed magazines and books and praised the work of the AYD.

All the speakers praised the AYD, and urged the more than one hundred young people present to join the AYD. They stated that the AYD is an all inclusive organization taking in persons of all political, religious beliefs regardless of race or nationality.

The Harlem Youth Center is an outgrowth of the Harlem Youth Club which has been active among the youth of Harlem for a number of years. It was one of the groups that affiliated with the AYD when it was formed last October.

**Composition of Group:**

Seven white girls, about 10 young Negro men and the others Negro girls. Ages varied from early teens to late 20's.

Literature was circulated which has already been submitted. Refreshments were served.

**Katsome:**

Fledged support of the Peoples' Voice and urged them to build their Center.

Good  
djp

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b7D

New York 7, New York

JJP:IV  
100-6906

439740

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL  
ON 8/15/00

February 2, 1944  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] dated January 25, 1944 concerning the "Harlem Youth Center Club", 2230 Eighth Avenue, New York City. This club was opened on Friday, January 21, 1944 and is affiliated with the AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY.

b7D

[redacted] advised that the following individuals are officers of this club:

JOHN HUDSON JONES, chairman  
MILDRED ALLEN, vice chairman  
HENRIETTA STEVENS, secretary  
MARGIE HARVEY, treasurer  
PAT WILLIAMS, director of activities  
AVIS FOSTER, director of publicity

[redacted] advised that the following individuals at the opening of this club spoke:

WINIFRED NORMAN, CLAUDIA JONES, and Mr. RANSOME, the columnist for the PEOPLE'S VOICE, negro newspaper. All speakers praised the AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY and urged the more than one hundred young people present to join the AYD.

[redacted] advised that the HARLEM YOUTH CENTER is an outgrowth of the HARLEM YOUTH CLUB which has been active among the youth

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NY 100-6906

Letter to Director


February 2, 1944

of Harlem for a number of years and was affiliated with the AYD when it was formed last October.

☐ advised that he would continue to report on the activities of the HARLEM YOUTH CENTER.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Office.

Very truly yours

  
E. E. CONROY  
C.I.C.

Enclosure

cc: NY ☐ ✓

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January 3rd, 46

Ethiopian World Federation  
125th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City.  
Round Table Discussion of Post War Plans.  
4:30 P.M. Attendance about 65 all Negroes.

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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP8 ALM/EHL

The Round Table Discussion was arranged by the Ethiopian World Federation for the purpose of discussing plans for the post war world. The discussion was lead by Rudolph Smith.

**Rudolph Smith:**

He urged the group to discuss Empires and their relations to colonies, advising against singling out in one leading nation because we would be accused of anti- United Nations. The ultimate objective should be the discussion of a post war plan that would give freedom to all the darker races of the world.

Universal education and a universal language he said was essential to successful development world brotherhood after the war. He mixed all this with numerous quotations of scripture.

He stated that he had travelled extensively in Africa and England and that his actions had been thoroughly checked by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the British Intelligence. He said that we would have to be careful of what we say and of every action taken. These two bodies have their agents who keep a strict check and record.

**Other Observations:**

Speakers following Smith said that Ethiopia should be given an outlet to the Sea that Eritrea taken from the Italians want to become a part of Ethiopia and that this wish should be granted.

Trade agreements, industrialisation of Ethiopia should be realized as essential to Ethiopias future welfare.

The speech of Haile Sallassie before the League of Nations was hailed as a masterpiece of understanding of events and prophecy. He will be present, undoubtedly at the Peace Conference. The question arises how best to rally support for those things that he will present as essential to future peace and well being of humanity.

It was suggested that the Federation depart from its sectarian approach and seek the support of liberal people to support of Ethiopia.

I had to leave at this point because I had to attend another meeting consequently I do not know what the final decisions were. I will submit them in a supplementary report after discussion with one of those present.

Good  
JJP  
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JJP:KN  
100-22865

New York, New York  
February 3, 1944

MEMORANDUM

Re: ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Attached hereto is the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] dated January 3, 1944, concerning a round-table discussion  
showing Post-war plans, held by the Subject organization, January 2, 1944,  
at 125th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York, New York.

[redacted] advised that he would  
submit a supplemental report dealing with the final decisions reached  
by the Federation at this meeting.

