

FBIHQ FILE  
100-12304

SECTION : 1

12-1-1  
PAUL ROBESON, SR.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Seattle, Washington

February 17, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: PAUL ROBESON;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

There are enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau and with copy of this letter to the New York Division, copies of a letter dated at Seattle, Washington, January 16, 1941 received by the Seattle Office from the District Director, United States Immigration and Naturalization Service at Seattle, with reference to PAUL ROBESON, prominent American Negro vocalist, and alleged member of the Communist Party.

Very truly yours,

*A. Cornelius, Jr.*  
A. CORNELIUS, JR.,  
Special Agent in Charge

EEB:MC

cc New York City  
Enc.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
6	FEB 19 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

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3

San Antonio, Texas  
March 16, 1942.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES  
PAUL ROBESON  
AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO SAVE REFUGEES  
UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE.

Various reports have been submitted in the past concerning the connections with the Communist Party of PAUL ROBESON the colored singer and the 100% Communist front nature of the AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO SAVE REFUGEES and the UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE.

A clipping from the N.Y. Times of March 14th is attached which ties up all three by stating that the two organizations named above will give a dinner for PAUL ROBESON at the Biltmore Hotel in New York on March 30rd. The ostensible purpose of the dinner is to raise funds which "will help pay for the transportation of anti-Axis refugees in French concentration camps." In reality- and as shown by past performance - it means for the transportation of Communists to Mexico and other Latin-American countries.

Apparently QUENTIN REYNOLDS has been roped in innocently for this affair because [REDACTED]

I am certain that [REDACTED] has no sympathies for the Communists. CASHING


WALDWELL and MARGARET WEBSTER are of course close to the Communist Party. It is noteworthy that DOROTHY PARKER is going to be chairman of this Communist-inspired affair. This seems to confirm recent rumors in New York that she has returned to the fold after a temporary estrangement

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 30 1942

to the fold after a temporary estrangement".

The list of sponsors for the dinner as stated in the attached article contains practically only "innocent" names of respectable prominent people. However, attention is called to the fact that this is the third time within five weeks or so that the name of Dr. <sup>WALTER</sup> ~~WALTER~~ ~~WALTER~~ ~~WALTER~~, the conductor, is included among those fronting for Communist sponsored causes. ~~BENNY~~ ~~BOURNE~~, the band leader and clarinet player has long been an ardent Communist sympathizer - but strangely only publicly since he has made a lot of money. JOHN LA TOUCHE the writer as stated in previous reports has long been close to the C.P. Some time ago when he married the daughter of Mr. GRIFFIS chairman of Paramount pictures it was pointed out that LA TOUCHE by virtue of his wife's money might be enabled to extend the scope of his Communist activities. A few days ago I noted in one of the columns that his wife is about to divorce him.

 b7c/b7d

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



LW:MBB

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

March 24, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KRAMER

RE: PAUL ROBESON; *pkw*  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*u*  
*g*  
In the Sunday Worker for March 22, 1942, in column 1, page 2, section 2, appears the following comment on the Browder case by Paul Robeson, "distinguished Negro singer:

".....There can be no more honest evidence of a sincere desire to defeat fascism, along with the sending of tanks and every possible aid to the Soviet Union than the freeing of Earl Browder, so that he may take his rightful place in the vanguard of the cohorts against fascism....."

Respectfully,

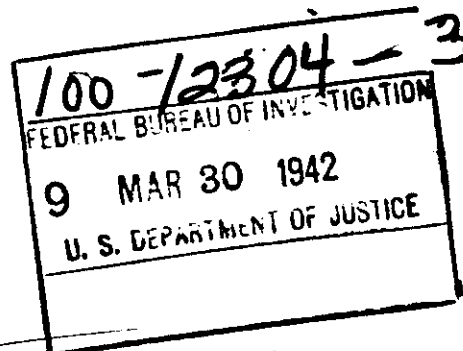
*Lish Whitson*

Lish Whitson

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Los Angeles, California  
April 3, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U.S.A.  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded with this communication a brown notebook apparently belonging to PAUL ROBESON, Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut, which was turned over to this office by [REDACTED] Pullman Company, Los Angeles, February 20, 1942.

It is believed that the book contains Chinese characters and it may be possible that ROBESON is learning this language; however, the book is being transmitted in order that it may be examined in the Bureau's coding section to determine if the letter may have any other significance. This may be returned to the Los Angeles Office after it has served its purpose unless it is of extreme value to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*  
R. B. HOOD  
Special Agent in Charge

RBH:hk  
Enclosure

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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RSG  
CUM 1/17/42

COPIES DESTROYED 8-1-58  
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

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100-12304-5  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
5 APR 9 1942  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
8



CK:rb  
100-12304-5

May 27, 1942

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles, California

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
District No. 13  
Los Angeles Field Division  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated April 3, 1942 in the above entitled matter with which you transmitted a notebook apparently belonging to Paul Robeson, which book contained numerous Chinese characters. Your letter stated that the same was being transmitted for translation of any significant information, further, that the same should be returned to you after it had served its purpose at the Bureau.

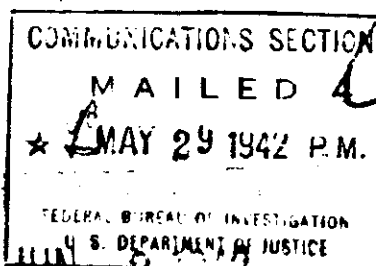
For your information, the Translation Section has informed that the material contained in this notebook is clearly of no significance to anyone other than its owner. In accordance with your request, there is being transmitted herewith the above referred to notebook.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin Enclosure  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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RECEIVED  
MAY 28 1942  
MAY 25 11 45 AM  
FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
JUN 9 1942

SUMMARY OF CHINESE WRITING IN BROWN NOTEBOOK

The writing in this notebook is evidently the notes of an occidental, probably a university student, who is trying to learn to read the Chinese language. The writing consists for the most part of a vocabulary list of 858 words, for each of which are given the Chinese pronunciation, the English meaning, and an improvised description of how the character is written in Chinese. The book is clearly of significance to no one other than its owner.

COPIES DESTROYED ~~67-58~~  
8-18

Summarized by:  
Herold L. Child  
4-24-42 w  
100-12304-5

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10  
100-12304-5

New York, New York

WES:LRG  
100-25357

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 19, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: PAUL ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the original and one copy of the report of Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted]

These reports dated August 25, 1942, pertain to a party and banquet given in honor of PAUL ROBESON at Camp Lo-Chi-Ca.

The following literature was obtained by Informant [redacted] at this party and banquet at Camp Lo-Chi-Ca:

One pamphlet entitled "Lo-Chi-Ca"  
Two pamphlets entitled "Lo-Chi-Ca Comics"

Copies of the above mentioned literature are being retained in the New York investigative file pertaining to this matter, and in addition a leaflet dated August 25, 1942, entitled:

"Dear Friends,

This has been a swell day for me. Thanks for the welcome, the songs, the entertainment and the gifts. Above all, thanks for the spirit, understanding and affection. The future rests well in your hands for you are expressing true democracy. I'm certainly proud to be your

RECORDED

INDEXED

Paul

On this mimeographed sheet also appears the typewritten word "Internally:" followed directly by a mimeographed signature of PAUL ROBESON. Informant advised in respect to this last mentioned mimeographed letter that PAUL ROBESON personally presented these mimeographed sheets to the people in attendance. This mimeographed sheet is also being retained in the New York investigative file pertaining to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures - 5  
cc - N.Y. file 64730

F. F. FOXBORNE  
Assistant Director

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
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PUBLICATION FILE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
39

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tuesday, August 25,

Attended a party and banquet given in honor of Paul Robeson at Camp Wo-Chi-Ca. There were banners on all of the buildings and tents which read "Welcome Paul Robeson" and "Paul Robeson Freedom's Fighter". When Paul Robeson arrived at the camp, the Campers gathered around him and sang a song of welcome specially written for this occasion.

He then was escorted to the Administration Building where there were more cheers for him and presented with a scroll from the children of the camp. During the presentation of the scroll by a young girl, he became so emotional that tears rolled down his cheeks. When the older folks saw this, many of the women were affected likewise.

There was a football game played by the campers in which Paul Robeson took part. At the banquet which followed he presented some of the children with medals for their achievements while at camp.

After the banquet, there was a show put on by the children in which they sang songs that were written by Paul Robeson. To show his appreciation, Paul Robeson then sang several songs requested by the campers.

Among the guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Dave Greene, N.Y. Stat secretary of the International Workers Order, Max Bedachet, national executive secretary of the I.W.O., Mrs. Ann Willard, director of the school for Democracy, Sol Vail, Youth Director of the I.W.O., Helen Yrabel, national secretary of the Youth Division of the I.W.O. Dr. and Mrs. Kaufman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Engel, Harold Wilson of the Harlem branch of the I.M.C.A., Mr. and Mrs. Matt Hall and Charlette Honig.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE  
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& INDEXED  
EX-8  
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REASON FOR 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11/26/90  
12



PAUL ROBSON

WOLFGANG PETERLIN

[illegible]

THE

Noel Larwood  
 Louis Robinson  
 Joan Robinson

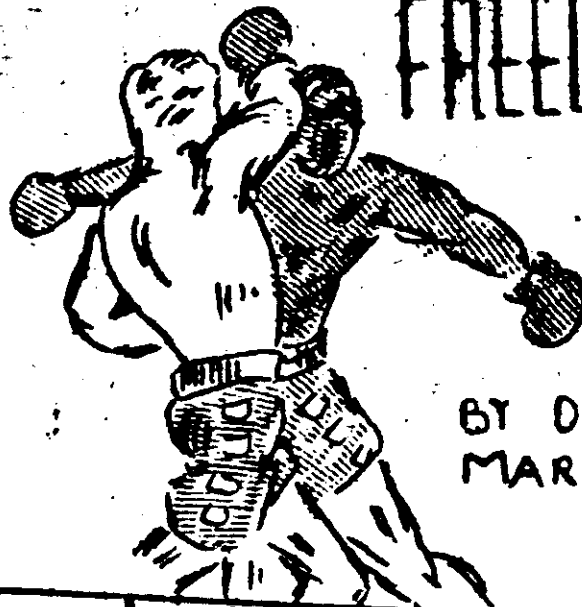
1. General Staff  
 2. Adm. Staff  
 3. Log. Staff  
 4. Legal Staff

**Gunnar L. Larsson  
Fredrik Nilner**



# NO REFUGIA

# JOE LOUIS, FREEDOM FIGHTER



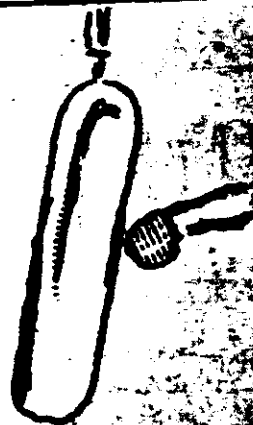
BY DICK  
MARKOFF

Joseph Louis Barron, known throughout the world as the world's heavy weight champion, is more than a boxer — he is one of America's leading freedom fighters, in the vanguard of the battle for a better world.

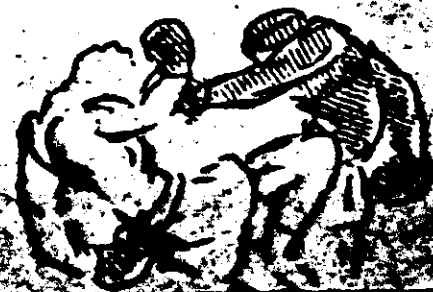
Louis' first bout was between him and a sparring partner. Joe took a terrific beating.



He became interested in boxing and trained himself in order to become a fighter.

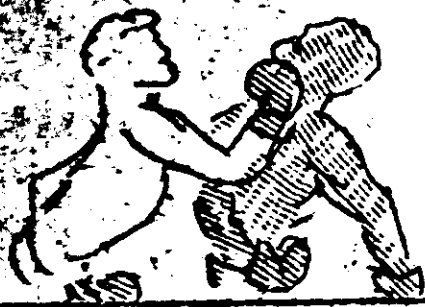


His 1st real bout was in the Golden Gloves tournament.

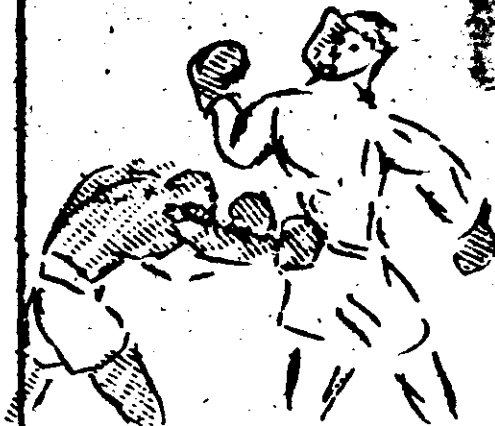




In Joe's first professional fight, he took a beating for the first five rounds.



In the sixth round Joe rushed his opponent, swinging with both hands and landing liver and body blows.

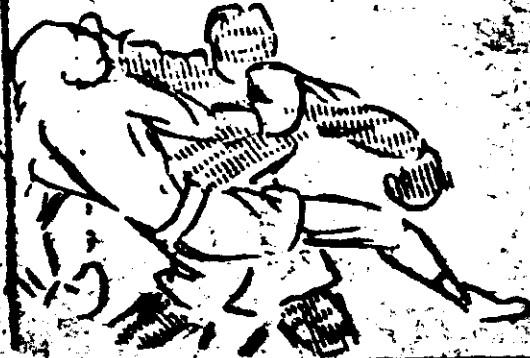


His opponent was caught off guard and was given a knockout.



He fought in many professional bouts, winning all his fights.

He fought against Jimmy Braddock in the championship fight -- winning easily.

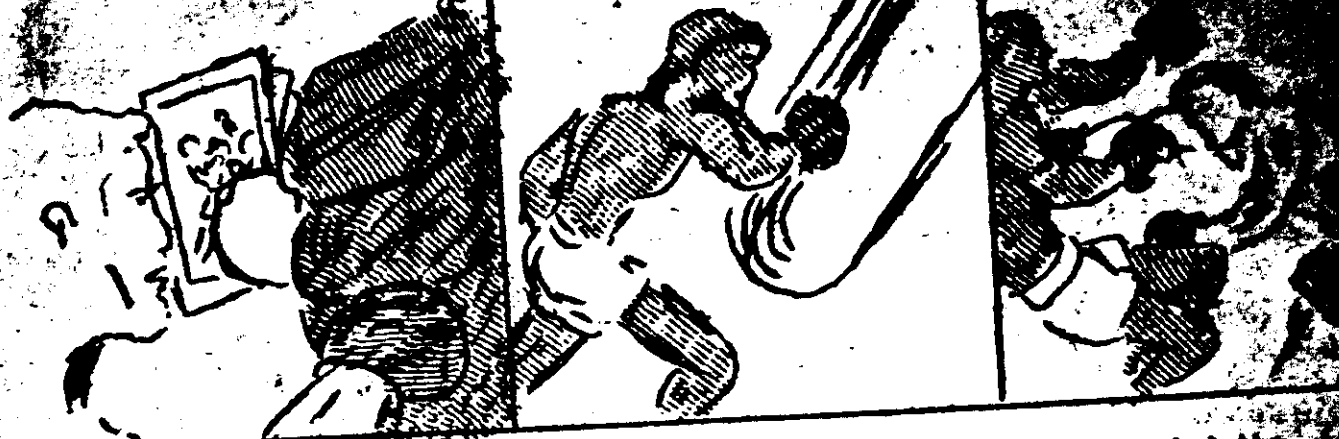




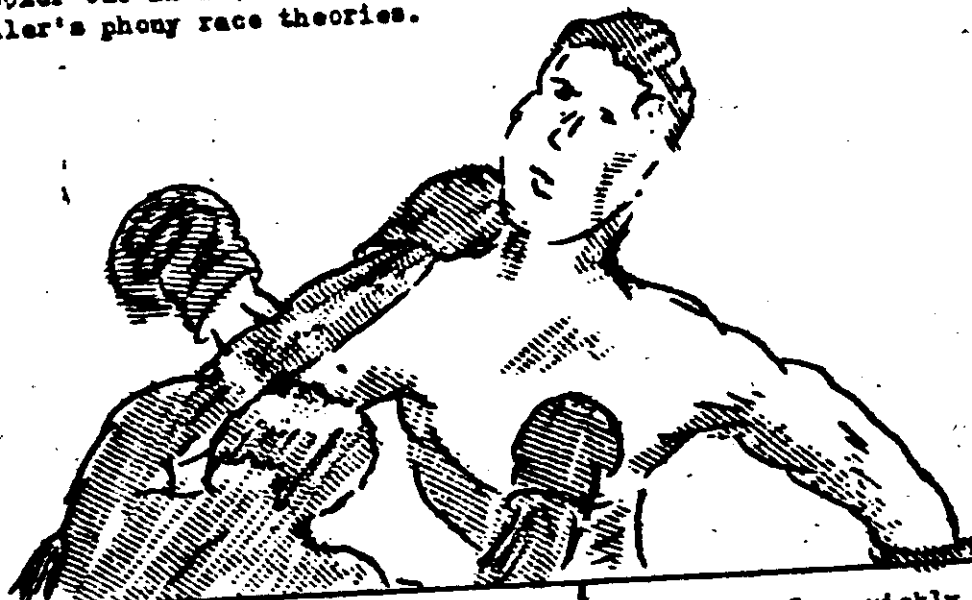
Schmelin studied pictures of Joe's boxing, before their fight.

