

FBIHQ FILE

100-12304

SECTION : 2

PAUL ROBESON, SR. 105

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York 7, New York

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Mr. Quinn
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Miss Gandy

100-25857
LGD:PJS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 13, 1945

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY

*Carlton
Winters*

Attached herewith is the original and three copies of a six page log of a conference between [redacted] and known communist "Front" leader among negroes in New York City, and a person identified to be [redacted] (phonetic), as reported by Confidential Informant [redacted] on October 31, 1945. b7c

It will be noted that this conference concerns the appearance of PAUL ROBESON in Toronto, Canada on November 8, 10, 12, 1945. This conference concerns the efforts [redacted] to arrange for a benefit meeting of several persons in Toronto for the purpose of raising funds for the Council of African Affairs, a "Front" organization in which MAX YERGAN and PAUL ROBESON are the leaders. The receipts for this meeting are, according to the informant, to be split between an organization in Toronto of which [redacted] is a member and the Council of African Affairs.

Very truly yours,

E. Conroy

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE

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cc: 100-19377
100-26011

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-12304-36

NOV 15 1945

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
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Well that's our first step toward getting a regular radio set-up for him, to say definitely the things he has on his mind. The people were sort of hand-picked and they were specially invited and we raised a considerable sum of money that way. Many of the, most of the people present were told of this beforehand and we got a hundred dollars out of practically each one of them. We made several thousand dollars. Now we thought of organizations in Toronto, with which we would like to do this cooperatively, if such a thing, if they considered it possible, and that's why we called on you....find out if you would like to join with the Council, the Council on African Affairs, of which Paul is the Chairman, and arrange the night of the 12th, either in a large home, if you could get such a place, or in a hotel room. Hotel room would make possible more people, the home on the other hand would give another atmosphere. And beforehand, by personal invitation, invite the people who would respond to this sort of appeal, this sort of message. They could be given some indication of the contribution that they would make. It would be for your Council and the Council on African Affairs. You could indicate what the Council on African Affairs has in mind, mainly getting Paul on the radio..this is a sum that we are raising for a radio project, you see. We would be willing if necessary to send from our branch down here a person who has had some experience in doing this sort of thing. But only in the event it is necessary, because it would be senseless sending her up there.....
Have you a Branch here in Toronto?

No, we haven't a branch, we have some friends there, but we have no active branch...
Well, I'll tell you what, it sounds like an excellent idea and I'm quite sure we can carry it through...

Uh-huh
But I would like to invite the people that you know....

Yeah..
....here, who could help us on working the thing out...

Yeah
Because we're in the midst of preparation for a big Conference and I think this would be an important sidelight to it, you know..

When will your Conference be on...
November 23, 24, 25....

Yeah, well now this would be on the evening of the 12th...
That's right...

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After the Concert...

Yeah

You see, it could take the form of a reception. It would have to answer all the requests that will be on Paul up there.

Yeah

Because he isn't going to do another thing, you see..

Yeah

That means you'd be in a position to involve those people who would want to get with Paul socially and otherwise...

That's right...

And our view is that a real...you could make a very real success of the thing...

Yeah

Now we would share the proceeds...

Yeah

There would be an equal sharing of the proceeds, you see, between your organization and the Council on African Affairs...

Yes...

Now you respond to it right off, is that it?

Oh, yeah...

Well, I thought you would..I think it can be made a very successful affair...

Oh yes, I have quite a few people in mind....

You'll have a letter...you should have the letter today...we sent it Airmail Special last night...yesterday...

Uh-huh

You'll have a letter this morning, which gives you some of the details that I have given you....

Uh-huh

If you're prepared now to say that..that there's agreement on it, we'd then work out a somewhat more detailed statement for you and send up....

Well, would you do that?

Yes, we'll work out a somewhat more detailed statement, giving such facts as I have given and giving you the benefit of our experience here...

Good

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And perhaps you'd let us know whether you'd want someone to be sent up there from here...

I don't think it would be necessary, I think we could, especially if you have, know a few people, if you have a few people here...who you think might come in on this thing...

Yeah...

Because naturally we have access to a lot of people...

Yes

I mean people that could be invited...

Well now look here....I should make this clear...On the basis of what has just been said, we'd have to leave it then, almost entirely, to you to organize and carry through, giving such help as we can give from this end, if you don't think its necessary for someone to come up there from here...

Well it might be, But I think we could see how the thing goes...

Yeah

If it...I'm telling you that it would be a tremendous help if somebody would come...

Yeah

But I can understand that, I mean it would cost money...

Yeah

And if it can be avoided it should be...

That's all the more desirable...

But if I can get a few people here that you know....

Yeah

And involve them in helping us in arranging the thing...

Well, I could do that I think...I could send you a few names at any rate...

Uh-huh

We keep down the expense of it, if its held in someone's home... That's right...

You'd serve just some light refreshments, drinks and so forth... That's right, I have a home in mind, its quite a large one, the owner is a wealthy patron of our Council...

Yes, well that the sort of thing, you see...

I am sure she would do it...

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Yeah, all right then, we'll consider this as settled...
Yes.

I'll...I discussed it with Paul yesterday...
Uh-huh

And he's agreeable to it...
Good...

And we'll work out a statement and send it to you. I perhaps
would come up there, maybe on that day...
Uh-huh

I'd have to be with Paul on, with regard to some other matters
anyway...
Uh-huh

And the chances are that I would come up on the day, on the
evening of the affair, you see..
That would be swell....

And before that we would be of any help possible...
Oh, that would be good...

I think this can be made a very successful affair, both from
the point of view of the issues....
That's right...

...before us, and from the point of view of raising money....
That's right...

..your Council needs it, and ours does too. We're, this
particular radio project and some other things that we're doing,
require it now and Paul is giving himself occassionally to this
sort of thing. The chances are he wouldn't sing, he'd be too
tired, but people wouldn't be expecting him to..
That's right...

But he would talk, you see, and that's the point to be
emphasized. I _____ (ind.) that it would have to be planned
and the list of people whom you are going to approach, they
have to be seen personally or by phone. We could do this,
we could send a note from here on Paul's behalf, you see, if
we could get the names of the people whom you will invite...
That could be done....

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Now all right, we'll put all of this in a letter today and
get it off to you..
Swell and any names that you might think of would be helpful

Okay
Okay, thanks a lot for calling...

Not at all...
All right...

Goodbye.

END

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 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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31537

SAC, New York

December 6, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

For your information and the completion of your files there is attached herewith one copy of a self-explanatory communication received from the [redacted] under date of November 26, 1945.

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Enclosure

C

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RST/CLK
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2.3
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
CC: aop
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DEC 6 - 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: February 13, 1946

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Paul Robeson

There is attached herewith a newspaper clipping which appeared in the Seattle STAR, Seattle, Wash., on February 12, 1946, concerning an interview with the subject during his recent appearance in Seattle.

It is interesting to note that ROBESON remarked that his son, PAUL, JR., was educated from his 8th to his 13th year in Russia, and that his son is definitely the product of Soviet education. It is further interesting to note that he states that his son's ambition is to reach the higher realms of electronics and research physics during his attendance at Cornell University.

The above is forwarded for the Bureau's interest.

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RECORDED 100-12304-38

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/CLM

EX-133

FEB 19 1946

attached

LAD:GMR

100-0

Enclosure: Clipping from STAR

52 MAR 4 1946

Robeson Praises Seattle On Attitude Toward Race

BY DWIGHT SCHEAR

Seattle is one of the healthier sections of the country in its racial attitudes, Paul Robeson, great Negro star of the theater and the concert stage, said in his Olympic hotel room today.

"It is one of my happier cities to visit."

The world renowned performer is here for a concert under the auspices of the Associated Women Students of the University of Washington at 8:30 o'clock this evening in Meany hall.

Robeson's fabulous career, begun at Rutgers university where he was an All-American and a Phi Beta Kappa, has carried him to the top of the musical and theatrical world and was climaxed by his recent smash hit as Othello in a two-year revival of the Shakespearian tragedy.

Tones Confident

Robeson, speaking in the confident, deep and rolling tones which give him a stage personality even in a hotel room, thundered against the popular theory that Negroes are outstanding only in certain fields.

When a member of his race breaks the ice in any one field, immediately a host of other Negroes rises to prominence in that realm, he pointed out.

Which brings him to his favorite subject, his son, Paul Jr., a football, track and scholastic ace at Cornell university, whose ambition it is to reach the higher realms of electronics and research physics.

Comment Evoked

Paul Jr. was educated from his eighth to 13th year in Russia, his consignment there causing a storm of comment in this country at the time.

"My son is definitely the product of Soviet education," Robeson said. "I am well satisfied. The Russian standards are extremely high."

Following his university concert tonight, Robeson will leave Seattle briefly, to return for a concert at the Moore theater, February 22, and to address a meeting under the sponsorship of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee committee in the Civic auditorium, February 24.

Undecided as to future plans, Robeson is toying with making a

film of Othello—in London. "Hollywood would butcher it," he said.