Joseph J. Phelan

Special Agent

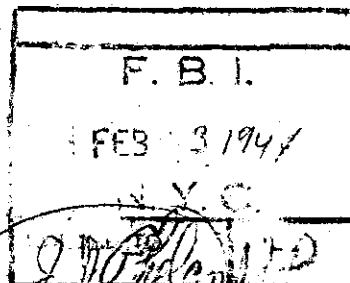
CC - New York File 100-28627

CC - New York File [redacted]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ACM/EHL



January 31st, 44

Charles H. White

Charles White was formerly a member of the Communist Party. He was a student in the Lenin School. He was one of the group that engaged in the factional struggle in the Lenin School that necessitated Earl Browder and James W. Ford going to Moscow to straighten the matter out. I gave a brief report on him before but was unable till now to locate him.

He was expelled from the Party on the grounds of factionalism. At the present time he is a member of the Transport Workers Union. He knows all the Party members in that Union.

He is working as a motorman on a street car in Brooklyn. He has organized a small group of Negro employees into a club which has aroused the ire of the leaders of the TWU who have already been informed as to who he is.

He lives at:

7 East 117th Street., Apt. 12a  
University 4-5841



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DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/IEHL

Good  
tip



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New York, New York

JJP:IV  
100-

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2ALM/ELH

February 1, 1944

MEMORANDUM:

Re: CHARLES H. WHITE  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Attached hereto is a report of [redacted]

[redacted] This report, dated January 31, 1944, advises that the above mentioned subject, who presently resides at Seven East 117 Street, Apartment 121, is employed as a motorman on a streetcar in Brooklyn, N.Y., was expelled from the Communist Party on the grounds of factionalism and at present is a member of the Transport Workers Union.

The address of this party and his present attitude toward the Communist Party was requested in connection with the case of TELYNE HOLLIS.

Joseph J. Phelan  
Special Agent

cc: 100-14501 [redacted] ✓

F. B. I.	
FEB 1 1944	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

599

JJP:NRL  
100-22865

NEW YORK, N. Y.  
FEBRUARY 8, 1944

BUREAU

RE: ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION, INTERNAL SECURITY. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT A MASS MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE  
SALER M. E. CHURCH, ONE FIFTYNINETH STREET AND SEVENTH AVENUE, NEW YORK  
CITY AT THREE THIRTY P.M. ON FEBRUARY TWENTY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
AMBASSADORS AID SOCIETY, SOUTH AMERICAN ORGANIZATION OF BRITISH GUIANA  
COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH FEST. THE PURPOSE IS TO SUPPORT THE ETHIOPIAN  
DEMANDS AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE AND QUOTE MAKE ETHIOPIA THE BIG FIVE  
ALONG WITH AMERICA, ENGLAND, RUSSIA, AND CHINA DASH THE BIG FOUR UNQUOTE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT THE ETHIOPIAN WORLD  
FEDERATION WAS BEHIND THIS MEETING AND THAT ONE WOULD BE HELD EVERY THIRD  
SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN THE FUTURE. SPEAKERS AND SUPPORTERS ARE ATTORNEY  
F. PHILLIPS, PRINCIPAL SPEAKER; ARCHBISHOP J. E. CYRUS, ST FRANCIS  
ORTHODOX CHURCH; ARCHBISHOP F. H. COLLINS, COPTIC CHURCH; REVEREND C. Y.  
TRIGG, SALER M. E. CHURCH; EX-ALDERMAN GEORGE HARRIS, PRESIDENT, ETHIOPIAN  
WORLD FEDERATION. COVERAGE HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY THE NEW YORK FIELD  
DIVISION.

CONROY

END

Dictated: 10:00 A.M. 2/8/44  
Typed: 10:15 A.M. 2/8/44  
Approved Supervisor  
Approved Front Office  
Received teletype room

cc- [REDACTED]  
cc- Mr. Malley

439740

8/15/00

SP 2 ALM/GHC

600

JJP:IB  
100-19377

FEBRUARY 12, 1944

BUREAU

COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS; INTERNAL SECURITY - C. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHOSE IDENTITY IS KNOWN TO THE BUREAU ADVISED THAT A HOUSE-  
WARMING WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY TWENTY FORTY FOUR BY THE COUNCIL ON AFRICAN  
AFFAIRS, AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGN BORN, COMMITTEE FOR  
PAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS, AND HUNGARIAN AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRACY JOINTLY  
AT THEIR NEW HEADQUARTERS TWENTY THREE WEST TWENTY SIXTH ST., NYC. THE N.Y.  
FIELD DIV. WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN COVERAGE.