While Schmelin learned Joe's weaknesses from the pictures, Louis trained in the usual way.

When the fight began, Schmelin prepared for every move of boxing Joe had made.

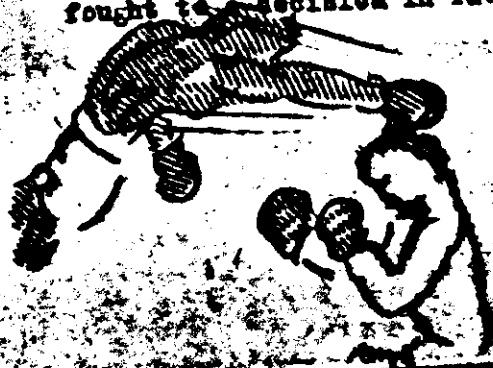


When he won this bout, Schmelin, slandered not only Louis, but the whole Negro people. Joe trained again--and in the return bout, he knocked the Nazi boxer out in less than a minute. With his fists, he gave a knockout blow to Hitler's phony race theories.



In his next fight--with Godoy--the champion didn't win with a knockout, because the South American's clever style of defensive crouching baffled Louis, who was expert in fast, open boxing. The fight was a decision in favor of Joe.

Joe quickly adapted his style. In their next fight, he easily beat Godoy, proving to his public that their clever combined smashing fists with a quick



Samuel's famous round-house  
proved futile against Joe's thundering  
clash.



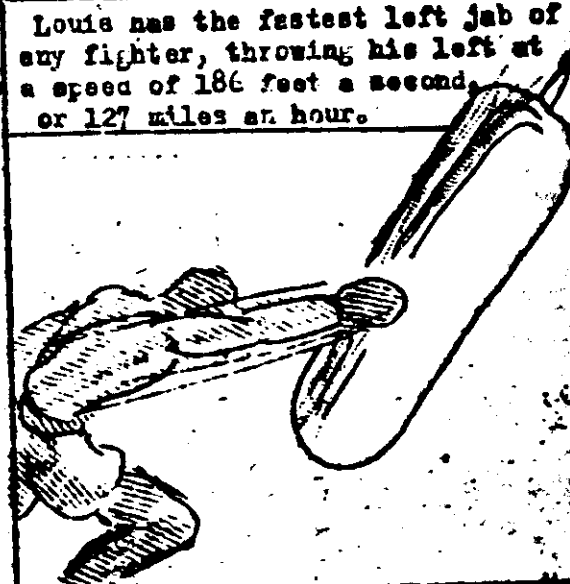
Louis was knocked down in the "eleventh"  
fight, but with the spirit of a true  
champion got off the floor to deliver  
the knockout punch to the bearbarrel.



No fighter ever showed more sportsmanship  
than Joe Louis. In the Conn fight, with  
Billy the Kid on the floor tripping, Louis  
could have delivered the knockout, but  
he let Conn get to his feet again.



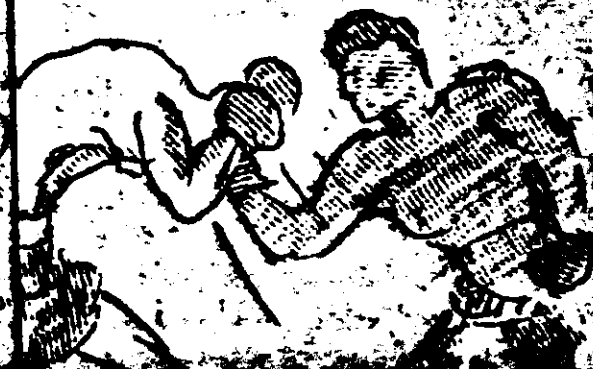
Louis has the fastest left jab of  
any fighter, throwing his left at  
a speed of 186 feet a second,  
or 127 miles an hour.



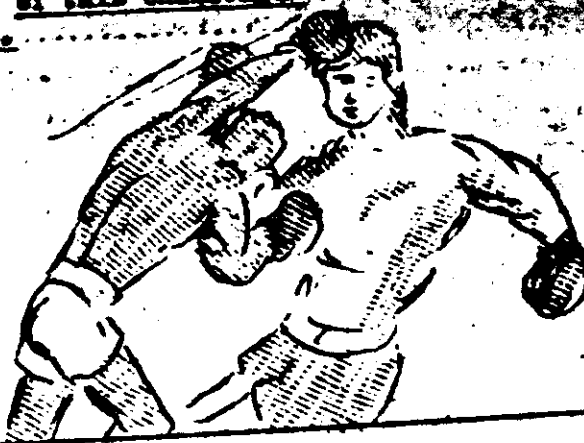
In his first fight with Buddy Baer, Louis  
was knocked out of the ring, but again  
went on to win  
the fight.



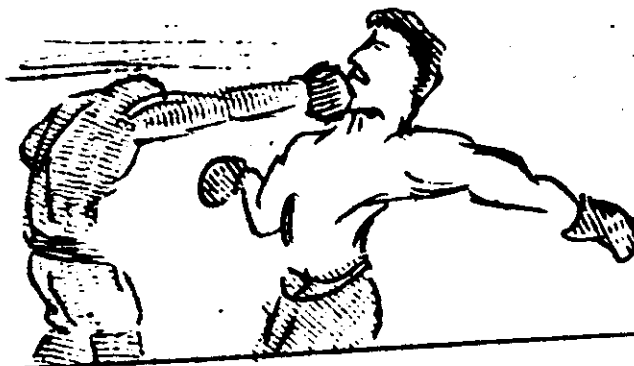
In their second meeting, Buddy Baer  
proved no match for the wise champion.



Lee Nova's "sacred" punch held no fears  
for Louis, who disposed of this challenger  
as easily as the others.



Abe Simon, a hulking fighter, also went the way of all  
flesh that opposed Joe Louis in the ring.



"THERE ARE LOTS OF  
THINGS WRONG WITH  
THIS COUNTRY— BUT  
HITLER WON'T FIX  
THEM" —

CORP. JOE LOUIS

# DAVE DORAN

Don't wait for  
the war.

by DICK MARKOFF

Well, that's it  
I got to Spain.  
Let's hear your  
story Dave.



I was living in New York when the war broke out here in Spain. They called it a civil war, but I saw in it a war for all humanity to fight — because Spain today is freedom's testing ground. If Hitler wins in Spain he won't stop till the world is his. On our shoulders, in our rights, in our determination lies the fate of a world.

When I got to Spain after the trip across the Atlantic, I enlisted in the Spanish Republican army, and was made a political commissar of the Abraham Lincoln Battalion.

Well, Dave, let's get going, it's time for guard duty.

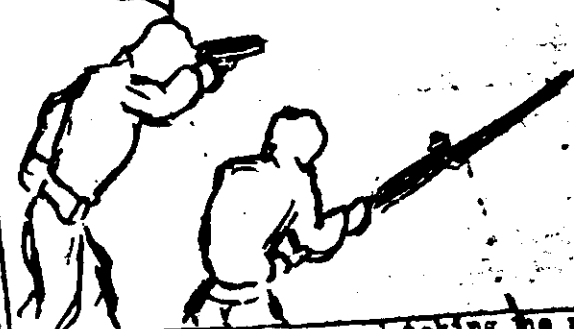
O.K.



The two men sit down to a game of cards.



What's that rumpus outside?



The guards capture a prisoner who they bring back to the post.



Dave Doran enters, and taking the prisoner aside, talks to him in Spanish.



Dave Doran lets the prisoner go.

I think I should like to help to bring back the entire regiment.

Hey! He's letting my prisoner go free.

I hope it works, Dave.

I'm sure it will.

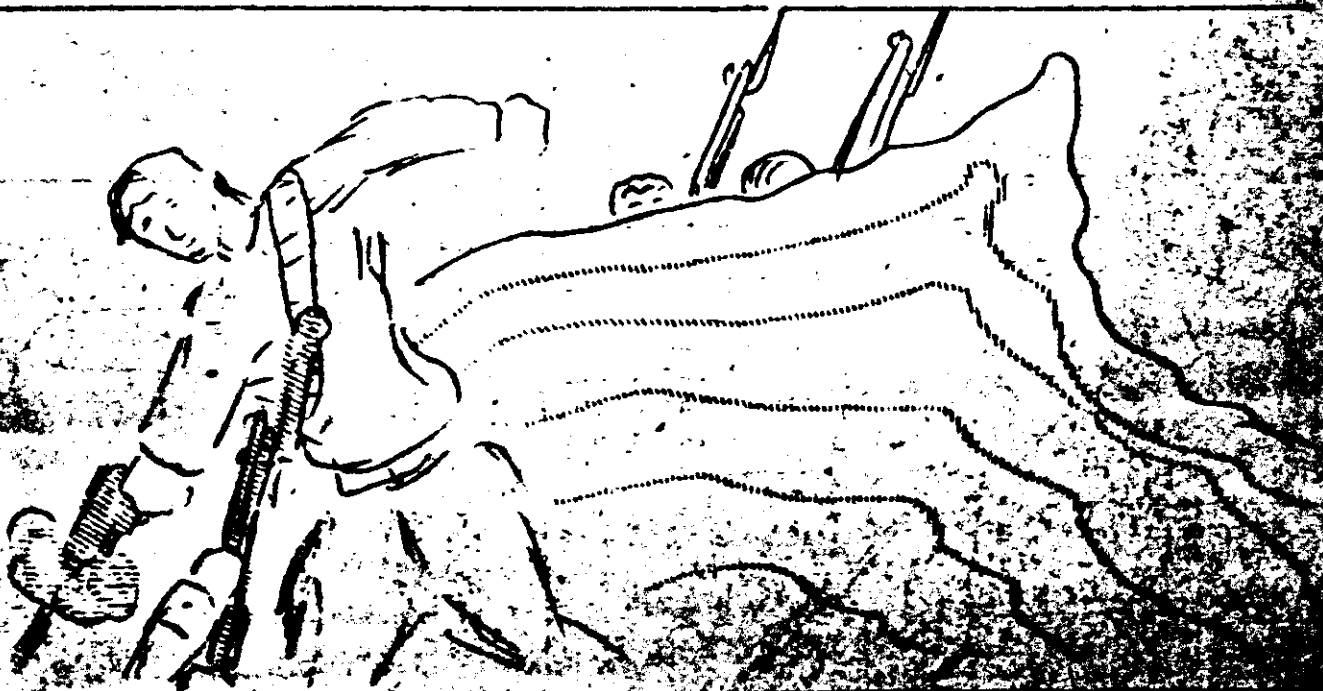
HOURS LATER

Look, they're attacking by the hundreds.

No, they're surrendering -- Dave's trick worked.

Dave Doran continued in the fight for the freedom of Spain and the world. One day a bullet ended his life. To Dave Doran -- we say Farewell, Beloved Comrade --

THE FIGHT WILL STILL GO ON!



# WO-CHI-CA REVIEW

Flash back over  
fourth period

NO COMMENT  
NEEDED!



Confused over those  
maneuver rules.

Staff 'molders'  
campers twice.



Our new 'waitress'  
in pants. -- RGY



11



# The Story Of DORIE MILLER

While Dorie Miller  
was a sailor,  
he could not rise  
higher than the  
position of messman  
of his ship.

Dorie is down below  
in the galley.

I wish I  
was fighting  
like the other  
men.

The  
ship's  
hit.

At once he  
rushed to join  
the fight.

We're  
attacked!  
I've got  
to help.

As Dorie  
reaches the  
deck.

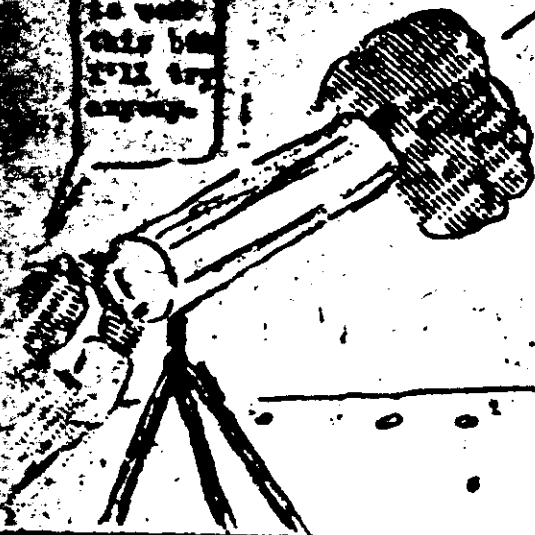
Get back to  
the galley.  
You're only  
a messman.

Suddenly

You're  
hit!

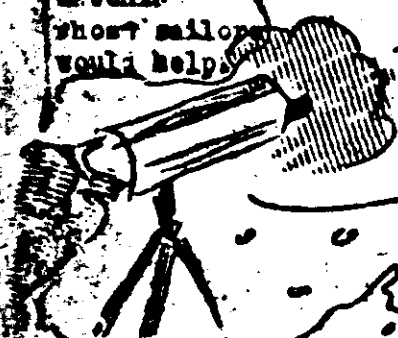
He carries the captain  
to a safe place.

I don't  
know how  
to use  
this gun  
I'll try  
anyway.



Marie continues to fire  
begging many Japanese  
planes.