THE SEATTLE STAR
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FEB 12 1946

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: February 12, 1946

FROM: SAC, St. Louis

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY OF MISSOURI
District #21, St. Louis Field Division
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

*ONE, INFO.

This is to advise that on [redacted]
whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[redacted]

[redacted] LIDEAH LOCKHARTE advised informant
that she knew ROBESON personally and stated he was a member of the Communist
Party. She advised that on July 26, 1942 in Hastings, Nebraska, a photo-
graph was taken of PAUL ROBESON with his arms around LIDEAH LOCKHARTE's
two sons. She stated that she and seven other Party members in that com-
munity had attended one of his concerts there and that he had met with the
members of the Party after the concert, telling them that he was always
glad to see his Party friends come to his concerts.

This data is being transmitted for the purpose of information
to the Bureau.

GRO:rmc
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100-12304-3
FEB 14 1946

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

NY

FILE NO. 100-25857 EED

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 4/5/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/20, 21, 22, 25, 26/46	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE PAUL ROBESON, with alias John Thomas			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ROBESON continues to support Communist front programs lending his presence and influence to various meetings sponsored by known front groups. He continues as Chairman of the Council on African Affairs. Information set out reflecting MAX YERGAN, known active Communist front leader among Negroes and Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs, is very close to subject and exerts considerable influence over his front activities, arranging for his appearances, etc. Information set out reflecting subject is sought after by known Communists and utilize his presence in various parts of the country while on concert tour to lend his prestige to front meetings in these localities. He has urged suppressing of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" at Communist instigation, supported actors in argument over their appearance before meeting of Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, and politically supported MICHAEL QUILL, pro-Communist, and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., Communist, in 1945 city elections. He strongly praised the Soviet Union before a meeting of National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

6725-161634
 JUL 1946
 STATISTICAL
 W. Costello
 20-46
 12-20-46

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R-18

REFERENCE: (7A) Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, July 25, 1945. b7c

DETAILS: Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that sometime prior to April 1945 ELLA REEVES BLOOR, known among members of the Communist Party as Mother BLOOR, stated while in Portland, b7D

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5 - Bureau 4 - New York <i>CCDR 7-1-46 JWC wlc</i>		RECORDED & INDEXED 11/21/82 17

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NY 100-25857

Oregon, that she had met the subject somewhere in the Middle West at a time previous thereto and that at that time she inducted the daughter of a Communist into the Communist Political Association. The informant advised that it was indicated that PAUL ROBESON was present at this induction ceremony and as claimed by Mother BLOOR, he was very enthusiastic about the ceremony.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on [redacted] that he learned that ROY HUDSON, then a member of the National Committee of the Communist Political Association, had been advised by BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., that he, DAVIS, had talked with PAUL ROBESON relative to the DUCLOS article in regard to the policies of the Communist Party in the United States at that time and that ROBESON expressed himself as thinking that WILLIAM Z. FOSTER was correct in his thinking about the matter. It will be noted that this relates to the break between many members of the Communist Party and EARL BROWDER which later resulted in the overthrow of BROWDER as head of the Communist Party in the United States. b7D

During the period covered by this report considerable information has been received by the New York Field Division reflecting that the subject continues as Chairman of the Council on African Affairs. Informants of this Office have advised of information reflecting that ROBESON has during the past several months been engaged professionally in concert tours throughout the United States as well as having made a trip under the auspices of the USO to the European Theater.

Information furnished by these informants also reflects that the subject has apparently increasingly come under the control of MAX YERGAN, Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs, and known as a leader in Communist front activities among the Negroes in the United States. The informants from time to time have disclosed information reflecting that YERGAN has occupied himself greatly to the extent of arranging for appointments for the subject and his appearance before numerous meetings sponsored by organizations known as Communist front organizations. Further detailed information reflecting these activities is being set out hereafter.

The Daily Worker of May 17, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject was to speak in the South Side of Chicago where he was appearing at that time in a performance before a meeting entitled "San Francisco and Planning the Negro's Future". It is not known to the New York Office whether the sponsorship of this meeting was under Communist domination.

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The Daily Worker of May 16, 1945 announced that the subject was to appear on a program entitled "Salute to the G-I's of the United Nations" on May 31, 1945 which was under the auspices of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship which is known as a strong Communist front organization. The Daily Worker of June 1, 1945 stated the subject sang Red Army songs at this meeting which was held in Madison Square Garden. ←

Informant [redacted] furnished the New York Field Division with the following information concerning the subject's activities during the months of April, May, and June of 1945 while he was in Chicago appearing at the Erlanger Theater in his play, "Othello", which opened on April 9, 1945 and closed May 19, 1945: This informant advised that throughout the subject's stay in Chicago during April and May WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Assistant Director of the Abraham Lincoln School and an alternate member of the National Committee of the then Communist Political Association, handled all the subject's engagements which had any social or political significance. This informant advised that the influence and interest of the Communist Political Association was evident in numerous activities in which the subject participated and the subject's appearances were scheduled obviously with the view in mind of enhancing the prestige of the Abraham Lincoln School known in Chicago as Communist dominated. The informant also advised that these appearances were usually scheduled for the financial benefit of Communist front organizations or groups known to contain members or sympathizers of the CPA. b7D

[redacted] advised that prior to the subject's presence in Chicago, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON warned RAY HANSDROUGH, a member of the National Committee of the CPA as well as Second Vice-President of District 8 of the CPA, that this organization should not be brought too far to the front in an affair planned for the benefit of the Abraham Lincoln School.

[redacted] advised that numerous Party functionaries were in contact with PATTERSON on a number of occasions relative to affairs being planned for the subject. On one occasion WILLIAM PATTERSON received a request from the Hearst-owned Chicago "Herald-American" requesting that ROBESON speak before a Monroe Doctrine Oratorical Contest on April 12, 1945 sponsored by this paper. According to [redacted] PATTERSON refused to accept the responsibility of making a decision in this matter and requested the opinion of officials at CPA headquarters.

[redacted] advised that the above-mentioned matter was discussed thoroughly relative to ROBESON's appearing before what they

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NY 100-25857

termed an "enemy platform", but after conference with various prominent members of the CPA in Chicago, PATTERSON advised the subject to accept this invitation. [REDACTED] advised that on this occasion PATTERSON attempted to get one of the CPA officials at the Communist headquarters in Chicago to write ROBESON's speech but he, PATTERSON, was left with the responsibility of obtaining someone to write the speech for the subject. DAVID ENGLESTEIN, Educational Director of District #8 of the CPA, offered after the speech was prepared to review it and make suggestions.

[REDACTED] advised that the Abraham Lincoln School capitalized on the subject's Chicago engagement to benefit the school's treasury by several thousand dollars.

On April 15, 1945 a dinner attended by 110 persons, the majority of whom are reliably reported to be members of the CPA and sympathizers with that organization, was held at \$100 per couple. The school is reported to have netted a profit of \$5,000 from this occasion at which the subject spoke and praised EARL BROWDER and the CPA for its stand on the Negro and anti-Semitic questions. [REDACTED] learned from PATTERSON that the same material used in this talk was also to be used in ROBESON's talks before audiences in two large Jewish temples merely omitting specific mention of the CPA or identifying the philosophy of the CPA by name.

PATTERSON is quoted to have been besieged with requests for the subject's appearance, many of which were made by representatives of alleged Communist-front groups desiring to capitalize on the subject's popularity to increase financial success of the events for which he was requested. The subject was sought after by many union officials reportedly members or functionaries of the CPA and known associates of WILLIAM PATTERSON.

[REDACTED] advised that the largest union-sponsored affair in which the subject participated was the United Nations Day held under the auspices of the United Packing House Workers of America, CIO, which was attended by about 15,000 members. Arrangements for the subject's appearance were made by PATTERSON and HERBERT MARCH, reportedly a prominent member of the CPA as well as District Director of this Union.

The subject also attended a membership meeting of the UAW, Local 453, CIO, in Chicago on May 13, 1945 at which he was made an honorary member of the local on the motion of one SAM MARIANI, a member of the Executive Committee of District #8 of the CPA.

Informant [REDACTED] advised that the subject's talks centered around the broad topic of the San Francisco Conference. On May 15, 1945

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he spoke at a meeting sponsored by six campus organizations including American Youth for Democracy, a known Communist-front organization at the University of Chicago.

It is reliably reported by [redacted] that the subject in his speech calling for racial equality praised highly the example set by Russia in which country he and his family spent several years. He condemned Fascists both in the United States and abroad and predicted that FRANCO's Spain would soon suffer the same fate as that of MUSSOLINI's Italy.

On May 20, 1945 the subject spoke in Chicago on the subject, "San Francisco and the Negro", at a large affair sponsored by the newly organized Chicago Council on African Affairs. Arrangements for this appearance were made by MAX YERGAN of New York, PATTERSON, and ISHMAEL FLORY, Secretary of the Negro People's Assembly in Chicago and a reported member of the Executive Committee of the CPA in Chicago. The subject departed thereafter from Chicago. Informant [redacted] advised that preliminary arrangements for appearances of the subject in major affairs in Chicago during this period were made by MAX YERGAN, the Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs.