E. E. CONROY

Dictated: 10:20 A.M.  
Typed: 10:30 A.M.  
Approved by Supervisor:  
Approved Front Office:  
Rec'd. Teletype Room:

439740

8/16/00

SP 2 ALM/ERK

CC: [REDACTED] ✓

100-54706  
100-3620

[REDACTED] 601

JMG:AG  
100-4931

February 15, 1944

BUREAU

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA; INTERNAL SECURITY - C. [REDACTED] ADVISES HARRY HAYWOOD, FORMER NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE C.P. WHO PRESENTLY IS AGAIN GAINING PROMINENCE IN THE PARTY, IS IN NEW YORK CITY. HAYWOOD REPORTEDLY WILL ATTEND A MARITIME TRAINING SCHOOL IN PREPARATION FOR A BERTH AS STEWARD. IT IS ALSO STATED HAYWOOD HAS MET WITH EARL BROWDER, FREDERICK MYERS, AND FERDINAND SMITH IN A SPECIAL CONFERENCE WITH REGARD TO HIS FUTURE WORK. IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT HAYWOOD WILL NOT BE CONCERNED WITH UNION WORK, BUT WILL DO MASS WORK WITHIN THE NATIONAL MARITIME UNION. SMITH AND MYERS ALLEGEDLY ARE PLEASED WITH THE RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE. THE FOREGOING DATA WAS SUPPLIED INFORMANT BY OTTO HALL, MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COMMITTEE OF THE C.P., WHO IS HAYWOOD'S BROTHER. INFORMANT ALSO RELATES HE WILL MEET WITH HAYWOOD TODAY AND ATTEMPT TO ELICIT FURTHER INFORMATION. A COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS BEING DIRECTED TO THE SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION BY MAIL.

CONROY

Dictated: 9:30 a.m.  
Typed: 9:45 a.m.  
Approved by Supervisor:  
Approved Front Office:  
Received Teletype Room:

cc San Francisco - AMSD  
file 100-28715

439740

8/15/00

SP 2 ALM/ELC

60 2

February 14th, 44.

**Cafe Society:**

I was informed that the manager of the night club Cafe Society is a member of the Communist Party, the owner is a sympathizer and contributor. Most of the waiters are not only union members but also members of the Communist Party.

This information was given to me by a leading Party member during a conversation. He did not mention any names.



b7D

*Good*  
*djp*



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/ETHC



603

JJP:MEM  
[redacted]

New York, N. Y.  
February 17, 1944

MEMORANDUM

Re: CAFE SOCIETY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached hereto are copies of the report of [redacted]  
[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning  
the Manager, Owner and Waiters of CAFE SOCIETY and their connection  
with the Communist Party. [redacted] advised  
that this report referred to the Downtown Club.

Encs (2)  
cc - [redacted]

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP-2 ALM/ELC

[redacted]

-604

CONFIDENTIAL

JJP

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February 11th, 44.

House Warming:

The following organizations have taken new headquarters at  
23 West 26th Street, New York City:

American Committee for the Protection of Foreignborn  
Committee On African Affairs  
Committee for Pan-American Affairs  
Hungarian American Committee for Democracy.

They are jointly holdin a "House Warming" on:

Sunday February 20th, 44



b7D

Good  
HP



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL



605

JJP:MEM  
100-54706

New York, N. Y.  
February 18, 1944

MEMORANDUM

Re: COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS,  
AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF  
FOREIGN BORN,  
COMMITTEE FOR PAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS,  
HUNGARIAN AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR  
DEMOCRACY  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Attached hereto is the report of [redacted]  
whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated February 11, 1944, concerning  
the above captioned organizations who are jointly holding a "house  
warming" at their new headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, New York City  
on Sunday, February 20, 1944.

cc - 100-19377  
cc - 100-3620  
cc - [redacted]

JOSEPH J. PHELAN  
Special Agent

439740  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/15/00 BY SP-2 ALM/EHL

[redacted]

-606

9 10 44

JJP



February 10th, 44.

Benefit Dance  
Randall Memorial Foundation  
Renaissance Casino, 138th Street 7th Avenue, N.Y.C.  
Wednesday Evening, February 10th, 44.

**Objective of Dance:**

Aimed at raising funds for the purpose of combatting juvenile delinquency in Harlem.

**Speakers:**

There was only one speaker who was Rev. Leon Sullivan. He thanked the audience for their support and announced that this is the beginning of efforts of this kind for this purpose.