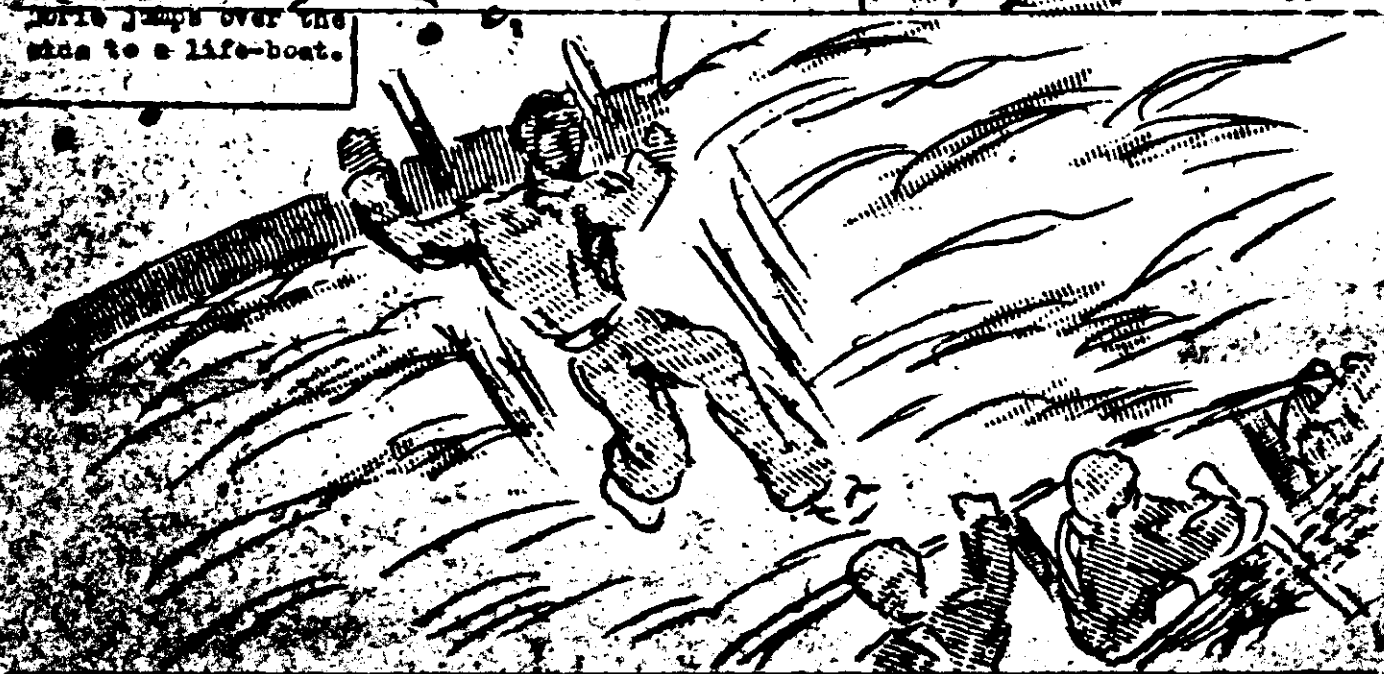
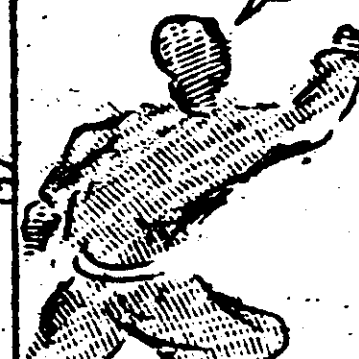
I know  
what  
those sailors  
would help.



Marie jumps over the  
side to a life-boat.

The ammunition  
runs out.

Oh, oh,  
my ammu-  
nition's gone.





He leaves the ship  
to go back to the sink-  
ing ship and rescue the  
captain.

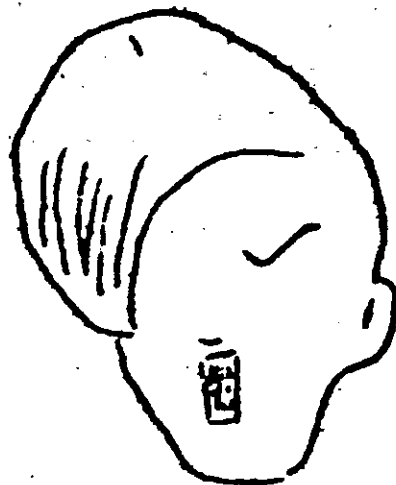


And I give  
you the con-  
gressional  
medal of  
honor in  
recognition  
of heroic  
service.

I think that the  
way to win this war  
is to have evrybody  
pitching in -- black  
and white, Let's end  
Jim Crow wherever it  
is and we'll wipe  
the axis off the  
face of the earth.



# WHO READS THE JOURNAL-AMERICAN



Adolf — This wonderful newspaper resembles the Deutscher Beobachter so much, that I find it hard to choose between them at my ersatz breakfast.



Frankie Magner — The Journal American is the only newspaper that will print the truth.

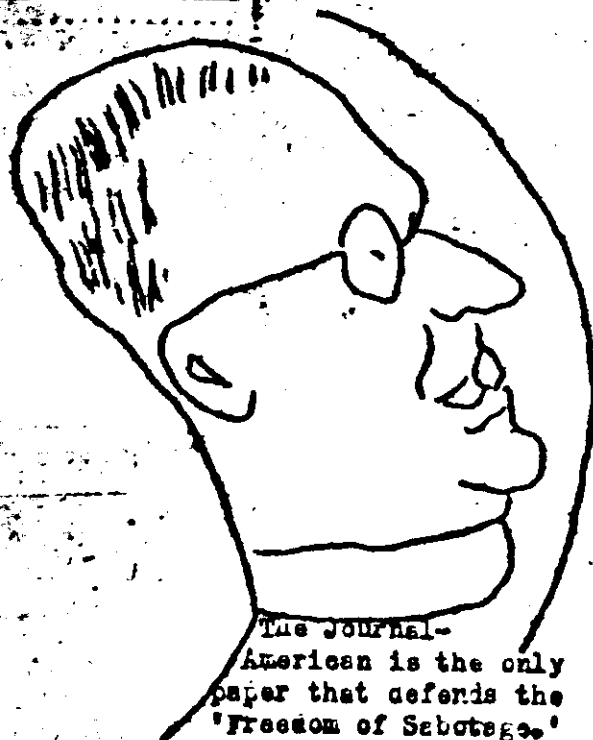


Frankie Magner — It's the only newspaper that gives a clear picture of events in Jersey City the way I see them.

85

# MORE READERS

Wally Goughlin



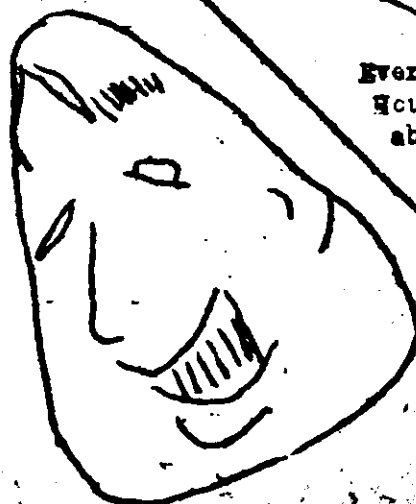
The Journal-American is the only paper that defends the 'Freedom of Sabotage.'



Ever since reading the Journal-American I have been able to do away with at least 25% of my spy service.

WEE WILLY HEARST

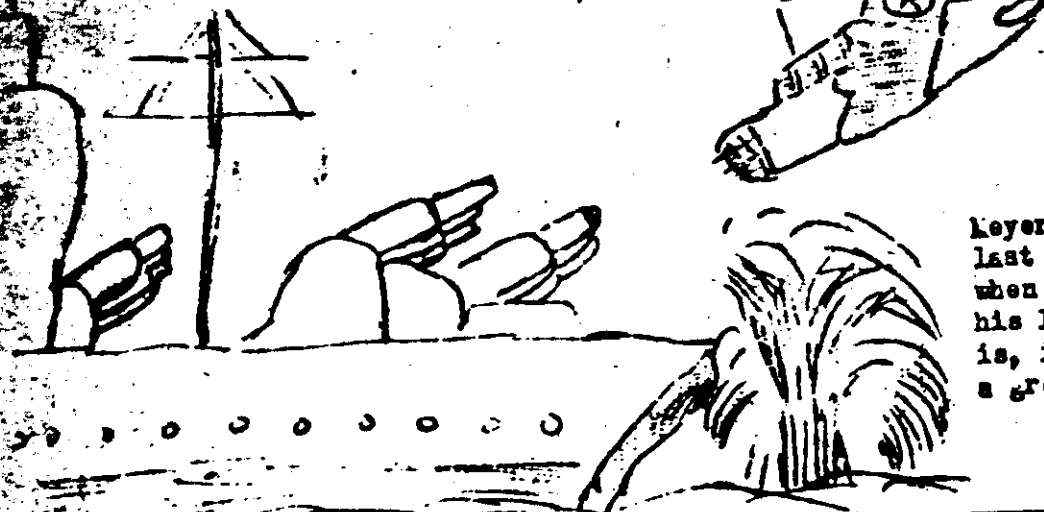
My readers have said all there is to say -- but I want to say that my 50 personal copies a day practically double the circulation.



# MEYER LEVIN

COLIN KELLY'S BUDDY —

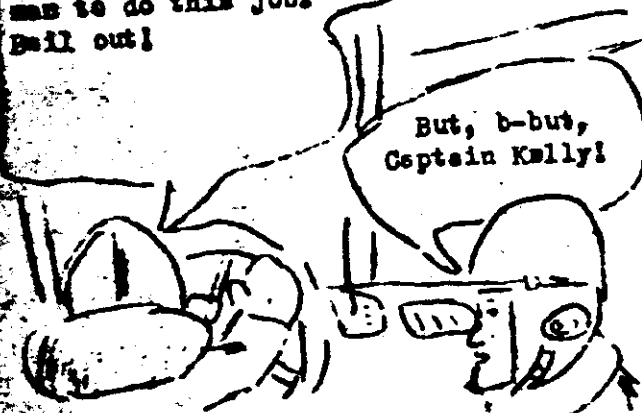
by Leslie Rubinstein



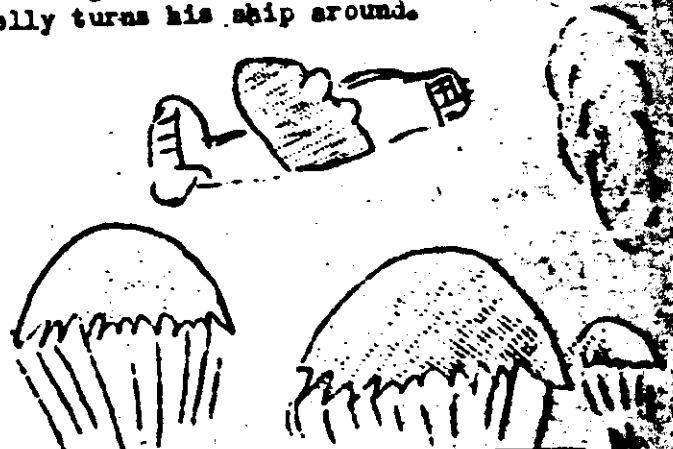
Meyer Levin was the last one to bail out when Colin Kelly made his last great trip. He is, in his own right — a great freedom fighter.

Meyer, it takes only one man to do this job. Bail out!

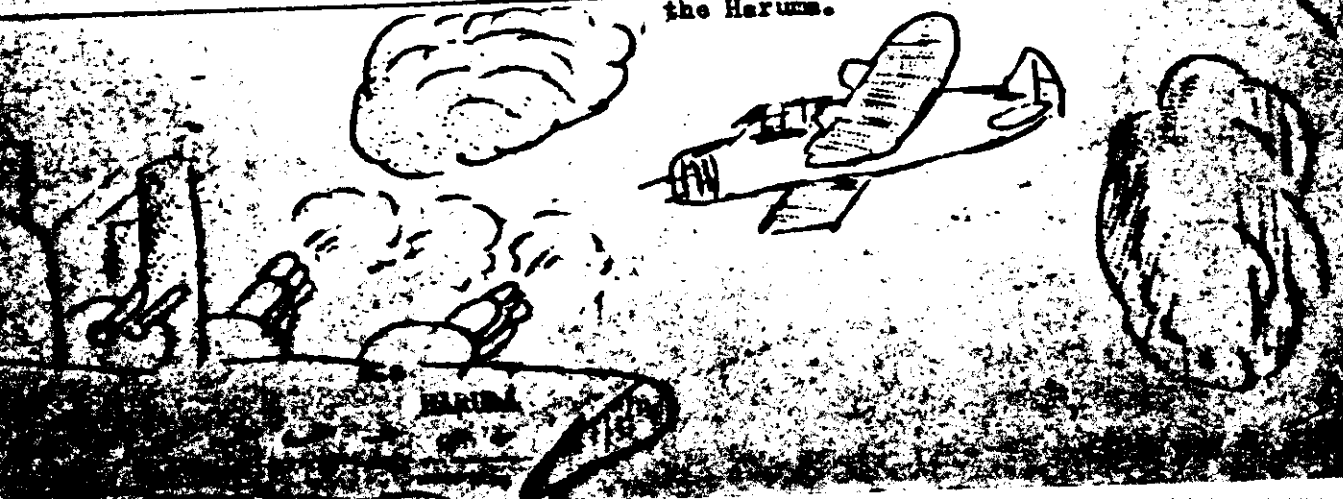
But, b-but, Captain Kelly!



Ordering his men to bail out — Colin Kelly turns his ship around.



Kelly dives his ship at the Harums.



And after I bailed out,  
I saw Captain Y. L. : his  
plane at the battleship. He  
never came out of that dive.

...receiving the  
congressional medal for her husband's  
heroism.

In the spirit of  
Colin Kelly, Meyer  
Levin continues  
his bombing raids.

One day, Levin sights a Japanese  
battleship, and prepares to attack.

...diving ... Kelly dumps his bombs on ... battle ship, but is unable to pull out of the ... dive, and is caught in the blast.











VOL. 1- NO. 3

AUGUST 25, 1942

CAMP WO-CHI-CA

NEWSPAPER - GUILD PUBLICATION

# — THE — WO-KI-MAG

EDITORIAL: THE SECOND FRONT. SERIES OF LETTERS.

---Penny Mair; Martin Waldman,  
Lenny Strauss.-----page 2

LETTER FROM THE SOVIET CHILDREN-----page 4

"... do not let the Nazis get you down,  
brave comrades..." Joan Lifschitz  
--- page 6

HE WAS THE FIRST-----Arthur Nadel-----page 7

HOW WE CAN FIGHT, TCC-----Frances Murray---page 7

MY WINTER CAMP-----Terry Chansis-----page 8

## DEDICATED TO FREEDOM-FIGHTERS

### EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: MARGUERITE MAIR

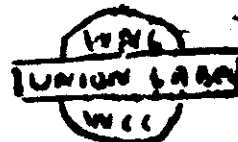
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Ruth Towber

AUGUST 1942



PUBLICATION FILE 369

33

WO-CHI-CA'S FREEDOM SONG

Clasped hands, black and white,  
 Joined together for a common fight.  
 With voices raised loud and strong,  
 Singing a new and living song.

We sing of how free children live,  
 With the end of hate, the birth of give;  
 With the right to teach the truth to all,  
 To build together for Hitler's fall.

Neither hate nor oppression, to war the  
 plan,  
 Our life is a progressive and worthy span;  
 This is the goal we're striving for--  
 A better world---forevermore!

K.M.S.

Mae Smibert, of our kitchen staff, wrote this poem, expressing why Wo-Chi-Ca's Freedom Fighters strive for Victory. Mae is the daughter of Al Smibert, who fought for freedom while he was alive by working to make this camp for worker's children a better place to live in.

Today we fight for a better world to live in.  
 Our fight will end much sooner in the Victory of the People's Rights  
 if we OPEN UP THAT SECOND FRONT!

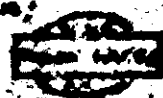
Four of our campers--Lenny Strasse, Whitey Waldman, Terry Chansis and Peggy Mair--have written a series of imaginary letters which appear on the following pages. In these letters, they have imagined that they were three FREEDOM FIGHTERS--a Salt Line worker, a soldier, and a woman in the French Underground. They have written the letters that these people might write to our President; first--asking for the urgently needed SECOND FRONT; secondly--showing their reactions when the SECOND FRONT WILL BE OPENED. LET'S FIGHT TO MAKE THESE LETTERS COME TRUE!