It was indicated by Confidential Informants [redacted] and [redacted] that the subject returned to the New York City area at that time. Subsequent thereto, Informants [redacted] and [redacted] advised the New York Office that arrangements were being made between ISHMAEL FLORY of Chicago and MAX YERGAN for the appearance of the subject in Chicago on June 17, 1945. It was disclosed by these informants that this was to be an IWO fund raising affair and, as later substantiated by Informant [redacted] these arrangements were for the appearance of YERGAN before the Dusable Lodge 751 of the International Workers Order in Chicago, which is the largest lodge in the IWO and which organization is known to be a Communist front.

Arrangements were made through YERGAN for the appearance of the subject on June 19, 1945 in Chicago at the fifteenth anniversary dinner of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, an alleged Communist-dominated organization. According to the Chicago Daily News of June 6, 1945, this dinner was sponsored under the names of the subject and MARSHALL FIELD of that city, the purpose of which was to raise funds for this committee. It was reported by [redacted] and [redacted] that arrangements were made for one MERLE NANCE, a known member of the Communist Party, to accompany ROBESON as his secretary on this trip. These informants also reported that an offer was made to YERGAN for ROBESON in the amount

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of \$1,000 if the subject appeared before the meeting of the Civil Liberties Committee. This offer was made by IRA LATTIMORE of the Civil Liberties Committee.

██████████ advised that the subject departed from the United States on July 30, 1945 for a tour of approximately six weeks under the sponsorship of the USO. This tour was to take him to various parts of Europe for entertainment of the troops in those areas. The informant advised that MAX YERGAN exerted considerable influence and was quite active in the subject's preparations for departure on this trip.

The New York Amsterdam News of June 16, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject was to go overseas with his play, "Othello".

Confidential Informant ██████████ advised that on July 25, 1945 MAX YERGAN held a going away party for the subject at his home. The informant furnished information reflecting that the purpose of this Party was to bring ROBESON together with two Communist Chinese delegates to the San Francisco Conference who on July 25, 1945 were in New York City. According to this informant, these delegates were present at the party as well as several persons known to be prominent in Communist activities among the Negroes in this country.

The subject returned to the United States on or about September 14, 1945. According to Informant ██████████ MAX YERGAN, Director of the Council on African Affairs, stated that ROBESON returned to the United States with two convictions, namely, the "continuing spirit of Nazi leadership in Europe" and the conviction that the colonial peoples of Africa and the Far East "are being subjected to a squeeze". This informant advised that the Council on African Affairs subsequent to ROBESON's return became very active in promoting a fund raising meeting, the purpose of which was to attempt to raise a large sum of money to enable the subject to speak on the radio.

In the latter part of September a meeting was called of approximately fifteen friends of ROBESON for the purpose of meeting with him to determine what his observations were.

██████████ reported ██████████ that a meeting was held on October 21, 1945 at the home of FREDERICK V. FIELD, whose wife EDITH FIELD is known as the treasurer of the Council on African Affairs. It was the stated purpose of this meeting to raise fifteen to twenty thousand dollars for the proposed radio appearance of the subject. The informant stated that this meeting was to consist of about seventy-five persons who were to donate at least \$100 apiece for this

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cause. The informant learned that YERGAN reported that approximately \$6500 to \$7000 was raised. However, subsequent information received by the New York Office disclosed that this sum was actually less than \$4,000.

Prior to this, Informants [redacted] and [redacted] advised that ANDREW ORDA, a known ranking member of the Communist Party at Bridgeport, Connecticut, had placed a request before JOHNNY WILLIAMSON, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party, for assistance in a campaign to help prevent the appearance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin", a stage play, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. A request was made through WILLIAMSON that the subject issue a statement supporting the elimination of the appearance of this play in Bridgeport. The informant advised that this matter was referred to MAX YERGAN who is reported to have expressed an interest in the matter and a willingness to persuade the subject to issue this statement. # 67D

The Daily Worker of September 30, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject acted as chairman of more than one thousand citizens in the fine arts field who formed an organization known as the "Artists, Writers, and Professional Division of the Benjamin J. Davis Non-Partisan Committee". This article stated that these citizens "believe with PAUL ROBESON that 'if BEN is reelected that means we're in there!'. This article went on to quote ROBESON as stating "His (BEN DAVIS) campaign belongs to the people, to all the people -- white and Negro, Gentile and Jew, cutting across all boundaries and non-partisan politics....Our Ben in the City Council. That means we're in thereWith the critical postwar issues no longer in the future, but confronting us sharply today, Ben is needed more than before." It will be noted that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party and also has subsequently been elected as a member of the New York City Council as a Communist.

On September 24, 1945 the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee in New York sponsored a program which was held at Madison Square Garden for the purpose of raising funds for Spanish relief. At this meeting an attack was launched on the Catholic Church by HAROLD LASKY of Great Britain. There also appeared on this program several actors in the New York area whose appearance at this meeting was severely criticized by Actor FRANK FAY. A controversy thereafter arose in the ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION over this matter. HESTER SONDERGAARD (phonetic) is reported by Informant [redacted] to have requested MAX YERGAN to have ROBESON send a telegram to Actors Equity criticizing FRANK FAY for filing a complaint before that organization against those actors who appeared 67D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

at the meeting. The informant advised that information reflecting that YERGAN, acting on this request and the request of one Mr. JAFFEE of Actors Equity, discussed the proposed statement with the subject and that the subject in his statement to this organization pointed out that the Franco Government of Spain had been pro-Fascist and was aided by Germany and that the appearance of the actors before the meeting in question was not one of a religious issue and that LASKY had nothing to do with the Equity members' appearance before such meetings which oppose Fascism. The informant advised that a statement was prepared by MAX YERGAN upon the authority of ROBESON to be sent to Actors Equity in this matter.

Informant [redacted] advised that a request was made of MAX YERGAN by the office of MICHAEL QUILL, then candidate for the City Council from the Borough of the Bronx and a known pro-Communist, asking that YERGAN obtain a statement from the subject endorsing MICHAEL QUILL for candidate for re-election. The informant advised that a statement was submitted to QUILL's office by YERGAN allegedly from the subject to the effect that ROBESON was pleased to give his full endorsement to his "good friend, MICHAEL QUILL", and his campaign. ROBESON in this statement urged his people and other citizens of the Bronx to make QUILL their first-choice candidate. His endorsement of QUILL characterized QUILL as alert in the interests of labor and minorities and "truly a people's representative". QUILL is a known close associate of the Communist Party and is known to have followed the Communist Party line in the past. b7D

The Daily Worker of October 19, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject received the Spingarn Medal on the previous night. The Spingarn Medal is an annual award made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples to an outstanding American Negro of the year. The article stated that the thirtieth award to be made was presented by MARSHALL FIELD to the subject at the Hotel Biltmore. The newspaper, "P.M.", of the same date stated that the award was for ROBESON's "distinguished achievements in the theater and on the concert stage, as well as his active concern for the rights of the common man of every race, color, religion, and nationality". This article stated that the subject pointed out in his speech that the Russians have shown what backward peoples can do in one generation. He stated, "Full employment there is a fact and not a myth".

The remainder of the subject's talk consisted of political comments including an attack on the "Bevens and Dubinskys who manage fantastically in the end to be on the side of the Fascists they say they hate". He also called for an alignment on the side of freedom

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

against the publishers, HEARST, McCORMICK, and PATTERSON, and the columnist, JOHN O'DONNELL.

The Daily Worker of October 20, 1945, carried an article headlined, "ROBESON lauds BEN DAVIS for his faith in his people", wherein the subject is quoted as attacking the Social Democrats stating "How different they are from a Ben Davis who has faith of the people from which he stems". This article went on to state that ROBESON praised the Soviet Union for its destruction of Fascism and its fight against discrimination.

Informants [redacted] and [redacted] advised that [redacted] a script writer for the COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM and a known close affiliate of Communists in the New York Field Division, arranged through MAX YERGAN for the appearance of PAUL ROBESON before a forum sponsored by the New York Herald Tribune on October 29, 1945. This forum consisted of speeches by various individuals on American-Soviet relations. [redacted] furnished information reflecting that the subject fulfilled this request and that his speech was evidently prepared by YERGAN.

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b7D
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[redacted]

(c)

[redacted]

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[redacted]

(c)

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18-

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[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

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"The People's Voice" of November 10, 1945 carried an article stating that "Robeson Answers Fascist Criticism". This article stated that in response to criticism by the Montreal Gazette for including in his concert a talk against FRANCO, the subject stated, "They will have to take what I have to say along with my songs" and said that ROBESON was delighted to "be able to get a rise out of the reactionaries".