**Masters of Ceremonies:**

George Wilkshire, Smalls Paradise  
Eddie Green, comedienne

**Canada Lee:**

Praised the work of the group and pledged support.

**Program:**

Members of the opera "Carmen Jones" and Smalls Paradise and the Elks Rendezvous participated.

**Attendance:**

About 900 Almost all were Negroes. About 50 Servicemen.

**Literature:**

Aldrich Turner, Treasurer, March On Washington Movement sold copies of the pamphlet "The Wars Greatest Scandal Jim Crow In Uniform."

The affair was supported by the March On Washington Movement and the People's Committee.

**Observation:**

Leon Sullivan informed me that he is aiming at building up an organization of his own that he is willing to work with all groups but that he did not intend to become a tool for any. He said that he had counted on me to help him organizationally.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/16/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

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New York 7, New York

JJP:MEM  
100-28627

February 19, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED ACITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning a benefit dance for the Randall Memorial Foundation which was held on February 9, 1944 at the Renaissance Casino, 138th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City. This report dated February 10, 1944 advised that this affair was supported by the March on Washington Movement and the People's Committee, which is headed by the REVEREND ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, Jr.

It will be noted that the last paragraph of this report advised that REVEREND LEON SULLIVAN, who is presently the head of the local chapter of the March on Washington Movement, advised the Informant that he is aiming at building up an organization of his own and that he is willing to work with all groups but that he did not intend to become a tool of any.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division and any further information obtained from this Informant will be immediately submitted to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Encs (2)  
cc - [redacted]

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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8/16/00

SP2 ALM/LEHL

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Public Rally Permanent F.E.P.C. continued.....

Attendance:

There were approximately 1,000 people present. The majority were white people.

They collected over \$400 and also pledges.

Other Speakers:

These speakers were given three minute expressions regarding support of the Bill:

Norman Thomas, head Socialist Party.  
Rabbi Sidney Goldstein  
Sam Barom  
Mrs Allan Knight Chalmers  
Margaret (?) Haas

All speakers called for support of the Bill.

Literature:

Copies of literature distributed attached.

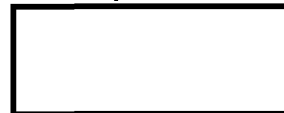


P.S.

A demonstration will be held on Lincolns Birthday at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. Delegations will visit President Roosevelt and members of Congress on Saturday afternoon February 12th, 44. They are going to ask for a New Proclamation of Emancipation.



Good  
HP ✓



February 8th, 44.

Public Rally for Passage of the F.E.P.C. Bill  
Monday February 7th, 44. 8 P.M.  
Town Hall, 123 West 42nd Street, New York City.  
Allan Knight Chalmers, Presided.

**Objective of Meeting:**

To rally support of the House of Representatives Bill 3986.  
This Bill was introduced by Congressman William L. Dawson, Democrat, Ill.  
This Bill is aimed at making the Fair Employment Practices Committee a  
permanent institution.

**Speakers:**

Representative William L. Dawson  
Representative Thomas E. Scanlon, Democrat, Pennsylvania.  
Nathaniel B. Winkoff, Secretary-Treasurer, U. S. Joint Board, Int'l  
Ladies Garment Workers Union, A.P. of L.  
Samuel Golchok, President United Wholesale, Retail & Department  
Store Employees, C.I.O.  
Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary, N.A.A.C.P. Editor Crisis.  
Anna Arnold Hedgeman, Executive Secretary, National Council for a  
Permanent F.E.P.C.  
Rev. John A. Lange, Executive Editor American

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**Resence Speeches:**

All the speakers lauded the objectives of the F.E.P.C. The Committee  
has remarkable advance in combatting discrimination against Negroes,  
Jews and Catholics. It should be made permanent in order to forever  
establish freedom from discrimination in employment.

Attempts have been made to destroy the F.E.P.C. The passage of the Bill  
clearly establish F.E.P.C. and guarantee its future security.

**Roy Wilkins:**

He appealed for the collection and in the appeal he stated that  
race riots provoke public discussion of basic problems. "I do not  
condone or approve of race riots but it seems that in the only  
time anybody gets interested in the welfare of the Negro". The  
establishment of a permanent F.E.P.C. would avert race riots.

**Pruth Mc Fallens:**

He is a terror diager that rendered a verbal murders.