# EXTRA!

DATE: MARCH 17, 1945

LOCATION: NOT FOR MUSEUM

## VICTORY BULLETIN



# 2nd FRONT IS OPEN!

The people of the world rejoice today at the news that our armies are now fighting for freedom on a **SECOND FRONT!** THE **SECOND FRONT IS OPEN AT LAST!** Your daily "Victory Bulletin" brings you the reactions of three Freedom Fighters to this wonderful news, as these reactions are expressed in letters to our President.

V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...V...

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you this letter from a shell hole in a German forest. I have been fighting all day and this is my first rest period. Despite the fact that I am dirty, tired, and hungry, I have an irresistible urge to continue fighting. That is because I believe in this, the peoples war. This second front was made possible because enough people wanted it, and said they wanted it.

Yesterday we marched through the German city of Dell, capturing it after a long hard battle. Tears came to my eyes, and to those of many other soldiers, as we watched the haggard population stand in the streets looking at us. They were sullen and forlorn, and their glassy eyes, set like broken beads in their expressionless faces, seemed to look right through us. They were miserable people, for years ground down by fascism. WE ARE GLAD TO BE AMERICAN SOLDIERS, FIGHTING TO FREE THE WORLD FOR ALL MEN.

YOURS FOR

VICTORY,

SGT. MARTIN

WALSH

DEAR

MR. PRESIDENT:

As soon as the ARMY landed every man, woman and child took up arms against the Nazis. I can't say in words the joy the second front brought to our people. Do you know what it means to be saved---to find hope? We of the underground had worked night and day since France fell, sabotaging, fighting. And now we are full of new faith and courage. As the soldiers marched thru the streets once more or faces smiled; we cheered and yelled and several people, hungry, tired and disillusioned, ran to join the fighting ranks on the battlefront. The second front has brought us the help and inspiration to culminate the war in 1942.

Now we see clearly the path to victory. No, it is not a path of words alone. We need even more work---more guns, food, clothing. America, you have not failed us. We on the battlefront in Europe will not fail the world; between us and the Russian people Hitler will be crushed like an insect.

Yours for Victory,

ALDOUS HUXLEY (T. S.)

*Camp Wood Co.*

# VICTORY BULLETIN

No. 1

August 2, 1942

Third Year

## DEMAND GROWS FOR 2nd FRONT

Dear Mr. President:

I am an American draftee in his second day in the army. I think I should write you this letter expressing my feelings. I gave up my printing job, left my relatives and friends, stuck my car in the garage, kissed my girl goodby, and left for camp. But don't get me wrong, I'm glad to be in this man's army; it's really swell. What gets me down is Hitler and company. I'd love to get a crack at that gang. I'd like to fight on a new battlefield with our Russian allies. Mr. President, I'd like to fight on a second front.

Doubtless you have received many letters urging the opening of a second front. Letters from all kinds and classes of people; letters written with the blood of dead soldiers and civilians; letters praying you, begging you to do what I ask of you: OPEN UP THAT SECOND FRONT NOW, BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE; BEFORE MANY MORE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO DIE.

1942 Lortin (Whitney) Wal...

In the mess hall, on the company bare-----No-Chi-Chi's citizens re-sent the demands heard in London's Trafalgar Square. They, with all the peoples of the earth, fight for freedom, demand a Second Front. Today we print three letters addressed to our President by three Freedom Fighters.

V... V... V... V... V... V... V... V...

Dear Mr. President:

I am a belt-line worker in a production plant. Today, I make more money than ever before. The money is not as important as the feeling that I produce to fight Fascism. The opening of a Second Front would end the war sooner, and would wipe out my job. But I fight for a Second Front because in ending this war sooner it would bring Victory to the forces of democracy, and bring freedom to all the enslaved peoples.

As a Home-Front soldier, I most urgently request the immediate opening of the SECOND FRONT!

YOURS FOR VICTORY,  
Lenny Strang

## Free France Supports Second Front

Dear Mr. President:

I live in Paris. My husband was killed at the beginning of war on the Maginot line. At first, I despaired and was hopeless. But after the Nazis invaded France, and I saw my fellowmen sacrificing their lives in order that France might be free, I joined a woman's unit of the underground movement. Now I am the editor of "La Voix des Femmes", (the Voice of the Women), the newspaper of the women's underground. We have organized strikes and demonstrations for food, fuel and clothing--and we

strong have our united women been, when Nazis were forced to grant these things to us and our children.

I write this letter to you, Mr. President, urging and imploring your support for a Second Front, so that all the peoples of the world may be freed from the hands of the Fascists who have placed a yoke of slavery upon them. I am sure that you will place your support behind the women of France who are ready to die for their country.

from our fellow prisoners  
a message of friendship and hope  
Have faith: Our fight is the same

Dear faraway friends:

We are five, two girls and three boys. We are writing to you from the village of Sokolniki, in Moscow Region. You probably have never heard of our little village. It was the only one in our district to escape destruction by fire when the Germans came. Our army drove the invaders out, but the Germans worked terrible havoc before they were driven back.

You American children do not know what the Nazi army is like. We have seen them and we know. The Germans occupied our village after a fierce battle. As soon as their troops entered the village they drove us from our air-raid shelters. They ordered us into a barn on the outskirts of the village. "Those who don't go are liable to be killed," we were told. We all went.

The barn was crowded with people. It was a small barn, and there were many of us. The grown-ups and the boys sat silent, but some of the little girls and the babies cried. It was very cold. We didn't know what was happening outside, but we heard shells bursting quite near.

Suddenly a shell exploded right next to our barn. One girl—the sister of Valya and Myra Terentyeva, who are writing this letter with us, was killed by shrapnel, and several people were wounded. Our school teacher bandaged the wounds, but soon the bullets and shrapnel began falling so heavily that she did not have time to dress everybody's wounds before new ones were wounded.

A whole day passed and we were not allowed to leave. We sat there without food or water. The little babies cried from thirst and hunger. Another day passed, and another. Two of the babies died of hunger. After five days we were released. Our number was reduced by fourteen—twelve people killed by shells and shrapnel, two children dead of thirst and starvation, and twelve persons wounded. We carried out the wounded.

All of us want home, but Vasya Zenkin and his parents had no home to go to—their house and several others, were burned down. The school for deaf mutes was dynamited. This school had been built in our village only a short time before.

We went to our school, but we didn't recognize it. Our school had always been spic and span and very cosy. Now it was a real pigsty. The desks were smashed and the blackboards were broken, the floors were covered with the pages of our textbooks, torn up by the Germans. Other textbooks had been burned in a bonfire, although there was an ample stock of firewood in the school yard.

The German soldiers took whatever they liked, even if they had to drag clothes off a boy in the street. We were afraid to go out on the street in shoes, because those of us who did so usually returned barefooted. German soldiers took away our fur hats, the felt boots which keep us warm in winter, and our overcoats. They liked our brief cases, so the Germans used to stop us on the streets, empty our school books on the ground, and take away our brief cases. They were all sent to Germany. None of us has a brief case any more. They even took some of our toys.

Sometimes the Germans would just destroy whatever they didn't want or couldn't send back to Germany. There were beehives in Kuba Khiliev's garden. The Germans burned all the hives. When they returned

They burned down all the villages near ours. Ours was the only one which escaped. German officers sent three soldiers to set fire to our village before they retreat, but the peasants surrounded them and said, "Don't set fire! Our troops are coming!" The Germans were in a hurry to retreat and we scared them so that they went off to the next village, and ours remained standing, except some of the houses that were burned down earlier. For a long time peasants from the neighboring villages lived with us until they built new houses for themselves.

We have many orphans now, especially around the town of Istra, which is not far from our village. The Germans there killed many men and women who had children. Now these children are all alone. Our government opened a lot of homes for children whose parents were killed by the Germans. There are several homes like that in Moscow Region. The children built them themselves, repaired ruined buildings, made furniture, collected and mended everything, and live there now. People in the cities which are still safe from the Nazis sent toys and books and clothes for the orphans in these homes. Boys and girls, members of our Young Pioneers also helped in this work. Girls sewed clothes for orphans, while boys made toys for them. Boys even came from Uzbekistan, a part of Russia which is far from Moscow-- it is a district in Central Asia, near India. Orphans were adopted by people all over the country, too.

We felt terrible about the destruction of Istra. Istra was our favorite town, and we went there often. It was planted with lovely green trees. There is nothing left now, only a few burnt walls and chimneys. Everything else was destroyed.

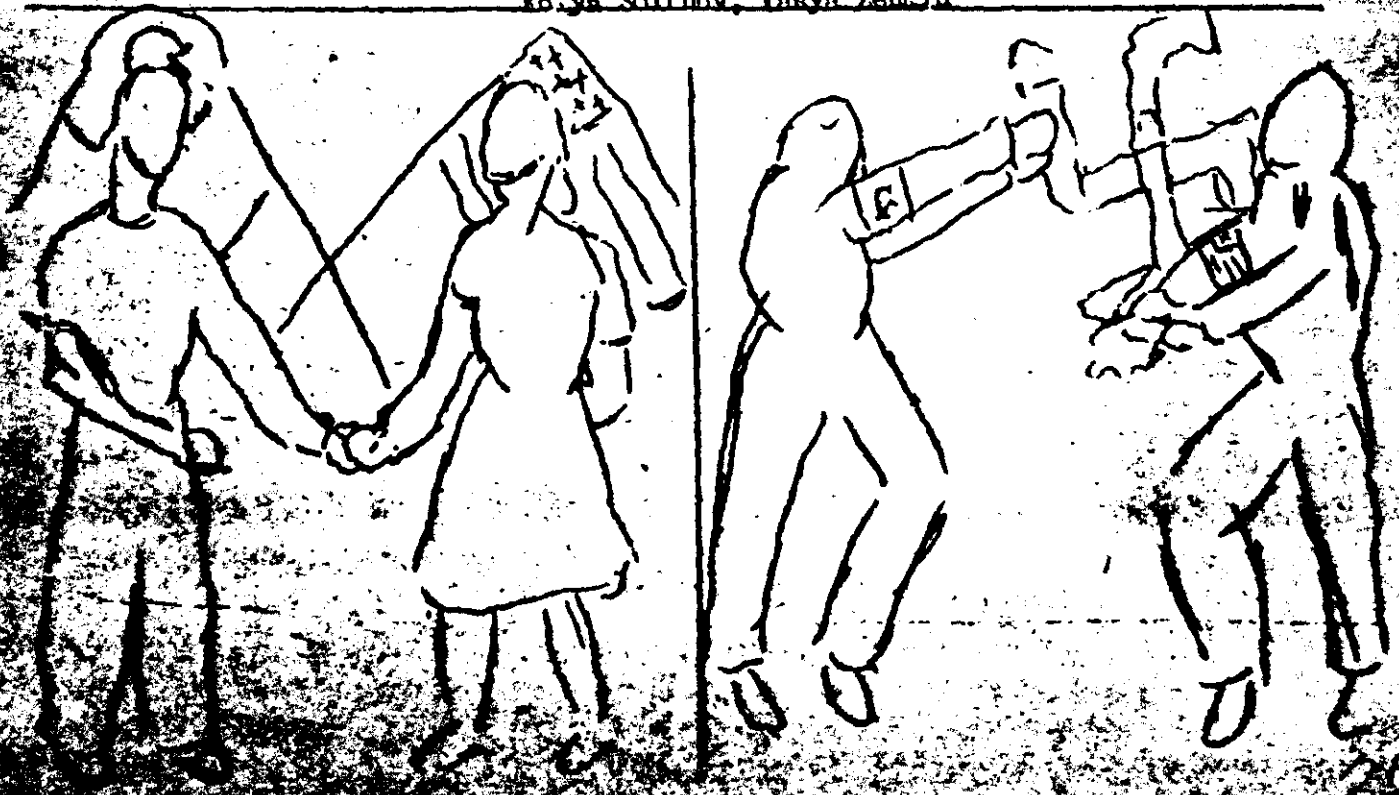
We are helping the grown-ups now. We work on vegetable gardens and in the fields, and have almost repaired the damage that the Germans did.

We will be waiting for your reply. Write us all about yourselves and your towns and cities, which we know only from pictures.

With best wishes,

Your friends,

Myra Terentyeva, Valya Terentyeva, Vitya Khrulev,  
Kolya Smirnov, Yasya Zenkin





*do not let the Nazis get you  
down, brave comrades*

To my friends in the Soviet Union:

We, here at camp Wo-Chi-Ca, have received your lovely and encouraging letter. Everyone here knows the solemn job your people are doing to win the war against the fascist tyranny of Hitler. Do you know Isabel Suda? Well, she came here to camp Wo-Chi-Ca and told what the brave children of the whole Soviet Union are doing. The little children here were so overwhelmed when they heard what the children who are the same age as themselves were doing to wipe out the Nazis.

We children of Camp Wo-Chi-Ca cannot do as dangerous jobs as you do because the war is not being fought on our own home front, but we are doing all we can. We know what is expected of us and do many things, such as: knitting for the armed forces of your country, my country, and the rest of our brave allies. We make things to send to our soldiers, such as games, checkerboards, etc. Different, gay things which they can hang on their walls. Also, we write letters to show them we think of them often. And, like myself, we are writing to the children of your country. You can soon expect many more letters.

Yet some people here in America say that we shouldn't help you and that we, America, will have to fight you after this war. But the people who say this are only some old cranks and big politicians; the majority of the people know what they are fighting for and want to do all they can.

I want to tell you something about Camp Wo-Chi-Ca. It is like the Soviet Union, only on a smaller scale. We all live as one here, black and white alike, cooperatively, knowing and understanding each other. Here we don't do things separately, but as a group. We, the children of Wo-Chi-Ca, of America, know that if the war comes to our own shores, we will move together as one group to wipe fascism off the face of the earth.

Soviet children, tell your people America will come to your aid with a second front, and the few old cranks and such can't stop us. When this war is over, and we have won, I hope all the children of the world can be one solid group.

Don't let the Nazis get you down, brave comrades, and your country and my country with our brave allies will fight to the bitter end until we win victory. If that is our aim, we will surely win.

So, it is V for Victory, and, even though the ocean separates us, I am,

Your fellow fighter and friend,

Joanie Lifschutz (age 12)

P. S. I forgot to ask, but I would like very much to hear from you again, so please write to me. My address is:

Joan Lifschutz

105-12 Cross Bay Road

Queens, N. Y.

## He Was the First: —

—Arthur Weiss

In a house somewhere in the United States lives a hero called "Dad" Jones. He got this nickname because his first name is Donald. Gardenia joined the air force because he wanted to beat Hitler. When this story begins, the day is December 7, 1941.

Gardenia was in his fighter plane, cruising along, a little north-west of the Hawaiian Islands. Soon he sighted nine Japanese bombers! He notified his commanding officer and got orders to intercept them. He pressed the button that controls the machine guns, and the guns on his right wing spit fire. One bomber went down. Another bomber entered the range of his machinegun sight.

Again he pressed that button. Another bomber went down. But fate wasn't all in his favor. One of the bombers got a luck shot and blasted his machine guns. Gardenia tried his shell gun, and hoped. This time he got another bomber, but his right wing was machinegunned, badly. The rest of the Japanese bombers fled. Thus the raid on Pearl Harbor could have been almost twice as bad had it not been for the alertness of Gardenia.

Gardenia Jones is a freedom fighter whom we should all know about. We children should try to help in the fight for Victory as much as we can.

## How We Can Fight, too: —

—Frances Murray

"Dad!" cried Dick, a young boy, about 12. "The salvage club offers tickets for the parade to the group that collects one hundred or more pounds of scrap."

"Is your gang in on it?" asked Dad.

"Why, certainly. My gang wouldn't miss anything like that. Besides, what's more important is that it is for Victory."

That week Dick's gang worked very hard every day. They went around to houses collecting scrap war material. Finally, after one week, they brought the scrap to the neighborhood salvage committee. Dick's gang had collected 180 pounds of scrap, and they got the tickets to the parade.