Informant [REDACTED] advised that arrangements were made through MAX YERGAN and the Council on African Affairs for the appearance of the subject before a meeting sponsored by the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship at Madison Square Garden on November 14, 1945.

b7D
b1

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that this meeting was an anniversary meeting of the twenty-eight years of the existence of the Soviet Union and of the twelve years of American recognition of the Soviet Government. This informant advised that the meeting was addressed by several individuals including CORLISS LAMONT and NICOLAI NOVIKOV, Soviet Charge d'Affaires, with the theme being praise of the Soviet Union. The informant stated that the biggest attraction of the meeting turned out to be the subject, PAUL ROBESON, and not the Dean of Canterbury who was also a speaker on the program. This informant advised that the subject sang English and Russian songs and made a strong speech against the United States, England, and the United Nations for their undemocratic handling of the colonial people and the minorities groups. The informant stated that the subject strongly praised the Soviet Government for freeing the colonial people and solving the question of national minorities.

The Daily Worker of November 15, 1945 quoted ROBESON as praising the Soviet Union's liberation of former colonial peoples and

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

called attention to the United States Government's anti-democratic intervention against the people of China and Indonesia. According to this paper, the subject stated, "If the United States and the United Nations truly want peace and security, let them fulfil the hopes of common peoples everywhere -- let them work together to accomplish on a world-wide scale precisely the kind of democratic association of free peoples which characterizes the Soviet Union today".

"The People's Voice", a Negro pro-Communist paper in New York City, carried a picture of the subject shaking hands with the Dean of Canterbury at this meeting. ←

Informant [redacted] advised that the subject was requested by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship to also appear at a conference of the Cultural Relations Committee of this organization on November 18, 1945, but advised that this request was turned down in preference to the meeting of November 14th because of the political significance" of the latter. b7D

"The People's Voice" of December 1, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject "blasted" GENERAL WYTCORS and repression of the Jewish and Indonesian people when he spoke at a two-day meeting held on November 25th and 26th, 1945 by the Institute on Judaism and Race Relations.

On January 4, 1946 Informant [redacted] advised that efforts were being made by a Mr. McDUFFEY (phonetic) who had been appointed to head a UNRRA mission to the Ukraine to take ROBESON's son with him on this mission.

The Council on African Affairs, of which the subject is chairman, held a meeting at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem on January 7, 1946 for the purpose of raising relief funds for the people of Africa. In his article appearing in the guest column of the Daily Worker, January 10, 1946, ALPHEUS HUNTON stated that the subject and JOSH LAWRENCE were speakers on this program.

"The Daily Worker" of March 5, 1946 listed the subject among several persons acting as sponsors for a "National Mobilization in Washington" movement to be held April 5, 6, and 7, 1946 to "win the U.S. back to a genuine anti-Fascist foreign program".

[redacted] advised that subsequent to the speech of WINSTON CHURCHILL at Fulton, Missouri, MAX YERGAN prepared a letter consisting of a

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

strong protest to this speech which was to be sent to the President over the subject's signature. The informant advised that he had received information reflecting that the subject after being advised of the contents of this letter was reticent in giving his approval to send the letter over his signature and that it was decided that the letter should be reworded in a more moderate tone and sent jointly over the signatures of ROBESON and MAX YERGAN.

Throughout the period covered by this report, Informants [redacted] and [redacted] have repeatedly furnished the New York Field Division with information reflecting that the subject, although continuing as chairman of the Council on African Affairs, does not devote much of his time to the activities of this organization beyond that of participating in the various public meetings held by the same. These informants have advised of information reflecting that MAX YERGAN is active in handling the affairs of the Council on African Affairs and attaches a great deal of importance to the subject's name in connection therewith. The informants have advised that the subject is in great demand by various organizations indicated to be closely aligned with members of the Communist Party. The information received has reflected that the Council on African Affairs has during the past several months been active in receiving these requests for ROBESON's appearance and it has been indicated by informants that MAX YERGAN as Executive Director of this organization has the approval of the subject to handle these matters for him.

Informant [redacted] has advised that the subject is currently on a concert tour of the United States.

- P E N D I N G -

~~X~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

At New York, New York.

Will continue to follow and report the Communist activities of the subject.

Will attempt to locate and forward to the Bureau handwriting specimens of the subject.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated April 5, 1946, are as follows:

T-1

T-2

T-3

T-4

T-5

T-6

T-7

[REDACTED]

b7c
c) b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 6/12/46

axl FROM : SAC, New Haven

SUBJECT: ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, was.
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Reference is made to Bureau letter to New Haven dated November 1, 1943 concerning the above subject which bears Bureau File Number 100-238364, and to Bureau form letter to New Haven dated June 10, 1944 which bears Bureau File Number 100-12304 concerning this subject, which latter number is noted to be the Bureau File Number for the case on subject's husband, PAUL LE ROY ROBESON.

This is being pointed out in the event that the Bureau may desire to consolidate these two files, if this has not already been done. It is requested that this office be advised of the correct Bureau file number for the above-captioned subject's case.

WLM:gml
100-8032

*New Haven
file
9-9-46*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-12304-41

JUN 14 1946

EX-25

ml

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RAG/clm

191

100-12304-41

August 8, 1946

RECORDED

SAC, New Haven

Director, FBI

ESLANDA GOODE ROBERTSON, was
Security Matter - C

EX-20

With reference to your letter dated June 12, 1946, in connection with the above-captioned matter, you are advised that the correct Bureau file number of this case is 100-12304.

Aug 8 3 20 PM '46
Suffolk County
ADJUTANT
[Handwritten signature]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
★ AUG - 8 1946 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

HWC:ml

41
AUG 19 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSB/CUM

192

100-12304-42, 43

CHANGED TO

62-81962-1, 2



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 7-11-1962

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
July 2, 1946

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

~~Confidential Informant~~ advised that PAUL ROBESON
addressed a meeting of the Waterfront Section of the Communist Party on
June 26, 1946 at New York. bl

He reported that ROBESON accused Army Officers and State
Department officials of open collaboration with Nazis and fascists in
Czechoslovakia. ROBESON said he knew this to be true because he was
with these officers and officials in Czechoslovakia while making a tour
of Europe just after the war ended.



EGB:FAL
100-25857

cc: 62-8034

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 XED
MAY 14 1978
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASS. & EXT. REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/96

Very truly yours,
E. E. CONROY
SAC
100-12304-44
1121180

7-76

RECORDED
EX-3

100-12304-44

Date: July 30, 1946

To: Mr. Jack D. Neal
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Washington, D. C.

~~BY AIR~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PAUL ROBESON

It has been learned from a reliable confidential source that Paul Robeson addressed a meeting of the Waterfront Section of the Communist Party on June 26, 1946, at New York City. At this meeting Robeson reportedly accused Army officers and State Department officials of open collaboration with the Nazis and Fascists in Czechoslovakia, declaring that he knew this to be true because he accompanied those officers and officials in Czechoslovakia while making a tour of Europe just after the termination of World War II.

The above is set out for your information.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RJS/MLM

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 JER
MAY 14 1977

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUL 30 1946
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 AUG 15 1946

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE

195

Paul Robeson

Bandurant Iowa 9-25-4

J Edgar Hoover

Dear Friend

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSC/KIA

I feel moved to write to you as I read an article in the Des Moines Register by Mr Paul Robeson Negro Linger to President Truman I am sending the clipping to you I admit just things how all of this could be true and your office could not do something about it.

100-12304-45

I am sending

RECORDED OCT 22 1946

attached yours

10-29-46

INDEXED

I have always felt sorry for the Negro

BTC

Hedging on Lynch Law By Truman

WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—A national conference on lynching Monday mapped a program aimed



ROBESON.

at curbing mob violence and sent a delegation which told President Truman that if the government doesn't do something about the matter "the Negroes will."

Paul Robeson, Negro singer who was a sponsor of the conference, said Mr.

Truman had objected to parts of the proposed program.

Robeson said he read a message to Mr. Truman asking him to issue "a formal public statement expressing your views on lynching, and recommending a definite legislative and educational program to end the disgrace of mob violence."

The president, Robeson said, indicated political matters were difficult to issue a statement of his views at this time.

'Timing Important.'

Robeson said that as to possible federal legislation to curb lynching, the president expressed the view that passage is a political matter in which timing is important.

The president took exception, Robeson said, to a suggestion by the delegation that it "seemed inept for the United States to take the lead in the Nuernberg trials and fall so far behind in respect to justice to Negroes in this country."

The presidential view, Robeson said, was that Americans should not tie domestic matters to the international situation.

The organization also sent delegations to Attorney General Tom Clark and to the Republican and Democratic national committees

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Platform.
It gave this as its platform:
"The apprehension and punishment of every lyncher. Passage of a federal anti-lynching bill. Keeping the klan out of congress—no senate seat for Bilbo (Senator Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi)."

In a message to Clark, the conference declared that although there have been 41 reported lynchings since the war ended "not one single arrest, indictment or conviction of any participant in any of the lynchings has been made." It urged the justice department to "use all its authority in a determined drive" to apprehend the lynchers.

The conference told the political parties:

"We have come to demand that the national committees of the Democratic and Republican parties insist in the forthcoming election that all party candidates adhere to and support the enactment into law of an anti-lynching bill."