Catherine Van Duren, Lyric Soprano did not appear.

**Congressman William L. Dawson:**

He delivered his message by telephone urging greater support of  
H.R. 3986.

New York 7, New York

JJP:FM  
100-28627

February 19, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG THE  
AMERICAN NEGROES  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the the Public Rally held on February 7, 1944 at Town Hall, 123 West 43 Street, New York City, under the auspices of the Committee to make the F. E. P. C. permanent. It will be noted that the last paragraph of this report reflects that a demonstration was to be held on Lincoln's birthday at the Lincoln memorial in Washington, D. C.; that a delegate was to visit the President and members of Congress on that date to ask for a new proclamation of emancipation. The Bureau has been previously notified by teletype of this fact.

This report reflects the fact that this Public Rally was for the purpose of obtaining support of the House of Representatives bill 3986 which was introduced by Congressman William L. Dawson of Illinois, aimed at making the Fair Employment Practices Committee a permanent one.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division. Any further information obtained concerning this Committee will be immediately submitted to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Encs (4)  
cc - [redacted]

E. H. CONROY  
SAC

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SP2 ALM/EHC

8/16/00

[redacted] - 610

February 10thth, 44

Ethiopian World Federation:  
125th Street & Lenox Avenue, New York City.

**Post War Planning Commission:**

The Commission has discussed ways and means of realizing the post war objectives of Ethiopia. These objectives are:

- a. Free Ethiopia
- b. Annexation of Eritrea
- c. Outlet to the Sea.
- d. Trade agreements
- e. Assistance in economic development

The realization of these objectives could give Ethiopia a leading position in the family of democratic nations and insure her future security.

How best to rally support for Ethiopia was discussed. It revolved around breaking away from their present isolation by joining with other groups in support of the position that Haile Selassie will take at the Peace Conference. There appears some opposition to this change. Some feel that the group should continue as they are. The new and younger element feel that they should broaden out, get liberals, progressives and all freedom loving people to support the just demands of Ethiopia.

They also contemplate holding a reception for the Ethiopian Ministers that recently came to Washington, D.C. No definite plans have been made.



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Good ✓  
JDP



611

New York 7, New York

JJP:MEM  
100-22865

February 19, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the above mentioned organization. This report dated February 10, 1944 sets out the present objective of this organization, namely

- A. Free Ethiopia.
- B. Annexation of Eritrea
- C. Outlet to the Sea
- D. Trade agreements
- E. Assistance in economic development

It is shown in this report that discussion has been had within this organization to break away from its present isolation by joining with other groups in the support of HAILLE SELASSIE'S position in regard to the peace conference.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files of the New York Field Division and any further information received from [redacted] concerning this organization will be submitted to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Encs (2)  
cc/ [redacted] ✓

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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SP2 ALM:LEH

8/16/00

[redacted]

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February 14th, 44

Harry Haywood:

Harry is back in New York City from San Francisco. He making arrangements for attend the maritime training school here. While he was at sea he worked in the stewards department. He is going to take a course leading to ~~steward~~ steward.

He was in India and South Africa where he had an opportunity to meet with some of the leading Party people some of whom he had not seen since they were attending school in Russia more than fourteen years ago.

Since his return to New York he met with Earl Browder, Blackie Myers and Ferdinand Smith in a special conference with regard to his future work. The others attending this conference are known by me. It was agreed that Harry would not do inner Union work but that he would do mass work in the Union, that is the National Maritime Union. Ferdinand Smith and Blackie Myers expressed considerable pleasure in having so capable comrade to work with them.

Harry was broken after he returned from Spain. He was removed from the National Committee, the Political Bureau of the National Committee and other leading Committees. He went to San Francisco. While there he taught in the Party school. He joined Bridges' Union and went to sea. He is now on the comeback trail according to information he will go back on the National Committee and the Political Bureau. This Browder has assured him.

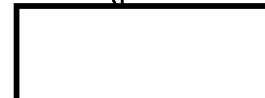


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*good*  
*JDP* ✓



613



New York 7, New York

JJP:HE  
100-4931

February 19, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith is the original and one copy of the report of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This report dated February 14, 1944 concerns HARRY HAYWOOD, formerly a member of the National Committee and Political Bureau of the Communist Party.