Other children in the United States can help the same way: by collecting metal, paper, rubber, dye, tinfoil, and other valuable war materials. Children can also buy war stamps, give to different war relief societies, and write to the President urging him to open a western front.

Everything you do—every piece of scrap you collect, brings Victory one step nearer for the Allies. If we do these things we show that we are truly freedom-fighters.





# My Winter Camp

Terry Christie

My parents decided to send me to camp. They didn't know what camp to choose, and, hearing about Wo-Chi-Ca, they decided to send me there—it was as good or bad as any other, they figured. I didn't want to go to camp. I had heard something about camps, and I thought I wouldn't have a good time at this Wo-Chi-Ca. They wouldn't let me go out or read joke books. Somewhere I also heard that Wo-Chi-Ca is an educational camp; who wants education in the summer when we have it all year 'round in school?

But I came to camp. First we were assigned to our counselors and bunkmates. Having decided in advance that I was going to dislike it thoroughly, I must have acted the part, because the girls thought I was snobbish.

.....  
I was at camp only a few days when my attitude toward life itself changed entirely. I learned, for the first time, how all people, regardless of race, color, or creed, live together as one large happy family, and gain from this relationship. I learned that Negro and white are equals, and that was something I never knew or had thought about.

Every moment of my time was spent in learning and enjoying wonderful new things—working for Victory and having a swell time doing it.

When the day came for me to leave camp I felt bad. But my counselor told me about an organization which was just like Wo-Chi-Ca. That organization, she said, is called the I.W.O., which stands for International Worker's Order. In fact, I heard some campers say that the I.W.O. was their winter camp.

As soon as I returned to the city I joined a lodge, and I am convinced that this is my winter camp. Just like camp, the I.W.O. consists of people of various nationalities. The I.W.O. is interested in the welfare of the community, cleaning up the slums, doing away with racial discrimination.

Today the I.W.O. is organizing labor for victory. They are starting various first aid classes and are collecting scrap for defense. Everything possible is done to speed up production, upon up that second front, and lick Hitler, so that all people may live in brotherhood.

Aside from this there are various social activities, such as folk dancing, square dancing, bugle and drum corps, arts and crafts, etc., for the young people. More and more lodges are being organized throughout the country. There is a lodge in your community, and I'll bet that the I.W.O. will be your winter camp, just as it became mine.

We freedom-fighters on the home front, the youth of America who want to see the end of fascism in 1942, so that we may go to build a better world for ourselves, can really do our part by joining an I.W.O. lodge and get going in our community for Victory.

For further information on the I.W.O. and its activities, see the following Counsellors: Dave, Labe, Edie, Natalie,

Meyer, Whitey.

They'll be glad to see you.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

N.Y. FILE NO. **100-25857**

RAA

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK CITY</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/8/42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11/17, 18, 19/42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
TITLE  <b>PAUL ROBESON</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ROBESON born April 9, 1898, Princeton, New Jersey. Attended Rutgers College on scholarships, receiving B.A. degree in 1919. Attended Columbia, afterwards receiving LL.B. Member of American Peace Mobilization, Citizens Committee to Free Harry Bridges, and International Labor Defense Committee, 1942, and other similar organizations. Signed petition for BROWDER'S release in 1942. Travelled abroad extensively. Sent his son to school in the USSR, because he thought boy could grow up normally there. Information from confidential informants pertaining to subject set out.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. & EXT. BY **SP5 RJG/clm**  
- P REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4. 2.3  
DATE OF REVIEW **11-20-90**

**DETAILS:**

The investigation in this case is predicated upon the fact that it appears that PAUL ROBESON is a member of a number of Communist front organizations.

advises that at a dinner which he attended on  at

During the conversation which followed, informant advises that the following remarks were made:

ROY HUDSON opened the conversation by stating that ROOSEVELT used the Army to reopen the "struck" plant but did not use his strength to force the employers to give the workers a square deal; that the employers wanted the workers to go back to work on a conditional defeat; also that even though the workers had to retreat, it did not mean an end to the struggle.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div>	SPECIAL AGENT <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">100-12304-17</div> <div style="font-size: 3em; font-weight: bold;">CONFIDENTIAL</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em;">12 10 1942</div>
1 - Bureau 1 - Capt. R. C. MacFall, ONI 1 - Col. S. V. Constant, G-2 2 - New York		
		RECORDED  INDEXED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Later in the conversation, according to the informant, ROBESON stated that he would sing in the Hollywood Bowl on August 21, 1941, and that the Texas Company had turned over its hour to assist in the selling of defense bonds and had asked him to go on the program. Continuing in his comments, the informant stated that ROBESON in substance said that his manager gave the Texas Company some sort of an excuse, because he, ROBESON'S manager, knew that ROBESON would not go on such a program. ROBESON also stated that Hollywood is just full of Reds and that he can do a lot of good out there.

ROBESON is said to have made the remark that he was working on a Communist moving picture, whereupon HUDSON replied that he had seen a cut of it and thought that the picture was very powerful, with good photography, although the material was fragmentary at this stage. ROBESON remarked that CHARLIE CHAPLIN started his picture and found himself in a period in which it might be termed radical.

Continuing, ROBESON stated that one of the most important things was to get the picture out without adverse publicity. He said that the financial problem is one of the greatest, but that he, ROBESON, was working on that phase of the question at the present time. HUDSON is said to have replied that the picture will be a powerful experiment as there never has been a movie like it before.

From the conversation which followed [REDACTED] states that ROBESON said that it was their intention to take the picture to Carnegie Hall and present it in conjunction with a concert. The concert would be the "blind." HUDSON is said to have replied that it would have a direct appeal to the labor, as they would be able to witness a gallant struggle for their own rights, and further, even if the picture would not now be a success, it must come out as there has been so much delay, and promises.

[REDACTED] noted during this conversation that ROBESON stated that the African Methodist Episcopal Church was the "lousiest" organized church in the country; further, that he was going to work with JOE and GRANVILLE HICKS, as well as ROCKWELL KENT, were mentioned, it being stated that one of them has a lot of appeal to the masses. b7

The informant advised that ROBESON is said to have a very good contact with the CIO people and will have numerous opportunities to contact MURRAY (probably PHIL MURRAY, President of the CIO). The name of QUILL (President of the Transport Workers Union) was also mentioned in this connection. [REDACTED] advised that HUDSON told ROBESON that the latter had made a great personal impression on MURRAY.

It was learned from this same confidential source that ROBESON stated at the above-mentioned time that he was going to do many work records through Columbia Broadcasting Company. HUDSON mentioned the WPA folk song collection, which was shelved by the reactionaries when war broke out. HUDSON said he had heard some of the records which were made and observed that ROBESON

43

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

should somehow get access to this material. To this ROBESON is said to have replied that he has contacts in the Library of Congress and will try to get this material and adopt it to the cause.

At this point ROBESON told how he sang a simple version of "John Henry" at the Ford meeting. He stated that all the listeners were very much impressed. It is to be noted that HUDSON remarked that "John Henry" will become the battle song of the Party and observed that it will replace the religious angle of the Negro spiritual with the correct appeal for the masses. At this point, according to [REDACTED] there was much laughing and joking about the "Star Spangled Banner."

Later in the meeting it was suggested by the unidentified Negro that an autobiography be written about PAUL ROBESON setting forth his life of strife for the enlightenment of the Negro race. HUDSON thought that a full-sized book would not be wise inasmuch as it would have to portray the beliefs ROBESON has, and such would probably prove unjust to the cause due to the feeling against the Party. It was agreed that a few articles setting forth the life of ROBESON would suffice at this time.

It was related by [REDACTED] that at this junction ROBESON told how his father, a minister, died when he, PAUL, was six years old; that they were living in New Jersey at the time, and ROBESON practically became an orphan from the death of his father. He stated that his father was born in North Carolina in 1843 and escaped from slavery at the age of fifteen via the underground system; that he went to Philadelphia, where he married a free Negress. ROBESON said that his mother's family looked down on his father's people as they were a poor Carolina type that scratched out an existence after the Civil War. ROBESON stated, however, that after his father's death the Carolina branch were the people who practically kept him from starving by sending a meager assortment of foodstuffs to him. He explained that this and the Spanish trouble, coupled with the refugee struggle of Austria, influenced his present stand and caused him to see his duty to the struggling poor of his race as well as other races. [REDACTED] advised that ROBESON remarked something to the effect that "Most people don't realize this, as they think of me as an all-American football player and a great and rich singer." ROBESON also said that it might be a good idea to put this struggle of his life before the Negro people.

According to this source of information, ROBESON is said to have stated that most of that which he is going to do for the masses is ahead and will take place in the next two years.

[REDACTED] advised that MARION HART, active member of the National Library Committee of the Communist Party, contacted ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and advised that she had a dinner party for PAUL ROBESON on March 23, 1942, at the Commodore Hotel, and that over one thousand people had attended.

[REDACTED] advised that on the evening of March 23, 1942, at a dinner party given by the Spanish Aid Committee at the Biltmore Hotel, New York City, in honor of PAUL ROBESON, Negro singer, ROBESON

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had made the greatest and longest speech of his career. [REDACTED] states ROBESON had been introduced as the greatest anti-Fascist of today and that ROBESON in turn had stated the keynote of the dinner by stating that "The greatest anti-Fascist, Earl Browder, is in jail." It is to be noted that [REDACTED] advised that the success of this dinner was indicated by the money contributed at the meeting by those attending, which was in the amount of \$10,000.

[REDACTED] advises [REDACTED] arrangements had been made for a meeting on April 2, 1942, at 3:30 p.m., at the apartment of HELEN ERYANT, 317 Fourth Street, New York City. The meeting was attended by ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and the following Negroes: MAX YERGAN, JAMES FORD, ROY HUDSON, PAUL ROBESON, and EDWARD I. ARONOW, who are members of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder. The purpose of this meeting, according to [REDACTED] was to draft a letter in connection with the Free Earl Browder Campaign. ROBESON'S personal stationery was used in sending this letter to approximately three hundred individuals, the majority of whom were located in Washington, D. C. [REDACTED] advised that the letter was signed by ROBESON and forwarded to friends and admirers of his in the United States and in various public offices. In this connection, [REDACTED] advised that the names of HARRY HOPKINS and HAROLD ICKES were mentioned.

It was determined from the information furnished by [REDACTED] that PAUL ROBESON is co-author, along with DR. MAX YERGAN, of a book entitled "The Negro and Justice."

On April 3, 1942, it was determined from [REDACTED] that LOUIS WEINSTOCK, ROY HUDSON, PAUL ROBESON, JAMES FORD, MAX YERGAN, and EDWARD I. ARONOW actually drafted the letter referred to above, and it was taken to Washington by ARONOW.

[REDACTED] advised that TRACHTENBERG has related that PAUL ROBESON was desirous of accompanying the delegation that would deliver the letter in Washington, and that inasmuch as ROBESON had been speaking to many Negroes he would be one of the delegates to meet with the Attorney General.

It was learned from [REDACTED] that MARION HART contacted TRACHTENBERG some time between March 23, 1942, and April 2, 1942, and advised that the dinner held at the Biltmore Hotel in honor of PAUL ROBESON, which was given by the Spanish Aid Committee on March 23, 1942, had been a great success. He stated that she regretted the speech given by ROBESON had not been recorded in some way, inasmuch as this speech was the best and longest that ROBESON had ever given. MARION HART advised, according to [REDACTED] that she had not seen ROBESON since 1926, but that he had recognized her in spite of this lapse of time, and that she had conversed with him at length, believing that he was a wonderful man. According to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] MARION HART stated that ROBESON did not leave "Hellman's" (probably LILLIAN HELLMAN) until 1:45 a.m., and that he had then gone to another meeting. TRACHTENBERG inquired as to whether this meeting was with MAX YERGAN, to which MARION HART replied in the affirmative.

On [REDACTED] it was learned from [REDACTED] b7D that ANDREE EMERY (she is the wife of HUDSON) made arrangements with individuals, some of whom were MAX UNGER, JAMES FORD, and PAUL ROBESON, as regards a birthday party to be held at 21 West Tenth Street, the home of ROY HUDSON, for PAUL ROBESON and ROY HUDSON on April 8, 1942. [REDACTED] advised that MAX YERGAN, PAUL ROBESON, AL LANNON, EARL ROBINSON, BEN DAVIS, and JAMES FORD, accompanied by their wives, attended this party.

From [REDACTED] it was learned that LOUIS WEINSTOCK, Chairman of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder, contacted JAMES FORD of the National Headquarters of the Communist Party to advise that one MILTON, who is connected with the Citizens Committee, communicated with him, WEINSTOCK, on April 21, 1942. He advised that a large hall in Washington, D. C., had been reserved for a celebration on May 20, 1942, which was EARL BROWDER'S birthday, and that they had wanted PAUL ROBESON, noted Negro singer, to participate in that rally. JAMES FORD advised that ROBESON was at that time in Nashville, Tennessee, but that he, FORD, would contact ROBESON as soon as the latter returned to New York City to ascertain whether or not ROBESON would be able to participate in the meeting.

The following is included in this report from information submitted by [REDACTED] as it is believed to be relevant and pertinent to the activities of PAUL ROBESON:

A memorandum dealing with the National Negro Congress bears no identifying heading or other information to show its origin, being dated "Tuesday" and headed "The Proposed National Conference of the Negro Congress." The writer, whose name is not given, sets out the belief that it would be inadvisable and incorrect to convene either in national convention or conference of the National Negro Congress or generally to try to revive or to build it up as a national organization. He points out that while the National Negro Congress played a successful and important role formerly, now it has been unable to adapt itself to conditions and to re-group and strengthen its forces and influence, and that for many reasons it is not the proper organization for uniting and mobilizing today and drawing masses of the Negro people in active support of the national war effort. This writer points out, however, that unlike the American Youth Congress or the American People's Mobilization it is possible for the National Negro Congress unofficially, and through many of its leaders, as individuals, to play a leading role in helping to rally and unify the Negro people and to help to crystallize a powerful mass movement of a national front character with the main objectives of promoting national unity and the national policy. The writer points out that many of the leaders of the National Negro Congress are men of great prestige and great political influence. He suggests that instead of

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

46

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

working to call a national conference of the National Negro Congress, it would be timely and feasible to initiate a broad national conference of the Negro people and their main organizations for the purpose of mobilizing the Negro people for the national war effort. He suggests that such a conference might best be sponsored by individual leaders, representative spokesmen of national unity among the Negro people. Included in this should be such people as PAUL ROBESON, MAX YERGAN, EARL B. DICKERSON, ROBERT WRIGHT, and others.

[redacted] advised further that on April 23, 1942, JAMES FORD and an unidentified individual, who was recently in Nashville, Tennessee, were informed that PAUL ROBESON spoke on the campus at Nashville and that many fine contacts had been made at Tuskegee, Alabama, and Nashville, Tennessee.

[redacted] advised that PAUL ROBESON is a member of the following front organizations:

Member of the National Council of the American People's Mobilization

Member and sponsor of the Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges

Sponsor of Assembly for Justice to National Minority

On May 2, 1942, it was determined from [redacted] that an unknown individual contacted ANDREE EMERY, at which time he advised he was trying to arrange for a mass meeting for the Russian War Relief to be held on the 27th of May, 1942, but at that time had been unable to get in touch with LITVINOFF. This unknown individual also advised, according to the informant, that at that time he was anxious to see MAX YERGAN concerning PAUL ROBESON, whom he would like to have sing at the meeting above mentioned.

[redacted] furnished the information that PAUL ROBESON was one of the main sponsors of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder and also furnished a short resume of his background as follows:

PAUL ROBESON, singer, member of Chicago Emergency Peace Mobilization, 1940, contributor to the "New Theatre" (Communist Party theatre magazine); visited Soviet Union as an ardent admirer of Communism.