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-45

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ENCLOSURE

100-12304-45

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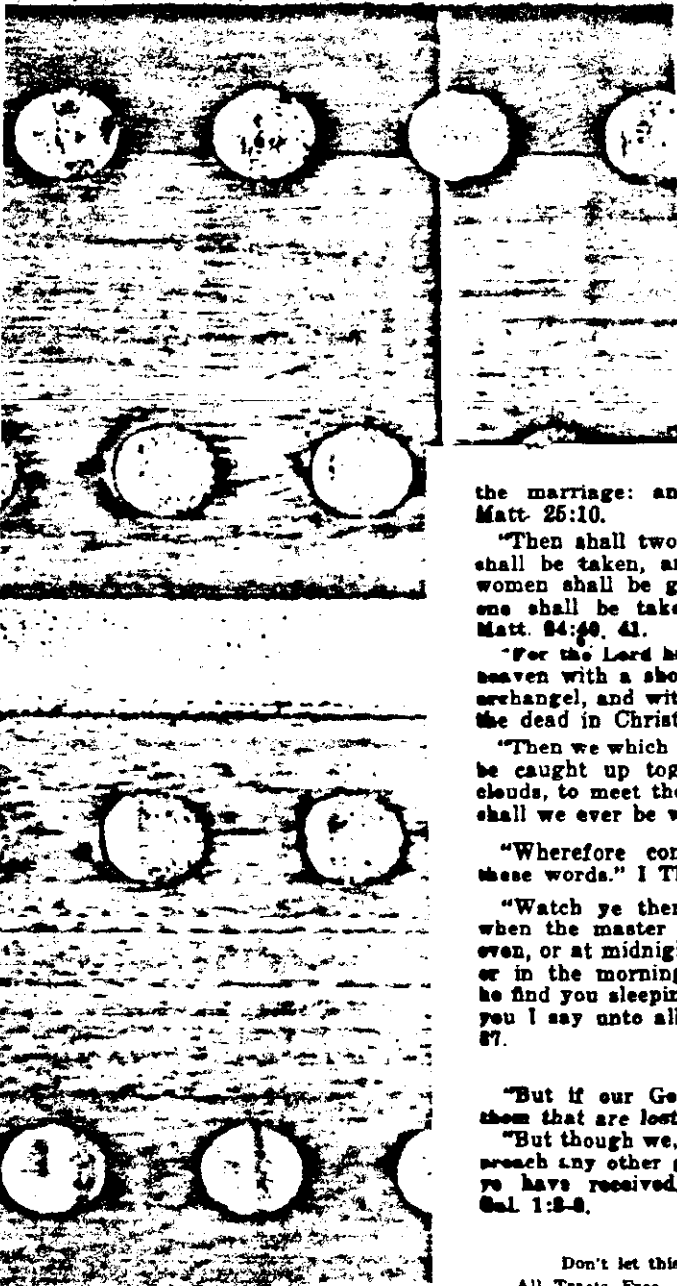
100-12304-45

WHAT

MUST I DO TO BE

SAVED?

(Answered on page 2.)



the marriage: and the door was shut." Matt. 25:10.

"Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left." Matt. 24:40, 41.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first."

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

"Wherefore comfort one another with these words." I Thess. 4:16, 17, 18.

"Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all. WATCH." Mark 13:35-37.

G. B

"But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost." II Cor. 4:3-4.

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Gal. 1:8-9.

Don't let this tract die, pass it on.

All Tracts Free, as the Lord permits, as this work is conducted on the Free-Will Offering Plan.

FREE TRACT SOCIETY, (Inc.)
746 Crocker St. Los Angeles, Cal.

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

ARE YOU LOST and DO NOT KNOW IT?

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12.

"I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14:6.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: (on the cross)

"That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

"For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

"He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." John 8:14-18.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." I Tim. 1:15.

"But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of

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If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.—Romans 10:9, 10.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.—Acts 4:12.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.—Hebrews 7:25.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.—Isaiah 1:18.

WHAT

MUST I DO TO BE

LOST?

(Answered on page 4)

Don't let this tract die, but pass it on.
All Tracts Free, as the Lord permits, as this work is conducted on the Free-Will Offering Plan.
FREE TRACT SOCIETY (INC.)
746 Crocker St. Los Angeles 21, Calif.
PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." Gal. 3:22

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us through Jesus Christ our Saviour." Titus 3:5, 6.

"But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Pet. 1:19.

"Who His Own Self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." I Pet. 2:24.

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" I Tim. 2:3-5.

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished." II Pet. 2:9.

You, dear reader, you who pride yourself on your moral life; and you who are guilty of crime; each must come through the same Door into eternal life.

(Rom. 3:9, 10:23, John 10:9).

What is it to believe in Christ? To feel your need of Him to save you and Him alone. To come unto Him. Jesus says: "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37. "And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him

may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:40.

Have you seen Jesus?

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and be with me." Rev. 3:20.

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Rev. 3:21.

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst, Come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:13, 16, 17.

"He which testifieth these things saith. Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Rev. 22:20, 21.

Dear one, these are the closing words of the Bible. Are you ready? Are you washed in the blood of Christ Jesus? Are you filled with the Holy Spirit? Acts 2:4. "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Acts 2:38, 39.

Do not be a foolish virgin like those who had no oil in their lamps. "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to

October 29, 1946

[Redacted]
Bondurant, Iowa

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of September 25, 1946 has been received. The interest which prompted you to write to me as you did is indeed appreciated.

You may be assured that your letter has been carefully read and the letter and enclosure are being made a part of the official records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JEM/dm

RECORDED

EX - 31

100-12304-45

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJB/CLM

SP-5 RJB/CLM

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

MAILED 13
OCT 31 1946 P.M.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

NOV 8 1946

794-35

201

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-25857 **DM**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 11/8/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/23;9/6/46.	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i>
TITLE PAUL ROBESON, with alias John Thomas		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject, Negro, was born 4/9/98 at Princeton, New Jersey. He married ~~ESLANDE~~ **CARDOZO GOODE** 8/17/21. She was born 12/15/99 at Washington, D. C. The subject maintains residence at 1221 Enfield Street, Enfield, Conn. He is a nationally known singer who has in the past travelled throughout the United States presenting concerts. He is prominent in Communist affairs, lending his prestige and public appearances to the Communist cause. He is Chairman of the ~~COUNCIL~~ **COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS**, a known front organization.

Birth data noted on 55 card 2-7-47

COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-54 R-N

P*

REFERENCES:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** New York 4/5/46. SAC Letter #28, 3/12/46. *b7c*

DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

The "WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA" for the year 1938-1939 disclosed that PAUL ROBESON was born April 9, 1898 at Princeton, New Jersey. The subject is colored and a citizen of the United States by birth. This book also disclosed that the subject married ~~ESLANDE~~ **CARDOZO GOODE** on *clu*

RECEIVED AND FILED ADVISOR SLIP(S) OF *CLASSIFIED 8/3/84*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward Scheidt</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-12304-46	RECORDED & INDEXED <i>9</i>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - New York <i>104</i>	CLASS. & EXT. BY <i>SP-5 RSG/CM</i> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW <i>11/21/90</i>	<i>208</i>

52 FEB 15 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 17, 1921. Election records at Enfield, Conn. reflect that the subject's wife, ESLANDE CARDOZO GOODE, was born December 15, 1899 at Washington, D. C.

Confidential Informant T-1 has advised that the subject maintains a residence at 1221 Enfield Street, Enfield, Conn., although this informant has reported that the subject is seldom at his residence due to the fact that he travels continuously and is in New York a large part of the time. Confidential Informant T-1 and various New York newspapers disclose that the subject who has been reported as well known in Communist circles is a nationally known singer who has in the past travelled throughout the United States presenting concerts. He is known as an actor and singer and receives his income from this source. He is Chairman of the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS. Various sources have reported that the subject has been well-known in Communist circles and active in Communist front affairs lending his prestige and presence to the success of benefit functions sponsored by known Communist front organizations in raising funds.

Confidential Informant T-1 has advised that the subject is Chairman of the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS and has been active in that organization to the extent of raising money to promote the activities of same which is known as a Communist front organization.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

203

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, N. Y. - Will continue to follow and report the Communist activities of the subject.

Will attempt to locate and forward to the Bureau handwriting specimens of the subject.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

The Confidential Informant mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 31, 1946 at New York, New York is as follows: b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
T-1 New York Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

205

SAC, New York

November 25, 1946
100-12304

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, wa
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Your File 100-24857

The Bureau desires that your office prepare a report in summary form in this case setting forth by witnesses only such information of a legally admissible character as will tend to prove, directly or circumstantially, membership in or affiliation with the Communist Party, and knowledge of the revolutionary aims and purposes of that organization. Temporary symbols should be used to protect the identity of those informants who are in a position to testify.

RECORDED

EX-4

100-12304-47
F B I
53 NOV 27 1946

Handwritten initials: dm, pl

- 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. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

ARS:edm

56 DEC 4 - 1946 35

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80

SP5 RJC/elm

SAC, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

December 23, 1946

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

There is attached for your information a copy of a communication dated December 4, 1946, received from the [redacted] concerning the above captioned subject.

c b1

EX-24
RECORDED
Attachment

100-12304-48
HWC:IGS

11/21/80
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 Rtb/MLM
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 3
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
DEC 2
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEC 31 1946

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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To protect information currently and properly classified pursuant to Executive Order 12065.