This report reflects that HARRY HAYWOOD is in New York City from San Francisco, California, and that arrangements are being made for him to attend the Maritime School here and also that on the completion of this he is to be active with the National Maritime Union. [redacted]

[redacted] advised that assurances have been given to HAYWOOD by EARL BROWDER that he will again become a member of the National Committee and the Political Bureau of the Communist Party. This information was submitted to the Bureau and the San Francisco Field Division by teletype dated February 15, 1944.

[redacted] advised that this information was received by him from OTTO HALL, member of the State Committee of the Communist Party of New York. He also advised that he was to have an appointment with HARRY HAYWOOD this week and that he would attempt to ascertain more information concerning this.

Copies of this report are being retained in the appropriate files in the New York Field Division. Any further information obtained by [redacted] from HAYWOOD concerning his activities or Party activities will be immediately submitted to the Bureau.

439740

SP2 ALM/EHL  
8/16/00

Very truly yours,

Encs. (2)  
cc - [redacted]

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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614

February 14th, 44.

Timothy Holmes:

Tim's wife recently sued him for a divorce. She named as correspondent the wife of a Party member. Incidentally the alleged correspondent is also a member of the Party.

I was informed that the lawyer representing Tims' wife is also a member of the Party.

Tims' wives' parents according to the informant arrange for a divorce in order that she could marry a Jewish businessman.

Tim gained custody of the child. At the present he is instituting a legal suit against his former wife, her parents and her lawyer on charges of conspiracy. Several leading Party people have asked him not to do so because he will expose a number persons whose identity as Communists can ill be afforded. He is determined to go through with it let the chips fall where they may.

He has since dropped out of the Party.

He lives at the Bronx Cooperative Colony, 2800 Bronx Park West, Bronx, New York.



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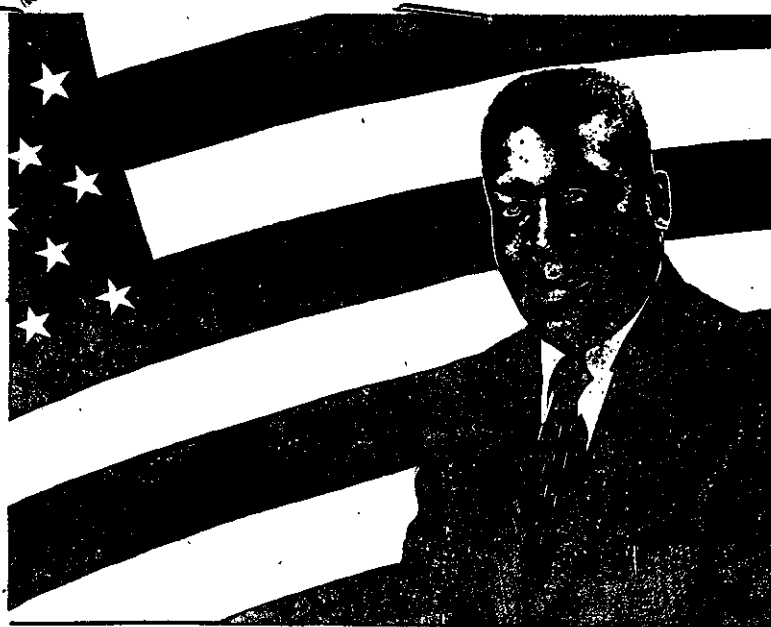
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JVP



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### TRUTH ABOUT CIVIL TURMOIL

**"COLOR makes no difference;  
COMMUNISM does;  
use your COMMON SENSE"**

Read Manning Johnson's pamphlet carefully. If you do, you will understand how the communists have used, and are using, certain American Negroes to the detriment of all Americans—white or black.

by Manning Johnson

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Send this ad and 25c for your copy of this 50c paper-back edition to

TACT Committee of Staten Island

P.O. Box 33, Rosebank Staten Island, N.Y. 10305

"Staten Island Advance"  
11/27/65

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FBI - NEW YORK	

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK [REDACTED]

FROM : SA VINCENT J. SAVADEL, S.I. RA

SUBJECT: MANNING JOHNSON  
Information Concerning

DATE: 12/16/65

b3

Attached hereto is an advertisement which was contained in the 11/29/65 issue of the "Staten Island Advance", a daily Staten Island, N.Y. newspaper, relating to captioned individual.

*Indy*  
The advertisement contains the name of "TACT Committee of Staten Island, P.O. BOX 33, Rosebank Station, N.Y. 10305".

On 12/7/65, [REDACTED]

(protect) advised that the holder of [REDACTED]

The above is for information purposes.

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