It was ascertained from [redacted] that the problem of India's freedom is one in which the Communist Party is taking an active interest, which fact can be seen from the prominent figures who gathered on September 2, 1942, to discuss this question at the meeting which was called by the Communist Council on African Affairs [redacted]

At this meeting it is to be noted that PAUL ROBESON, along with MICHAEL QUILL, CHANNING TOBIAS, and MAX YERGAN, spoke.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

47

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] advised that at Camp WO-CHI-CA there were present during July of 1942 260 children of members of the Communist Party vacationing at the camp.

[REDACTED] advised that displayed on a bulletin board on the campus is an honor roll of the boosters of the above-referred-to camp. Some of the names on the honor roll were MAX YERGAN, ANNETTE RUBENSTEIN, and PAUL ROBESON.

[REDACTED] advised that at a meeting held on Sunday, August 30, 1942, of the New York State Convention of the Communist Party at Manhattan Centre, at 34th Street and Eighth Avenue, an announcement was made requesting that the audience attend two rallies which were to be held during the week of August 30, 1942. One of these rallies, the rally to gain "freedom for India," to be sponsored by the Council on African Affairs, with offices at 1123 Broadway, announced that it would have as its speakers PAUL ROBESON, MAX YERGAN, and MICHAEL QUILL. b7E

On Monday, September 6, 1942, a rally was held at the Central Park Mall under the auspices of the New York State CIO, in cooperation with the USO. At this rally there were approximately seventy-five persons present. Several of the speakers were JOSEPH CURRAN, President of the Greater New York Industrial Union Council; SIDNEY HILLMAN, President of the Amalgamated Workers Union, CIO; and others. After all the speeches had been delivered, PAUL ROBESON sang the song, "Ballads for Americans" and the Russian song, "From Border to Border," which he sang in Russian.

From [REDACTED] it was ascertained that on August 18, 1942, a MRS. LAURENSEN (possibly the wife of JACK LAURENSEN, Vice President of NMU) discussed the question of the new seamen's relief organization with an unknown woman at NMU. At this time MRS. LAURENSEN stated that the organization would be known as the "National Marine Emergency Relief Organization" and that MISS JULIE STEIN, of Room 317, Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, was doing all the organizing work; further, that MISS STEIN has the personal endorsement of JOSEPH CURRAN, PAUL ROBESON, and others.

It is noted that [REDACTED] advised that in addition to the above, STEIN related that the proposed organizations would be composed of five union heads, such as CURRAN and SHEIDY, and would have nothing to do with the organization set up by Admiral LAND or individuals other than unionists.

It was ascertained from [REDACTED] that on August 21, 1942, DAVE GREEN of International Workers Order contacted FERDINAND SMITH and requested the latter to go to the International Workers Order camp for children. It was at this time GREEN also advised that PAUL ROBESON would be at the camp, which is named WO-CHI-CA.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 48



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] HELEN BRYANT conferred with JOE CURRAN, at which time she stated the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee would give dinners at the Hotel Astor on October 20 and 27, 1942. On this date it was stated that the Committee desired to secure PAUL ROBESON as a speaker.

[REDACTED] relates that a cablegram dated April 3, 1941, to the Inner-Continental News, from World News, 57 Walter House, Strand, London, urgently requested May Day messages of two hundred words each from ROBERT MINOR, PAUL ROBESON, and other people of prominence in the Western Hemisphere. It stated that the message should reach London not later than April 8 and should be regarded as one of great importance.

From [REDACTED] it was also learned that "The Negro and Justice—A Plea for Earl Browder" is a pamphlet written by Dr. MAX YERGAN and PAUL ROBESON, published by the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder, 1133 Broadway, New York, in November, 1941. This pamphlet contains the speeches delivered by ROBESON and YERGAN at a mass meeting at Madison Square Garden on September 29, 1941, under the auspices of the Citizens Committee to Free Browder.

[REDACTED] has submitted information in regard to the motion picture, "Native Land." From this source it was learned that this motion picture is receiving copious reviews in the New York press. It advises that "Native Land" is obviously a Communist project. It is produced by the Frontier Films, which is a Communist instrumentality; it is directed by PAUL STRAND (Communist) and LEO HURWITZ, who has many Communist connections. The commentary is written by DAVID WOLFF, is spoken by PAUL ROBESON and an avowed Communist, and the music is by MARG BLITZSTEIN, Communist song writer. It is noted that this picture, which was filmed over the last three years, purportedly includes scenes that portray violations of civil liberties in the United States. The informant advises that the picture deals with the struggle of the American pioneers with Fascism, the struggle of labor unions against company spies, and the gallant fight against HITLER.

[REDACTED] advised that on July 2, 1941, the American Council on Soviet Relations held a rally in Madison Square Garden, at which time approximately eight thousand people attended. Several individuals spoke, among those being CORLISS LAMONT, SERGEI KOURNAKOFF, a former Czarist cavalry officer, CHARLES KUNTZ, President of ICOR, and PAUL ROBESON, who spoke briefly on the needs for aiding the Soviet Union, in addition to singing several songs.

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that the informant was in receipt of information from Vancouver, British Columbia, stating that PAUL ROBESON, prominent American Negro singer, who recently appeared in Vancouver, is reputedly a member of the Communist Party, and that it is stated that at that time he had two sons in the Soviet Union studying under the auspices of the Soviet Government. This source also advised that the first person

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 49 ←

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

to telephone ROBESON when the latter was in Vancouver under the auspices of the Hilar Attractions was one HAROLD PRITCHETT, who, according to the informant, was refused a visa by the American Consulate at Vancouver upon the ground that he had failed to show that he was not a Communist, [REDACTED]

According to this source, later PAUL ROBESON was visited by representatives of the Civil Liberties League, which organization, [REDACTED] is said to include in its membership wives of well-known Canadian Communists and is alleged to be Communistically controlled.

An examination of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated November 14, 1942, at New York City, entitled "CONGRESS OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP," at pages 22 and 23 reveals the following information pertinent to subject:

At the mass rally "Salute to our Russian Ally" held at Madison Square Garden on Sunday afternoon, November 8, 1942, with PAUL ROBESON representing the entertainment field, PAUL ROBESON was dramatically introduced to the crowd, when all the lights were extinguished and it was stated that the next person to be heard would be "the voice of the anti-Fascist." At this time, spotlights were directed on the stage, bringing ROBESON into view. He stated, "I am an anti-Fascist. I am an American. I am a Negro." ROBESON proceeded to read a letter which had been written by a twenty-seven year old Red Army soldier who stated he was continually marching westward for freedom. ROBESON stated he did not know the fate of the soldier who wrote this letter, but the mere fact that he had written the letter made him "my friend and yours." ROBESON then sang two songs, namely, "His Motherland" and "From Border to Border," each of which was sung partly in English and partly in Russian. It is noted that the ovation given to ROBESON at the time of his introduction and at the conclusion of his musical offering was perhaps the most voluminous of the afternoon.

From this report it is also ascertained that ROBESON stated that the response to the Congress had been even greater than was expected. He said that every place he appeared in the United States and had mentioned friendship with Russia and had sung the "Red Army Song," the audience had literally "broken it up." ROBESON stated that the work of this Congress must continue; that this was only the beginning. He called on everyone to do his work today by assisting the next speaker, whom he introduced, who was THOMAS L. HARRIS, long associated with the American Committee for Friendship with the Soviet Union and the American Council on Soviet Relations, as well as a faculty member in 1942 at the School for Democracy.

The following is an extract from Who's Who in America, volume 20, for the year 1938-39:

Paul Robeson, born Princeton, New Jersey, April 9, 1898; A.B. Rutgers College, 1919; LL.B. Columbia, 1923; married ESLANDA CARDOZO GOODE, August 17, 1921. Concert tour, Europe, 1926-28; concert tour of Europe, 1931, 38;

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

50

*Elaine Cardozo Goode*

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Russia, 1936. Star of feature part in motion pictures "Emperor Jones," "Showboat," "King Solomon's Mines," and others. Member of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Psi Alpha, and Sigma Tau Delta. Picked by Walter Kamp as all-American in 1918. Home: 19 Buckingham Street, London, England; Address: Metropolitan Bureau, 113 West 57th Street, New York City.

The following is an extract from Current Biography, dated 1941, found on pages 716 and 717:

When Robeson left Columbia he was taken into the office of Louis W. Stotesbury, a Rutgers man and a prominent New York lawyer. He has made films for British as well as American producers, having for a long time made his home in England because he found less race prejudice there than in the United States.

The racial problem is one that Robeson has studied thoroughly. It was racial discrimination as much as his own acting ability that caused him to give up his career as a lawyer. He sent his son (in 1921 he married Eslanda Cardozo Goode) to school in the USSR because he thought the boy could grow up normally there, and in January, 1941, Robeson, with four other Negroes and five whites, was suing a San Francisco restaurant, because, they asserted, they had been refused admission. Robeson also frequently speaks out on political issues in which he feels his race is deeply involved. In the Summer of 1940 he was opposing conscription, speaking for peace—later, urging all Negroes in the industry to join the United Automobile Workers of America in their Ford organizing drive. Even later, speaking and singing at benefits for aid to Britain, China, and the Soviet Union, he has been called irradical.

From Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, a party was given on August 25, 1942, in honor of PAUL ROBESON, at Camp WO-CHI-CA. There were banners on all of the buildings and tents which read "WELCOME PAUL ROBESON" and "PAUL ROBESON'S FREEDOMS FIGHTER." He then was escorted to the administration building, where there were more cheers for him, and he was presented with a scroll from the children of the camp. During the presentation of the scroll by a young girl, he became so emotional that tears rolled down his cheeks. When the older folks saw this, many of the women were affected likewise. There was a football game played by the campers in which PAUL ROBESON took part. At the banquet which followed, he presented some of the children with medals for their achievements while at camp. After the banquet, there was a show put on by the children in which they sang songs that were written by PAUL ROBESON. To show his appreciation, PAUL ROBESON then sang several songs requested by the campers. Among the guests present were MR. and MRS. DAVE GREEN, New York State Secretary of the International Workers Order, MAX REDACHT, National Executive Secretary of the IWO, MRS. ANN WILLARD, Director of the School for Democracy, SOL VAIL, Youth Director of the IWO, HELEN VRABEL, National Secretary of the Youth Division of the IWO, and DR. and MRS. KAUFMAN, MR. and MRS. ROBERT ENGEL, HAROLD WILSON of the Harlem Branch of the YMCA, MR. and MRS. MATT HALL, and CHARLES HONIG.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 51

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The indices of the New York Field Division indicate that PAUL ROBESON, whose address is 565 Edgecombe Avenue, New York City, is a member of or connected with the following organizations or movements:

1. The American Peace Mobilization, National Council, 1940
2. The American Rescue Ship Mission, sponsor, 1941
3. The Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges, member and sponsor, 1941
4. Committee for the Release of International Volunteers in Spanish and French Prison Camps, endorser, 1941
5. Negro Committee to Aid Spain with the Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democrats, sponsor, 1937
6. The American Peace Mobilization for Marcantonio, guest of honor, 1941; also sponsor of the same movement in 1941
7. Assembly for Justice to National Minorities, sponsor, 1941
8. Committee Defending Rights of Communists to be on Ballot, signer, 1941
9. Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democrats, National sponsor, 1938
10. American Committee for Democratic and Intellectual Freedom; signed petition sponsored by above organization to discontinue the Dies Committee, 1941
11. Signed petition sponsored by Citizens Committee to Free Browder, March, 1942
12. United American Spanish Aid Committee, sponsor, 1942
13. International Labor Defense, National Committee, 1942
14. Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, speaker at dinner on October 27, 1942

It is noted that there is comment in the following issues of the Daily Worker relative to PAUL ROBESON:

November 4, 1937, on page 7  
 January 24, 1938, on page 4  
 January 24, 1938, on page 7  
 February 4, 1938, on page 1  
 May 16, 1939, on page 1  
 December 12, 1939, on page 2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

52

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In the November 4, 1937, issue, at page 7, it is noted that PAUL ROBESON is quoted as saying, "When I step on to a stage in the future, I go on as a representative of the working class. I work with a consciousness of that in my mind. Joining unity theatre means identifying myself with the working class."

In the Daily Worker of May 16, 1939, on page 1, PAUL ROBESON points out that there is no discrimination in Soviet circles and that his son, who attended school in Russia, got a cultural advantage there.

From a highly confidential source it was learned by Special Agent [redacted] on October 21, 1942, that PAUL ROBESON wrote the hereinafter quoted letter dated September 28, 1942, in connection with activities of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade: b7c

"Dear Friend:

In the prisons and concentration camps of Vichy France, hiding out in huts and villages, dodging the Gestapo day and night, are thousands of the staunchest fighters against fascism. The last time I saw many of them they were fighting on the side of Republican Spain against fascism. Today, they live only in the hope of striking another blow at our common enemy. They look to us alone for help.

Hitler fears the inspiring leadership that these outstanding fighters will give to the people of the Continent when the Allies launch a Second Front. He is determined to exterminate them, as witness the present intensified wave of arrests and reprisals. We must be equally determined to rescue them.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee during the past year alone paid passages for more than 200 of these tried, indomitable people. Funds which it provided recently enabled 23 Yugoslavs to escape their jailers in France and to rejoin their brothers in the Yugoslav guerrilla army. Many others who were aided are in the ranks of the British Commandos. Scores more are serving on all fronts, from Britain to the Egyptian desert.

Now the Mexican Government has granted thirty-eight new immigration visas. Sixty more are expected within a few weeks. Boats are still sailing from Lisbon and Casablanca to Vera Cruz. We can and must rescue these people while we have this opportunity!

I have complete confidence in the ability of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee to secure the return of these wonderful people to the anti-Axis fighting fronts. The Committee requires \$88,640.00 for transportation and to assist others in France for whom we do not yet have visas.

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These are not ordinary people for whom I appeal. They are men who can and will strengthen the anti-Axis forces in this hemisphere and in Europe. Won't you send your contribution immediately? Won't you send all you can - today?

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Paul Robeson

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UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

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THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City, will, from time to time, continue to report current information on the subject as reflected through confidential sources of information.

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IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The confidential informants referred to in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, dated December 8, 1942, are as follows: b7c

- T-1 New York file 100-4931, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA;
- T-2 INTERNAL SECURITY - C; ESPIONAGE (R)
- T-3 New York file 100-26603, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA;  
DISTRICT NO. 2, NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION; INTERNAL SECURITY
- T-4 New York file 100-28715, entitled NATIONAL MARITIME  
UNION OF AMERICA; INTERNAL SECURITY - C
- T-5 New York file 102-1, entitled COMMUNIST PARTY, USA;  
VOORHIS ACT
- T-6 New York file 65-4309, containing Office of Naval  
Intelligence memorandums
- T-7 New York file 100-7518, entitled American Council on  
Soviet Relations
- T-8 New York file 54-144, serial 1568, entitled COMMUNIST  
PARTY, USA; NEUTRALITY ACT

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RWB:AKR  
1/12/43

Date:

To: Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith  
Chief, Special War Policies Unit  
War Division

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PAUL ROBESON  
New York, New York

There is being transmitted to the Division of Records under date of January 12, 1943, a copy of the following report containing the pertinent information presently available in the files of this Bureau with respect to the above-captioned individual:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 8, 1942, at New York City, entitled "Paul Robeson, Internal Security - C."

It is recommended that this person be considered for custodial detention in view of the existing emergency. It will be greatly appreciated if you will advise this Bureau at your earliest convenience as to the decision reached in this case.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 1  
cc - Assistant Attorney General  
W. H. Borge P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
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RECEIVED READING ROOM  
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JAN 12 7 51 PM '43

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 14 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5 RJG/CM  
57

52 JAN 30 1943

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Detroit, Michigan  
February 19, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: PAUL ROBESON;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

Attached to this letter is an article clipped from the Michigan Chronicle under date of February 6, 1943, entitled, "Paul Robeson Reviews History of Negro Race."

It is thought that perhaps this article, which sets forth the result of an interview with ROBESON, may be of some interest to the Office which may be directing an investigation of an internal security nature on ROBESON.