For your information: _____

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Bureau file 100-12304-48 (Enclosure page)

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2 of

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 12/3/46

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

On [redacted] confidential informant [redacted] furnished the San Francisco Field Division with a letter written by the subject in behalf of the Council on African Affairs, asking for donations for the purpose of combating alleged persecution of negroes in South Africa under the government of GENERAL SMUTS.

A photostatic copy of the letter is being forwarded to the Bureau and the New York Field Division for informational purposes and whatever action is deemed advisable. The document originated in the headquarters of the San Francisco Communist Party, and is being maintained in the files of the San Francisco Field Division.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LHJ:GH
100-6907
cc-New York (Enc.)
Enc.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/ltm
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

*Summary
to A.A.F.
11/14/47-PRM*

100-12304-49
FBI

RECORDED 36 DEC 9 1946

INDEXED
201

58 DEC 18 1946

*Col. J. J. [unclear]
[unclear]*

PAUL ROBESON

21 WEST 26TH STREET

NEW YORK 10, N.Y.

Dear friend,

You and I cannot turn from the tragedy of human need and the call upon us to help meet it. And certainly the widespread nature of today's suffering adds to our responsibility.

At this moment eight million sorely oppressed Africans under the fascist-like government of General Smuts look to us for help. We have already sent them tons of food. We must now put up a fight for their rights through the United Nations Assembly. And the time is short.

You must know the facts. These people are not allowed to vote. They have virtually no sufficient schools and hospitals. The Color Bar, pass laws, denial of trade union rights and other restrictions prevent the workers from getting anything but starvation wages of a few cents a day. Miserably housed and hungry, young and old are ravaged by disease and death.

The immediate task is to utilize every channel of opinion and influence in order to bring these facts forcefully to the attention of the United Nations Assembly, and to open the way to freedom for the people of Africa. The "white supremacy" government of General Smuts must not be allowed to annex South West Africa and thereby secure more thousands of Africans to exploit. The peoples of other African territories must be given protection and democratic rights.

Because I believe in the urgency of this task I am giving considerable time to the Council on African Affairs which is doing the job to help the African people. I would like to see the Council on African Affairs provided with the \$25,000 needed to do this urgent and necessary work. Your gift is deductible for income tax purposes. Your support is needed. Won't you help by sending your contribution in the enclosed envelope?

Sincerely yours,

Paul Robeson
Paul Robeson

PR:dw
100pra 16-2

December 23, 1946
100-12304

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, wa
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Your File 100-25857

The Bureau desires that your office prepare a report in summary form in this case setting forth by witnesses only such information of a legally admissible character as will tend to prove, directly or circumstantially, membership in or affiliation with the Communist Party, and knowledge of the revolutionary aims and purposes of that organization. Temporary symbols should be used to protect the identity of those informants who are in a position to testify.

RECORDED

100-12304-50

RX-88

53 DEC 27 1946

DEC 23 4 46 PM '46

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

RECEIVED

Handwritten initials

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

ARS:edm 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-5 BY R56/cw

60 JAN 9 1947

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216

W.A.M.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, SAINT LOUIS
SUBJECT:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: JANUARY 29, 1947
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF C/OSS, PR
DATE 8/3/81

The Bureau's attention is directed to the fact that PAUL ROBESON appeared in Saint Louis in order to fulfil a singing engagement at the Kiel Auditorium on Friday, January 24, 1947, conducted for the benefit of the People's Hospital.

While in Saint Louis, ROBESON was photographed by various local newspapers carrying a placard in a picket line in front of the American Theater, a legitimate house. ROBESON stated that he marched in the line sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress of Saint Louis to protest the segregation policy practiced at the theater.

Additional organizations participating in the picket were: Saint Louis Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, The Citizens Council for Democracy, a local Communist Party front, the local chapter of the AYD, the local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress Committee and the local branch of the National Negro Congress, which latter group is controlled completely by the CP.

It is noted that the article in the press concerning the picket carried a statement to the effect that the actor engaged for that week, namely WALTER HUSTON, met with representatives of the Civil Rights Congress on Friday evening, January 24, 1947 and expressed himself as in sympathy with the demonstration against Jim Crowism. This quotation was obtained not from HUSTON but from representatives of the Civil Rights Congress in Saint Louis.

G.I.R.-3

Informant [redacted] advised on [redacted] that PAUL ROBESON was being cared for in Saint Louis by ELMER V. MOSEE and that messages for ROBESON could be given to him through MOSEE.

61

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON called on January 24, 1947 from Chicago, Illinois, and talked with RALPH SHAW, CP Missouri State Chairman. RALPH SHAW advised the informant that PATTERSON had given him a message to be directed to ROBESON, namely that the CP of Illinois, have planned an afternoon affair for ROBESON on April 26 and a second afternoon affair for him on April 27, that the CP of Illinois is completing arrangements for ROBESON to leave Chicago for Springfield on the evening of April 27 at 6:00 P. M.

11/12/19

SHAW stated that he will tell ROBESON that if the latter wishes additional information, he can reach PATTERSON in care of Randolph 5580 until 6:00 P. M., January 24, 1947. The latter telephone number is believed to be that of the headquarters of the Illinois CP.

No action is being taken in this matter by the Saint Louis Field Division.

GKS:mw
100-4843
CC - SAC, CHICAGO
SL # 100-739 - 100-7306 and 100-3755

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-12304-52

58 FEB 11 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJS/ctk
REASON-FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/12/19

[REDACTED]
Elberton, Ga., Feb. 15, 1947

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

G. I. R. - 8

Gentlemen:

I happened to tune in on a broadcast this afternoon made from somewhere in Canada by Paul Robeson (I am not sure of the spelling, but the Negro singer).

It contained some very broad statements. They seemed critical of our form of government though couched in words that were supposed to be calm and in the interest of peace.

I am just an average American housewife interested in keeping check on those who speak to the public. I wish you would have someone listen in on future broadcasts to get a first hand impression and then take what course you may deem wise.

Very truly yours,
[REDACTED]

*Reply
2-28-47
AFL*

EX-1

RECORDED
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311

100-12304-54
F B I
36 FEB 19 1947

215

Thompson

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSC/CLM

February 28, 1947

[Redacted]
Elberton, Georgia

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

I have your letter dated February 15, 1947. Your interest in writing me as you did and bringing this information to my attention is indeed appreciated. You may be sure that the matter referred to in your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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 FEB 28 1947 P.M.
 100-12304-54
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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 DATE 11/12/18 BY SP5 RJB/c

EAG

J. Edgar Hoover

FEB 28 - 1947 U

RECORDED SAC, New York
100-12304-55
Director - FBI

31540

February 28, 1947

ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, wa
SECURITY MATTER - C

For your information there are attached hereto photostatic copies of a report which has been submitted to the Bureau by a Confidential Informant in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on February 2, 1947.

Attachment
100-12304

uw
1-177
2-177

9-5

RECEIVED
FEB 28 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/80 BY SP5 RSG/MLM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ FEB 28 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEM:MTP

MTP S R/H
FEB 11 1947

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

217

MRS. PAUL ROBESON

31541

[Handwritten signature]
Pittsburgh, Pa.,
February 2, 1947.

Mrs. Paul Robeson, wife of Paul Robeson, the concert singer, spoke before 500 people today in the A. Lee Weil School at 4:00 P. M. Her subject was "Negroes and the Pattern of World Affairs." She was introduced by Mr. Paul Simon.

Mrs. Robeson is a slightly built colored lady, stands very straight and has a lot of personality. She is also attractive. Mr. Simon said Mrs. Robeson speaks in universal terms that can be applied anywhere in this world. He said there are 150 petitions concerning Negroes and Jews up before the 'Human Rights Committee' at the present time.

Mrs. Robeson said she was here for the East-West Association. She said she is an old friend of Pearl Buck, the founder of East-West Association. She said Miss Buck, a short time ago, had said there should be a series of lectures on people and world affairs. Mrs. Robeson thought that a good idea and that that would be a good way to present the Negroes' problem. Miss Buck invited Mrs. Robeson to present a lecture on Negroes so that was how she came to be a lecturer and how she came to be in Pittsburgh this afternoon. They said the prejudices and minority feelings already discussed would be talked over further. The speaker said the African problem was similar to the colored problem here, that to know Africa we have to study Africa as it was and as it is. She said there are 12,000,000 acres in Africa and 150,000,000 population, but nowhere does Africa belong to the African people. It is divided among French, Italian, British, Belgian and Portuguese. There are 4,000,000 white Europeans in Africa who rule for their own pleasure and profit. There is double talk of Europeans insisting that Africa is backward and the Negroes were helping them to religion and culture. That was 100 years ago.