Inasmuch as it is not known by this Office which Field Office is conducting such an investigation, the attached material is being furnished the Bureau.

It may be mentioned that the Michigan Chronicle is a local Negro newspaper of a decided Communistic vent.

Very truly yours,

*John S. Bugas*  
JOHN S. BUGAS  
Special Agent in Charge

COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-58  
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LEL:NAK  
Enclosures (2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

11/10/80

SP-5 ROBESON 11/15/83

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58

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# Paul Robeson Reviews History Of Negro Race

By JEANETTA WELCH

"The history of the American Negro is a great part of the history of America, and I am delighted that a week devoted to the life and achievements of these people is to be celebrated in your city and state. It may well serve as a model for the entire country." These words were spoken by Paul Robeson, the great Negro baritone singer to members of the Citizens' committee who visited him in his suite at the Book Cadillac hotel last Sunday. The committee acquainted Mr. Robeson with its plans to celebrate Negro History week February 7 through February 14. The famed artist appeared here in a concert at the Masonic Temple Friday under the auspices of Nellie Watts.

"The traditions of the Negro in this country are rich in those democratic virtues which Americans hold dear—humanized in the deeds of such American heroes as Crispus Attucks, Sojourner Truth—Frederick Douglass, the 369th, Dorrie Miller—and our heroes on various battle-fronts in this world-wide conflict.

"As you know—all my endeavors have been based upon an intense pride in being a Negro, and in playing a part in the cultural life of my people.

"I have immeasurable belief in their future and in the contribution

they can make, if given full opportunities, to building of a truly democratic America."

Mr. Robeson said that he began a fight for the rights of Negroes in England. That instead of 15 million black people being denied full access to opportunities, there were 150 million in Africa. That although he was accorded all the courtesies of an English gentleman, there were those of his group who were denied these privileges. He mentioned having met and discussed race problems with Winston Churchill and Sir Stanford Cripps in person.

When asked about his life in Russia, and whether he intended to live there again, Mr. Robeson said that he never did live in Russia, but visited there many times while living in England. And that while in England he did not encounter as much discrimination as he did in America, yet when he went to Russia, he found no discrimination at all. This made a great impression on him, but he felt no duty to remain in Russia, but to come home again and work for the same kind of freedom he experienced there, to become a reality here.

Mr. Robeson said the thing that impressed him most about the Russian people was that in a single generation they had learned to love

and work for their government because it belonged to them. That out of chaos and ignorance they had built colleges and universities, they had freed their women, and they had tolerated no kind of prejudice against any of their people. He said that the Russian people feel a kindred with the Negro people, or any people that are oppressed, for they remember that once they, too, were bitterly enslaved.

Answering the question, if he intended sending his son back to Russia to live, Mr. Robeson answered, "No," that his son is now in the midst of selecting a school to attend here. He is interested in civil engineering, and while he might, if possible attend some graduate engineering school in Russia as they have excellent engineering schools there, yet he feels that his place is here, and that he can make a contribution. When asked what his son thought about the discrimination in America, Mr. Robeson said, that his son thought it "stupid." After having once been among people who lived together amicably regardless of race, creed or color, it was stupid to think that it could not be done here. Mr. Robeson said that the main reason for taking his son to Russia, was that he "wanted his boy to feel freedom."

When Paul Robeson was here in

1940 he predicted that one of the main theatres of war would be waged in North Africa. When asked Sunday why he had made that prediction at that time even before America had entered the war, Robeson said that it came from knowledge of events that were taking place in England, and in France, knowledge gained in traveling in England and Africa. He called Africa the "breadbasket" of the world.

Upon being asked to make future predictions about the theater of this war, without hesitation he said, "Africa and South America." He also said that the future of America is in Africa, and that the great question facing America today is "What are we going to do about these colored peoples?"

Mr. Robeson paid tribute to Negro general, Eboue, head of the Free French Group in South Africa.

He expressed great pleasure having been to Detroit, and is on his way to Canada then to New York to receive the Abraham Lincoln award. This award is given each year by the Abraham Lincoln high school in Brooklyn, N. Y., to outstanding achievements of the year's candidates were Gov. Lehman, Irving Berlin and Robeson with Robeson winning the award.

*The Michigan Chronicle*

2/6/43

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SEP 28 1973.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSG/CM

ENCLOSURE

100-12307-7

59

JCM:mwm  
100-12304

April 30, 1943

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a custodial detention card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

ROBESON, PAUL

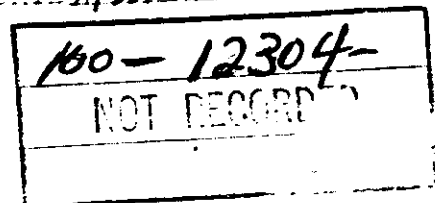
Native Born

COMMUNIST

565 Edgecombe Avenue  
New York, New York (Res.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/30/80 BY SP5 RSG/cll

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 YER  
MAY 14 1977



The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Custodial Detention Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

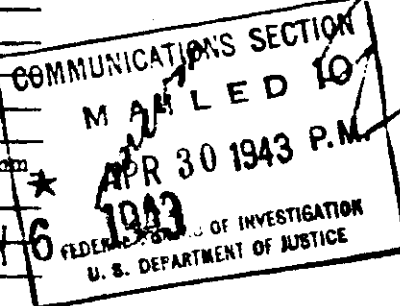
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. McGuire  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Piper  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



59 MAY 6

60 JEM

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**United States Department of Justice**

Washington Field Office, 1435 K Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

MCO:JAG  
100-0

August 26, 1943

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

Re: PAUL ROBESON  
Security Matter - C

*67c/67D*  
[REDACTED], advised an agent of this office that recently an unidentified woman related information to her concerning PAUL ROBESON.

According to the unidentified woman, a colored man who has worked for the woman's husband a number of years told her husband of having been solicited by another Negro in Washington to join the Communist Party. The soliciting member is alleged to have said, by way of attempting to influence the other man, that PAUL ROBESON, the singer, is a leading figure in the Communist Party, and is at the present time actively attempting to influence the Negroes of America to Communism.

Very truly yours,

*Guy Hottel*  
GUY HOTTEL  
Special Agent in Charge

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*R-18*

CC New York

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DATE *11/30/80* BY *SP-5 RSG/ewm*



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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

510 Trust Company Building  
New Haven, 10, Connecticut

October 16, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: Mrs. PAUL ROBESON  
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Dear Sir:

At present Mr. and Mrs. PAUL ROBESON are residing at Enfield, Connecticut, and it has come to the attention of the New Haven Field Office that Mrs. ROBESON has mailed letters addressed to NIHRU, leader second to MAHATMA GHANDI, in India.

Please advise whether or not the Bureau has any information regarding the activities of Mrs. PAUL ROBESON as regards Communism.

Very truly yours,

*Roger F. Gleason*  
Roger F. Gleason  
Special Agent in Charge

JHC:MB  
100-8032

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RECORDED

November 1, 1943

SAC, New Haven

MRS. PAUL ROBESON  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to your letter dated October 16, 1943,  
requesting a search of the Bureau's files concerning the above  
captioned individual.

Please be advised that Bureau files contain no information  
relative to the Communistic activities of Mrs. Robeson.

Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. E. A. Tamm .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Glavin .....  
Mr. Ladd .....  
Mr. Nichols .....  
Mr. Rosen .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Mr. Carson .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Hendon .....  
Mr. McGuire .....  
Mr. Mumford .....  
Mr. Quinn Tamm .....  
Mr. Nease .....  
Miss Gandy .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 2  
★ NOV 1-1943 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5 RSK/ML

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for  
file  
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Mr. Tolson ☒  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒  
 Mr. Clegg ☒  
 Mr. Coffey ☒  
 Mr. Glavin ☒  
 Mr. Ladd ☒  
 Mr. Nichols ☒  
 Mr. Rosen ☒  
 Mr. Tracy ☒  
 Mr. Acers ☒  
 Mr. Carson ☒  
 Mr. Harbo ☒  
 Mr. Hendon ☒  
 Mr. Mumford ☒  
 Mr. Starke ☒  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm ☒  
 Mr. Nease ☒  
 Miss Gandy ☒

# F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

DECODED COPY

FROM: NEW HAVEN 11-8-43 NR 081820 2:38 PM EWT

DIRECTOR  
 PAUL ROBESON, SECURITY MATTER C. [REDACTED]  
 ADVISED THAT PAUL ROBESON, HIS WIFE AND SON WILL BE ENTERTAINED  
 AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, THIS DATE.

RECEIVED: 11-8-43 2:45 PM EWT EFT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 11/20/80 BY SP-5 RJB/DM

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

510 Trust Company Building  
New Haven, 10, Connecticut  
November 27, 1943

100-8602  
JHC:LS

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Dear Sir:

Information has been received that PAUL ROBESON, famous negro singer and actor, is now living within the New Haven Field Division at Enfield, Connecticut.

On November 15, 1943 ROBESON made a speech in Boston, Massachusetts, demanding a full investigation of the recent alleged anti-Semitic incidents in Boston.

It is respectfully requested that the Bureau indices be checked for information concerning any Communist activity on the part of PAUL ROBESON, and that the New Haven Field Division be advised of the results of the search as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

*Roger F. Gleason*  
ROGER F. GLEASON,  
SAC

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&  
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DATE 11/30/80 BY SP-5 RJB/CM

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100-12304-12

Date: December 4, 1943

To: SAC, NEW HAVEN

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference is made to your letter of November 27, 1943, captioned "Paul Leroy Robeson, Security Matter - C," in which you requested information concerning Paul Robeson who, you stated, was now living at Enfield, Connecticut.

There is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] made at New York City dated December 8, 1942. You will note that New York has been carried as the office of origin in this case and that Robeson's address was given as 565 Edgecombe Avenue, New York, New York. The New York Office should determine whether Robeson has moved from his New York address and also any other information which would indicate that his center of activities may cease to be New York City. Until this is determined the office of origin will remain in New York.

At the present time it is not desired that the New Haven Office conduct any further investigation in this case but merely report any pertinent information which comes to its attention concerning Robeson.

Tolson  
E. A. Tamm  
Clegg  
Coffey  
Glavin  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Acers  
Carson  
Harbo  
Hendon  
Humphord  
Starks  
Quinn Tamm  
Nease  
Gandy

Enclosure  
40 DEC 11 1943  
cc - New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/20/80 BY SP5 RJG/KM

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York City

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COB:RMJ  
100-25857

December 8, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Confidential Informant [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  
E. E. CONROY  
SAC

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R-14

cc. New York File 65-10519

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF [redacted]  
DATE 12-11-43

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 XER  
MAY 14 1971

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/CH  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11/20/90

100-12304-1

DEC 11 1943



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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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67

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

NH FILE NO. 100-8032 LS

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/18/43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/26, 27/43 11/19, 23, 27/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c</span>
TITLE <b>ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, also known as Mrs. Paul Leroy Robeson and Essie Robeson</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject was born on 12/15/1896 at Washington, D.C. The Subject, a colored woman, received a B.S. Degree from Teachers College at Columbia University in 1920 and later worked in the surgical pathological laboratory at Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. She married the renowned negro actor and singer PAUL ROBESON. She has traveled throughout the world with her husband and son, and while living in England she attended the University College in London, 1933-1935 where she studied anthropology. She also resided in Russia with her husband and son for some time during the 1930's. Since 1941 Subject has resided at Enfield, Conn. She is presently studying part time at the Kennedy School of Missions at the Hartford Seminary Foundation. Subject has visited Africa and India and is personal friend with NEHRU, Indian National Congress leader. Recently she entertained the PANDIT sisters, nieces of NEHRU, at her Enfield, Connecticut home. Informants advise the Subject corresponds with NEHRU and other prominent persons, and that she receives communications from the U.S.S.R. Embassy at Washington, D. C. Subject is vitally interested in the matter of racial discrimination and is opposed to race segregation. She subscribes to and receives the "Daily Worker" and the "Worker". She recently attended a reception at the U.S.S.R. Embassy, Washington, D. C. with her husband and son. Description set forth.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Reginald J. Gleason</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-12304-14</b> <b>32 DEC 23 1943</b> CLASS. & EXT. BY <b>SP-5 RJS/ctk</b> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW <b>11/20/90</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 6 Bureau 2 Washington Field 2 New York 1 G2-Boston 2 New Haven (RECEIVED) COPY IN FILE 1cc B/R 7.W. [unclear] 5-16 [unclear] (m.H.)	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETAILS: This investigation is based upon the information furnished by [REDACTED] who stated that she understood that the Subject corresponded with NEHRU, Indian Congress leader, [REDACTED]. She further stated the Subject and her husband, PAUL ROBESON are negroes who are Communists and who are bitter against the white race. She also advised that Subject and her husband have aroused considerable feeling in Enfield, Connecticut as they are the one colored family in Enfield, Conn. with the exception of migrant negro workers in the tobacco fields. [REDACTED] advised that Subject recently wrote a book which is being published by Harpers concerning her trip through Africa.

Pursuant to the above information on October 26, 1943 the Reporting Agent contacted [REDACTED] who stated that she knew the Subject personally, and volunteered the following information:

Mrs. PAUL ROBESON's maiden name is ESLANDA GOODE. She married PAUL ROBESON, the famous negro actor-singer, and they have one child, PAUL ROBESON, JR., who attends high school at Springfield, Massachusetts, and is about seventeen years old. Mrs. ROBESON's mother, Mrs. E. GOODE, lives with the ROBESON's at Enfield, Connecticut. The informant stated that Mrs. ROBESON was a fine woman, and that she had recently written a book about her trip through Africa which concerned the problems of the negro race. The informant said that Mrs. ROBESON recently had written a story about negroes in the war, and that this story also concerned race discrimination.

Recently Mrs. ROBESON made a trip South to Georgia, and upon her return [REDACTED] she had changed her mind considerably concerning the white people in the south. Mrs. ROBESON is very well education, according to the informant, and attended Columbia University. She takes part in the civic affairs at Enfield, Connecticut, which is a small New England town without any industry. Mrs. ROBESON is a member of the Red Cross Motor Corps at Enfield, and the informant stated that she believed her to be a one hundred per cent American. However, the informant advised that Mrs. ROBESON does receive the "Daily Worker" [REDACTED]

At the present time Mrs. ROBESON is attending classes part time at the Hartford Seminary Foundation. The week prior to the interview with [REDACTED], Mrs. ROBESON entertained the PANDIT sisters, nieces of the Indian leader NEHRU, at her home at Enfield. These girls are presently attending Wellesley College.

Mrs. ROBESON [REDACTED] had a brother who was in Russia at the present time operating a show or circus of some sort. The informant stated that Mrs. ROBESON receives letters from India, [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

The ROBESON'S home is a large stucco house about three-fourths of a mile north of the Enfield center, and is referred to as "The Beeches". The informant described Mrs. ROBESON as follows:

Age	43 or 44 years
Complexion	Light Brown
Height	5' 5"
Weight	140 lbs
Eyes	Brown
Features	Negroid, but finer than the average Negro features
Hair	Black, some gray.

The Reporting Agent contacted [REDACTED] in Hartford, Connecticut. [REDACTED] the original complainant, stated that she had nothing to add to the information which she had already submitted and that her informant was [REDACTED] also of Enfield, Connecticut. [REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] was a close friend of hers, but that [REDACTED] would have nothing to add to the information already submitted.

[REDACTED] advised that he had not known Mrs. ROBESON very long, but that he did know she was well liked by the students at the Hartford Seminary Foundation and that his impression was that Mrs. ROBESON was one hundred per cent American and not a radical in any sense of the word.

A discreet inquiry was made of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] that he had known both PAUL ROBESON and his wife, ESLANDA very well for quite a few years. He said that as he remembered Mrs. ROBESON graduated from Barnard College at Columbia University, at the age of sixteen, and that she received her Master's Degree from Teacher's College at Columbia University. He said that she was now 47 years old and was very much interested in the racial discrimination problem.