She said that during the war people came to know what occupied countries endured. The war called them to fight but not to speak, that they have no voice in U.N.O., yet Russia and China have spoken up for the Negro. There is a request for Southwest Africa to join the rest of Africa but since 1900 Britain has refused to turn over her rich lands in Africa.

Continuing, Mrs. Robeson said the Land Acts limit where the negro can live, that negroes are required to carry 12 different documents at all times, that he is not allowed to do highly skilled work and Africans can be removed any time, night or any reason. The request for incorporation was refused by U.N.O. so they are a race with no voice, however, the speaker said, Africa was better off than before occupation. That Africa had civilization for thousands of years and it was superior to European pre-civilization. There were drafts and skills and they ruled themselves. They were agricultural and pastoral. They were communal, had exchange economy at the center of African life was the village. Rubber was collected by Negroes for Europeans, roads were built by negroes for the Europeans. Backward areas were neglected. Direct rule, exploitation made for the breakdown in morale and the population. The young men had to leave home to work in mines and on lands. She said Europe imposed a head tax which each had to pay and they had to leave their homes and families and work for the white people to get this tax money. She said, so, it was no wonder Africa revolted with weapons they had, 'bows and arrows'. There were too many casualties from fighting so they decided to wait until arms could be found.

Mrs. Robeson's ... were ...
RECORDED
INDEXED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/MLM

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2/4/47
2-28-47
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218
100-12304-55

and South Africa. Scandals gradually penetrated to the outside. People were becoming as important as resources. This exploitation was bad and the world was becoming interested.

31542
The speaker said Dual-Mandates have the responsibility to develop (originated not to help but to introduce colonization) but, under poor treatment, Africans arrived at a revolutionary state but not by statesmen helping. She said the March of Time forced the issue and the need for plane bases helped force the issue. The speaker stated that Congo was nearly unknown to the world before the war, but as the war progressed, Africa became a more strategic land location and it was then that the mother countries came to depend on her colonies, that French Congo became home base for the Free French forces and, as a result, radical changes came to the Congo people. African labor built roads and conditions improved. Also, African labor mended machines in factories, African teachers taught schools, African medical assistants worked at X-Ray photography and Africans worked and fought in the Army. Therefore, it was no wonder a negro was appointed Governor General for the first time in history. All this brought about a revolution in thinking and planning and general contributions to the welfare of the colored man and the colored man became aware of his unjustifiable low position. Felix Eboume and Pierre Filomons greatly helped bring about these changes.

Mrs. Robeson spoke of Mandate changes and said the African Trade Unions were made lawful. Africans now can attain full university degrees and they can be represented in the Councils. Further, the low wage level was raised by the Government of India. They are arranging to secure trained social workers for diet, housing, child care and recreation. They were backward for years and years but they are slowly rising from their backwardness. Africans now are citizens and are realizing their potentialities.

The speaker said World Powers feel that Colonization cannot continue in the modern world and so colonization officials have been careful to not let people know what colonization means. The colored people were taken over by foreign colonizers. The white population is less than 1/15 of Africa's population. The "whites" think the "Blacks" exist only to serve them. The whites have no regard for the welfare of the colored people. Colonizers came to Africa from their home countries and there they lived on a much higher scale and with less personal effort to get it than they could in their mother country, yet, if you are in a colony a black you compose 14/15 of the population but you must pay head tax which has no benefits. You have malaria or hookworm yet you get little care. (The infant mortality is one in three). You have no voice or vote in the government, your only hope lies in the fact that your group constitutes a very large group of this world's people. The speaker said this picture doesn't make sense. People everywhere fight for freedom. Africans are pressing for their freedom, the South Pacific is pressing for its freedom, Mississippi is fighting for her democratic rights and conservative people can see that colonizing must go, but, they only have in mind that it will be in fifty or one hundred years. Mrs. Robeson said with these four ways it can be attained,

1. Direct Representation
2. Self Government
3. Self Determination
4. Mandate all colonies in the world so that, Mrs. Robeson said, all nations can bring themselves to self government and grant independence to these colonies in the form of a Trustee ship.

Mrs. Robeson further said that the future of Africa is bound up with the future of 'One-World' and to have peace all must have the rights of democratic freedom (health, work and fun) and we won't have peace until this is accomplished.

219

In the question and answer period, the following took place:

Q. What is the Council of Churches doing in Africa?

A. Mrs. Robeson said she didn't know of this organization or their work, but could tell about the work of missionaries. She said she attended the first post-war conference of missionaries and she further said the only education in Africa has been imparted by the missionaries. These good people are not sure how to treat these educated blacks but they are gradually accepting them on friendly terms.

Q. Will Eritrea go back to Ethiopia?

A. This was black colonization. Ethiopia should work out a Democratic government.

Q. What are the prospects of colored missionaries entering French and British possessions?

A. Africa is worried about lack of colored missionaries. There is growing interest among negroes about this. The problem was that the Colonial Officials didn't want modern negro missionaries (that's us) coming into the African negro and educating him to his misfortune.

Q. Are there important social and economic changes in land under British control?

A. Yes, there is more representation. In Nigeria, cocoa growers and trade unions had a successful strike. More colored people are on the Council and to write to 25 West 26th St., New York City for more information on this.

Q. How have Mandates overcome cheap labor in colonies?

A. The employers are directly responsible to U.N.O. so that all transactions are open to inspection. When this legal ground is achieved they will have something to work with. The rest of the colonies have to be forced into the U.N.O. Jan Smuts tried to force the unionization of parts of Africa, at the same time, Britains are nation living banks and mines. India has independence and Burma is being granted independence. (Mrs. Robeson thinks Jan Smuts is an 'old goat'.)

Q. Is the African Negro under the influence of whites still trying to develop cultures.

A. This development is very important, as to how it can be done with the most possible help, appreciation, dignity, their stories, philosophy and songs, Europeans have tried to wipe it out, but have not been successful.

She said the Soviet Union has a great variety of people and they have done the opposite of Americans, for, Russia helps people to retain and develop their individuality and the people become 100% citizens and are rooted in their own background and are absorbed into the Soviet Union.

Q. Isn't Jan Smuts destroying colonies and putting Communists in jail?

A. He is a complete dictator.

220

31544

Q. Are you a Communist?

A. Mrs. Robeson said she wasn't a Communist but was interested in what they are doing.

Ninety percent of those in attendance were colored.

The speech was entirely read by Mrs. Robeson.

221

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 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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To protect information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to Executive Order 12065.

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Bureau file 100-12304-56 (page 2)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 20, 1947

SAC, New York

RECORDED
Director, FBI
100-72304-57
PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

G.I.R.-3

[REDACTED]

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Attachment

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 3
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

JEM:MJP

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Leah

JM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
MAR 20 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

53 MAR 31 1947 34

DIRECTOR



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



67D

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NUMBER _____

March 7, 1947.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S.A.

Re: Paul Robeson

Internal Security - C

Dear Sir,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

11/21/60
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RJC/CJK
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1/21/90

for sync
6/2/47
3/29/47

Reviewed
Classified by 2650
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
AUG 01 1977

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EX - 81

1100-12304-58
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36 MAR 24 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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28

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(c)

b1

(c) The above is forwarded for information purposes. (u)

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

u

b7C
b7D

Date: March 20, 1947

100-12304-58

To: Mr. Jack D. Neal
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Room 301, 515 22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

RECORDED
EX-5

4/17

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES - British Columbia

Reference is made to the memorandum of March 4, 1947, your file
842.008/2-2047 from Mr. H.J. Cummings, Acting Chief, Division of Foreign
Activity Correlation.

For your information the FBI is interested in the activities of
Paul Robeson while he is in Canada. If you will kindly forward the data
gathered by you while Robeson is in Canada, it would be greatly appreciated.

JEM:acp

100-12304-58

63 APR 1 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSB/klm

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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tok
10

March 28, 1947

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

RECORDED

100-12304-59

For your information there is attached hereto a photostatic
EX - 73 copy of a report received by the Bureau from the State Department
concerning the captioned individual.

gms

JEM:ap

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSK/MLM

G.I.R. - 1

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
MAR 29 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 16 1947 103

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 28 3 09 PM '47
Handwritten signatures and initials

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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231

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: April 10, 1947

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New Haven

SUBJECT: ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, aka Mrs. Paul Leo
Robeson, Essie Robeson
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Cancel
G.I.R.-5
b7c

Reference is made to the closing report of Special Agent [redacted] made at New Haven on April 10, 1947 in the above captioned matter.

In view of the fact that there is no evidence that Mrs. ROBESON is presently active in Communist Party affairs, the Bureau may desire to give consideration to the withdrawal of the Security Index Card on the subject.

JTH:ML
100-8032

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/60 BY SP5 RSB/EM

Cancelled
5-9-47

RECORDED

100-12304-60

EX-68

APR 12 1947

Attaches, 7 and Honors
5-27-47
57 JUN 3 1947/03

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONN.**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NH FILE NO. 100-8032 ML

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/10/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/6/47	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, aka Mrs. Paul Leo Robeson, Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Birth date noted on SS card 5-9-47

Background information on Mrs. ROBESON ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED set forth. She has denied that she or her husband are members of the Communist Party. No indication that subject is active in Communist Party affairs in the New Haven Field Division.