[REDACTED] stated that Mrs. ROBESON has made anthropology studies in Africa and wrote a book on the subject. At present she is attending the Kennedy School of Missions one or two days a week and is doing research on anthropology. [REDACTED] said that Mrs. ROBESON was very energetic, well liked and had never discussed politics. Mrs. ROBESON recently went to a conference in the South, which was a conference between nine whites and nine negroes from North and South.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Upon her return home, Mrs. ROBESON [REDACTED] had learned she could not type a person by geographical location. [REDACTED] said that Mrs. ROBESON after her graduation from Columbia had worked at a research center, which he thought was the Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. The informant stated that while living in England with her husband in the 1930's, the Subject studied under world renown anthropologists. [REDACTED] stated that in his opinion neither the Subject nor her husband would in any way seek to overthrow the Government of the United States nor would they cause any change through force, violence or revolution. He stated that he believed both to be loyal citizens of the United States, and vitally interested in the problem of racial discrimination and the elevation of the Negro race.

On October 27, 1943 [REDACTED] was contacted at the Connecticut State Motor Vehicle Department in the State Office Building at Hartford. [REDACTED] advised that ESLANDA G. ROBESON had filed an application for Connecticut State Motor Vehicle operator's license on April 29, 1942, which application revealed the following information:

Name	ESLANDA G. ROBESON
Race	Negro
Height	5' 4 1/2"
Weight	140 lbs.
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Address	"The Beeches", Thompsonville, Conn.
Occupation	Housewife
Education	College
Date of Birth	12/15/1896
Place of Birth	Washington, D. C.
Residence	State of Connecticut since 1941

[REDACTED] said that at the time of her application, Mrs. ROBESON held New York Operator's license No. 1416100 for the year, 1941. A Connecticut license was issued to her for the year 1942.

On November 19, 1943 Reporting Agent recontacted [REDACTED] who advised that Mrs. ROBESON and her son Paul had gone to Washington, D. C. for a reception at the Russian Embassy during the first week in November, 1943. Upon her return Mrs. ROBESON described the reception [REDACTED] and stated that her son PAUL had met the Vice President of the United States, HENRY A. WALLACE, and that the Russian Embassy considered the ROBESONS as representatives of the Soviet Union in the United States.

On October 16, 1943 on page 16 of the "Hartford Courant" there appeared a news article entitled, "Indian Girls Guests At Foundation--Wellesley

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"Students and Mrs. PAUL ROBESON Tour Seminary; Honored at Tea". This article stated that the Misses PANDIT, nieces of Nehru, Indian National Congress leader, who are now in the United States attending Wellesley College in Massachusetts, visited Mrs. PAUL ROBESON at Enfield, Connecticut over the week end. During this visit the Pandit sisters went to the Hartford Seminary Foundation with Mrs. ROBESON and accompanied her to classes in which she is enrolled there.

On October 15, 1943 the pictures of the PANDIT sisters appeared in the "Hartford Times", and again the news article accompanying the picture stated that the PANDIT sisters were guests of Mrs. PAUL ROBESON of Enfield. ←

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

b1

In connection with the above reported results [REDACTED] it should be noted that the following publications are reported as Communist in character:

"Bread and Butter", 17 Union Square, N. Y. C., Communist controlled.  
"Daily Worker" and the "Worker", "New Masses", "The Pilot", a weekly publication of the National Maritime Union.

It should also be noted that the Council on African Affairs, 1123 Broadway is reported as a Communist Front organization whose Chairman is PAUL ROBESON and whose Executive Director is MAX YERGAN.

P E N D I N G

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION,

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will verify the Subject's birth at Washington, D. C. on December 15, 1896 in the name of ESLANDA C. GOODE. If a birth record is found will report full details, including names of parents, etc.

Will check the records of the Passport Division of the State Department for information concerning the Subject's travel abroad, and it should be noticed that she has made numerous trips to all parts of the world. All background information which is available, including personal data, should be reported in detail.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK CITY

Will make a discreet inquiry at Teachers' College Columbia University where the Subject received her B. S. Degree in 1920, and will check the records there for information pertinent to this investigation and for all background information which may be obtained regarding the Subject. In no event should the nature of this inquiry be disclosed.

Will check the marriage records in the City of New York for the record of the Subject's marriage to PAUL LEROY ROBESON. This marriage should have been performed during the early 1920's.

Will make a very discreet inquiry regarding the Subject's work at the Presbyterian Hospital where it is reported she worked in the surgical pathological laboratory after her graduation from Columbia University. This inquiry should be made with the utmost discretion, and all background information available should be obtained if it is possible, but in no event should the nature of this investigation be disclosed.

Will make a discreet inquiry to ascertain if the ROBESON's maintain a New York residence at 555 Edgecomb Avenue.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW YORK CITY (Continued)

Will check the New York Field Division indices for any information contained therein regarding the Subject.

THE NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION

AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Will recontact [REDACTED] for further information regarding the Subject. b7D

Will also contact Confidential Informants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] regarding the same. re- b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

~~INITIAL~~  
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

Confidential Informants, as mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 18, 1943, at New Haven, Connecticut, are as follows:

[REDACTED] She requested that her identity be undisclosed.

[REDACTED] He requested that his identity be concealed.

[REDACTED] He requested that his identity be concealed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~INITIAL~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN**

FILE NO **100-14994**

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D. C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/12/44</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12/28, 30/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE <b>ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, also known as Mrs. Paul Leroy Robeson and Essie Robeson</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ESLANDA C. GOODE born December 15, 1895, at Washington, D. C. Subject has had temporary residence in England on several occasions, has travelled extensively over the European countries, also some travel over South America for professional work.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated December 18, 1943, at New Haven, Connecticut.

**DETAILS:**

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

DECLASSIFIED BY **SP8 BTJ**  
ON **1/15/82**

The writer personally checked the Vital Statistics Records and they reflected that the subject was born on December 15, 1895, at 2216 13th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; subject's mother's maiden name was ESLANDA CARDOZA and that her mother was born in the State of South Carolina. Her father's name was JOHN J. GOODE, whose occupation was listed as Clerk and whose birthplace was given as Illinois. The subject was the third child born to this union. Dr. H. SKROGSTAD, 915 16th Street, N. W., was present at the birth of the child.

Special Agent [REDACTED], ascertained through Confidential National Defense Informant [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau, that the records of the State Department reflected the following information:

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	RECORDED & INDEXED <b>EX-24</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 New Haven 2 Washington Field		<b>100-12304-15</b> <b>22 JAN 15 1944</b>	
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE		CLASS. & EXT. BY <b>SP-5/RSC/clm</b> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW <b>1/16/90</b>	



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WFO File #100-14994

Emergency Passport Number 225 was issued on August 22, 1925, to ESLANDA ROBESON by the American Consulate General at London, England. In her application for the passport ESLANDA ROBESON stated that she had been included on the passport issued to her husband, PAUL Le ROY ROBESON, Number 106695, on July 29, 1925, and that she now desired the Emergency Passport for travel to France, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, and Germany. The application further reflected that the subject was born in Washington, D. C., on December 15, 1895, that she maintained her legal residence in New York and that she was temporarily residing in London where she had arrived on August 5, 1925. No occupation was shown.

Passport Number 464273 was issued to ROBESON on October 8, 1927, at Washington, D. C., for an intended trip to France, Italy, and Spain for travel. In her passport application, the subject advised that she had resided in England from August, to October of 1925, and in France from October, to December of 1925. She listed her occupation as a chemist.

Passport Number 146587 was issued to ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, on December 3, 1929, who stated in her application that she contemplated making a one-year trip to all countries and specifically, to England, France, and Germany, for the purpose of travel. The subject stated that she had resided in England from May, 1928, to October, 1929. This passport was renewed at London by the American Consulate General on December 26, 1931, upon the application of the subject who advised that she was residing in London with her husband.

Passport Number 1331 was issued on May 8, 1934, to the subject by the American Consulate General at London, England. ESLANDA ROBESON advised that she is still residing in London with her husband and that their intentions to return to the United States were indefinite. This passport was renewed on May 13, 1936, by the American Consulate General at London.

Passport Number 201 was issued to ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON on December 18, 1937, by the American Consulate General at London where the subject stated she had been residing since 1928, with regular trips to the United States. She advised that she desired the passport for travel to England, France, Russia, Belgium, and Spain for business and pleasure, although no occupation was given. The passport was restricted to prohibit travel to Spain. In the passport application the subject advised that her father, JOHN GOODE, was deceased, that her mother, ESLANDA CARDOZA, was at that time residing at the Metropolitan Hotel in Moscow, Russia. She also listed as a reference in the United States, Mr. ROBERT ROCKMORE, 10 East 40th Street, New York City, a lawyer.

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WFO File #100-14994

On December 30, 1937, the Spanish Embassy requested the Department of State to lift the passport restriction in the subject's passport, advising that she had been invited to accompany her husband on his visit to Spain. In response to the request the Department of State advised the American Embassy to validate the passport to permit travel in Spain and this was done on January 10, 1938.

On August 1, 1940, ROBESON's passport was renewed at New York to permit contemplated travel to Costa Rica and Honduras for the purpose of professional work in anthropology. In her application for the renewal the subject advised that she was residing at 555 Edgecomb Avenue, New York, New York, and that she contemplated departing on the SS Platamo at the port of New York on August 3, 1940.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.

COB:MYW  
100-25857

February 3, 1944

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

As a result of recent inquiries and investigation, it was determined that the subject presently resides at 132 East 38th Street, New York City.

The appropriate changes have been made on the security index cards now maintained in the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/10/80 BY SP-5 RJB/CLM

E. E. CONROY, Jr.  
SAC



cc: New Haven

RECORDED

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100-12304-16  
F B  
21 FEB 17 1944  
Albert

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

FILE NO. **100-8032**

FCM

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/10/44</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/27; 2/2/44</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <b>b7C</b>
TITLE <b>ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, also known as Mrs. Paul LeRoy Robeson; Essie Robeson</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject called for social, economic and actual emancipation of the Negro in a speech at Hartford on December 12, 1943. She cited Russia as a country where discrimination had been abolished. On January 7, 1944, she made a similar speech before the Civitan Club at Hartford, Connecticut. [REDACTED] **b1**

**REFERENCE:** Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], dated December 18, 1943, at New Haven, Connecticut. Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 12, 1944, at Washington, D.C. **b7C**

**DETAILS:** AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

On December 12, 1943, Mrs. PAUL ROBESON gave a talk at the Bellevue Square Community Auditorium in Hartford, Connecticut, during which she stated that scientific investigation has proven racial differences to be purely superficial and called for social, economic and "actual" political emancipation for the Negro now, according to a news article appearing in the Hartford COURANT on December 13, 1943. This news item further quoted Mrs. ROBESON as stating "Discrimination against our people is a problem facing democracy as a working ideology and discrimination is another phase of the attempt to keep democratic ideas from being realized." She continued, "For the last 75 years we have been told that education, social freedom and economic equality will be accorded us gradually. We are sick of hearing that. If it was possible to give these things to the minority groups in

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		DATE OF REVIEW	<i>[initials]</i>

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100-8032

in Soviet Russia in 25 years, it is possible to allow us these things now." She stated that a concerted program to eradicate racial discrimination by mass education and legislation offers the best means of eliminating the problem, and that just such a program had wiped out discrimination against the minorities in the Soviet Union.

On January 7, 1944, Mrs. ROBESON gave another talk on discrimination before the Civitan Club at the Bond Hotel in Hartford. On January 8, 1944, a news item concerning Mrs. ROBESON'S talk appeared in the Hartford COURANT entitled, "Mrs. ROBESON Makes Plea For Negroes". The newspaper quoted Mrs. ROBESON as saying, "Part of a vast army engaged in a war for freedom, American Negro soldiers stationed in camps in Mississippi are thinking that the South Pacific is a long way to go to fight for that freedom." She also stated that unless the problem of relations is solved soon, "hostilities on the home front will 'break out into open war before long'." The news item stated that Mrs. ROBESON proposed the institution of a code of laws to make discrimination and "name calling" criminal offenses as a scientific way of coping with the situation. She said that although there is a whole religion about it and a political statement in our Constitution, nobody seems to pay any attention to equality and democracy.

The press notice also appeared in the Hartford TIMES on January 7, 1944, regarding the same speech, which news item was entitled "Mrs. ROBESON Raps Racial Barriers".

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[REDACTED] c  
[REDACTED] c  
[REDACTED] c

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

b1 [REDACTED] c  
[REDACTED] c  
[REDACTED] c  
[REDACTED] c

In this connection, it should be noted that RITA MANGINI of Thompsonville, Connecticut, is a known member of the Communist Party at Hartford, Connecticut.

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- P E N D I N G -

-3-

83

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-8032

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

\* AT NEW YORK CITY

\* Will make a discreet inquiry at Teachers' College, Columbia University where the subject received her B.S. Degree in 1920, and will check the records there for information pertinent to this investigation and for all background information which may be obtained regarding the subject. In no event should the nature of this inquiry be disclosed.

\* Will check the marriage records in the City of New York for the record of the subject's marriage to PAUL LEROY ROBESON. This marriage should have been performed during the early 1920's.

\* Will make a very discreet inquiry regarding the subject's work at the Presbyterian Hospital where it is reported she worked in the surgical pathological laboratory after her graduation from Columbia University. This inquiry should be made with the utmost discretion, and all background information available should be obtained if it is possible, but in no event should the nature of this investigation be disclosed.

\* Will make a discreet inquiry to ascertain if the ROBESON'S maintain a New York residence at 555 Edgecomb Avenue.

\* Will check the New York Field Division indices for any information contained therein regarding the subject.

NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION

AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Will contact Confidential Informants [redacted] and [redacted] for further information regarding the subject and her activities. b1

- P E N D I N G -

-4-

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84

RWB:HEW

SAC, New York

March 8, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAUL ROBESON, INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
FREDERICK N. MYERS; INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The Bureau is in receipt of the following information from  
Cable Censorship:

To: George Dimitroff, Moscow (U.S.S.R.) From: Paul Robeson, Frederick Myers, Vice  
President National Maritime Union Co-  
Chairman Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary  
Committee 55 West 42nd Street, New York.

HISTORIC REICHSTAG FIRE TRIAL IN WHICH YOU PROVIDING WORLD'S FIRST MAJOR  
VICTORIES OVER FASCISM WILL BE OBSERVED TWENTYSECOND AT GREAT TENTH  
ANNIVERSARY RALLY CARNEGIE HALL NEW YORK STOP TRIBUTE WILL BE PAID TO VETERANS  
OF THAT AND SUBSEQUENT ANTI-FASCIST STRUGGLES BY NOTED PERSONALITIES INCLUDING  
LILLIAN WILMAN CORRA ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS CORRA CHANNING TORLES OF YCA  
NATIONAL BOARD CORRA LOUIS ALANIC CORRA PHILIP TARGEMER CORRA EARL BROWDER  
STOP HOWARD FIRST AUTHOR CITIZEN TOW/PAIN HAS WRITTEN SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION  
FOR OCCASION STOP PURPOSE OF RALLY TO FURTHER UNITY FOR VICTORY STOP AMERICAN  
PEOPLE WOULD HAPPILY WELCOME MESSAGE TO BE READ AT MEETING FROM YOU AS HERO OF  
REICHSTAG FIRE TRIAL AND FOREMOST CHAMPION WORLD ANNIVERSARY AGAINST FASCISM.

It is desired that the above information be incorporated in the next  
report submitted by your office in the above captioned case. Sufficient copies  
of this letter are being transmitted for inclusion in the files on Robeson and  
Myers.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/20/60 BY SP-5 RSC/ELM

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Acers \_\_\_\_\_  
Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Starke \_\_\_\_\_  
Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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