G.I.R. 5

REFERENCE: BUREAU FILE 100-12304.
SAC Letter No. 28 of 1946;
Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] made at New Haven on April 6, 1944. b7c

DETAILS: A review of the files of the New Haven Field Division reveal the following background information on the subject:

Name: Mrs. PAUL ROBESON; born, Washington, D. C., December 15, 1895;
Mother: ~~ESLANDA CARDOZA~~, born South Carolina;
Father: JOHN J. GOODE, born Illinois;
Race: Negro
Marital Status: Married - Married 1921;
Husband: PAUL LEROY ROBESON; born April 9, 1898, Princeton, New Jersey;
Husband's parents: Father - born North Carolina;
Mother - born in United States.

The October 6, 1944 issue of the Hartford Times carried a statement made by Mrs. ROBESON in answer to a claim made by J. B. MATTHEWS, Research Director for the Dies Committee on Un-American Affairs, to the effect that PAUL ROBESON was a Communist. According to this

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *H. B. Fletcher*

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
6 Bureau
2 New Haven

100-12304-61

EX-60
RECORDED

INDEXED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP5 RSB/CM*
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *11/21/90*

*1cc D.R. 5-12-47
COPY IN FILE*

APR 19 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

article Mrs. ROBESON branded as "absurdly foolish" such charges and declared, "I recognize the noise that you hear every time you to anything that is even remotely intelligent. They used to call us 'black' but now they call us 'red'".

The Stamford Advocate on October 24, 1944 published an article stating that Mrs. PAUL ROBESON was a sponsor of a State-wide meeting of the Colored Democratic Federation of Connecticut, which meeting was held in New Haven.

On [REDACTED] T-1 advised that MURRAY GITLIN, one of the leaders of the American Youth for Democracy, was considering asking Mrs. ROBESON to speak at one of their meetings. He mentioned that Mrs. ROBESON'S son, PAUL ROBESON, JR., was a member of the American Youth for Democracy. b7D

On May 15, 1946 the Hartford Times in an article stated that Mrs. ROBESON on May 14, 1946 in the absence of her husband addressed a "Peace and Security" rally held at the New Haven Arena under the sponsorship of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. In her address Mrs. ROBESON scored colonization as the blight of democracy. She further stated that all subject peoples should be given the right of self-determination and that all colonies in the world should be mandated to the United Nations.

T-2 advised that on the afternoon of February 2, 1947 Mrs. ROBESON addressed a group of approximately 500 people at the A. Leo Weil School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her speech, which she read in its entirety, was on the topic, "Negroes and the Pattern of World Affairs". In her introductory remarks Mrs. ROBESON advised that she was an old friend of Pearl Buck, founder of the East-West Association and that she was appearing at the lecture for the East-West Association. She remarked that "during the war people came to know what occupied countries endured. The war called on them to fight but not to speak, that they have no voice in the UNO, yet Russia and China have spoken up for the Negro. There is a request for Southwest Africa to join the rest of Africa, but since 1909 Britain has refused to turn over her rich lands to Africa."

Mrs. ROBESON stated that since the world powers feel that colonization cannot continue in the modern world, colonization officials had been careful not to show what colonization means. She pointed out that even though African natives had a civilization before being subdued by the "whites" now a white population totalling less than one-fifteenth of the entire population of Africa exploits the Negroes. She further stated that although forced to pay a "head tax" the native African receives little or no benefit from such tax.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 233

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

She affirmed that there are four ways in which freedom can be obtained:

1. Direct representation;
2. Self-government;
3. Self-determination;
4. Mandate all colonies in the world so that all nations can bring themselves to self-government and grant independence to those colonies in the form of a Trusteeship.

She claimed that the future of Africa was bound up with the future of a "one world" and that peace will not be accomplished until all nations have the rights of democratic freedom; namely, health, work and fun.

Following the meeting there was a question and answer period in which Mrs. ROBESON claimed that the Europeans have tried to wipe out the native African cultures while "the Soviet Union has a great variety of people and they have done the opposite of Americans for Russia helps people to retain and develop their individuality and the people become 100% citizens and are rooted in their own background and are absorbed into the Soviet Union".

In answer to a question as to whether JAN SMITS was destroying colonies and putting Communists in jail, she replied, "He is a complete dictator". Replying to a direct question, "Are you a Communist", Mrs. ROBESON answered that she wasn't a Communist but was interested in what they are doing.

Informants of the New Haven Field Division familiar with Communist Party affairs have not indicated that the subject is active in the affairs of this organization at the present time. In view of this inactivity, this case is being closed. Appropriate stops have been placed with these informants so that any activity on the part of Mrs. ROBESON in the future will be brought to the attention of the New Haven Field Division.

C L O S E D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NH 100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

RE: REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN., 4/10/47 BY SA [REDACTED]
IN CASE OF ESIANDA GOODE ROBESON, SECURITY MATTER - C.

~~CONF. INFT~~

T-1 - [REDACTED]

T-2 - [REDACTED]

b7C



b1



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

235

Peoria, Illinois
April 18, 1947

31546

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

G. I. R. - 5

Dear Sir:

Information has come to me that Paul Robeson was to have appeared at the Shrine Mosque on a program, the Shrine Mosque supposed to have cancelled his date of appearance, because his views were supposed to have not been within the views of the United States Government. Other words Paul Robeson is supposed to be a Subversive.

After the cancellation at the Shrine Mosque, Mayor Triebel Mayor of the City of Peoria, Ill. was supposed to have offered Paul Robeson the use of a room in the City Hall for his appearance. Stating the reason, that the said; Paul Robeson had a right to be allowed that privilege as to FREE, or Public Speech etc.

I have contacted various persons connected with the work against Subversive activities, and have been told that some of them are going to take the matter up, to see what can be done to prevent Mayor Carl Triebel from allowing this man Paul Robeson the use of the room in the City Hall, for his appearance.

I have also been advised that Mayor Triebel claims now, that it was not him, who offered the use of the City Hall room to Paul Robeson for his appearance, but some of the Aldermen who was supposed to have offered Paul Robeson the use of the City Hall room.

If Paul Robeson is allowed to appear, and allowed the use of the City Hall room, it is going to cause a feeling against Mayor Carl Triebel and the City Hall, and the City of Peoria, Ill. by persons who are loyal Americans and do not believe the way that this Paul Robeson is supposed to believe. Therefore every effort should be used to prevent Mayor Carl Triebel and the City Aldermen from allowing Paul Robeson the use of the City Hall room for his appearance.

The American Legion and other groups on un-American activities have been consulted on this matter.

Yours very truly

[Redacted signature area]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/CMW

Peoria, Ill

236/c

ack 5-24-47
DEN 1-24-47

RECORDED
&
100-12304-62
35 APR 19 1947

31545

May 7, 1947

[Redacted]

Peoria, Illinois

Dear [Redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 16, 1947, which has been given careful consideration here.

In view of the fact that the jurisdiction of this Bureau is strictly investigative, I am unable to take any action in the matter which you mentioned. I do want to thank you, [Redacted] for writing me as you have.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - SAC, Springfield

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RJS/CLM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 10 1947
100-12304-62
BH:mb

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

50 MAY 19 1947 R-143

Quito

Davis

237

←

b7c

←

1-177

April 24, 1947

SAC, New York

Director, FBI
100-12304-63
PAUL ROBESON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached for your information is a copy of a communication dated February 20, 1947, received from the State Department.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSL/DEM

Attachment

Tolson	
E. A. Tamm	
Clegg	
Glavin	
Ladd	
Nichols	
Tracy	
Harbo	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Nease	
Gandy	

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JEM:rb
APR 25 1947 P.M.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 MAY 31 1947

APR 25 11 24 AM '47

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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APR 25 9 45 AM '47

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 18 1947

TELETYPE

- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Keen
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gandy

Cooper

Blatner
Walt

Paul Robeson in Peoria

FBI SPRINGFIELD

4-18-47

8-18 PM CST MC

DIRECTOR URGENT

POSSIBLE RACIAL DISTURBANCE, CIVIL RIGHTS, PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

PAUL ROBESON, COLORED SINGER SCHEDULED TO APPEAR AT PEORIA TONIGHT.

INFORMATION RECEIVED RE POSSIBLE RACIAL DIFFICULTY AS RESULT.

RESIDENT AGENTS ALERTED. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED.

WHELAN

END

ACK PLS

9-19 PM OK FBI WASH DC VH

03 MAY 3 1947 210

TECHNOLOGY RECORDED
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DATE 11/2/18 BY SP-5 RSG/EM

EX-67

100-12304-64
FBI
15 APR 24 1947

cc Mr. Ladd

240

00 80

all direct to

file

5119

PAUL ROBESON

PAUL ROBESON IN ILLINOIS NOTED

Woburn, in Turkish to the Near and Middle East, Apr. 24, 1947, 5:00 a.m. EST-C

(Excerpt)

The assistant editor of the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE spoke at the annual meeting of American press correspondents, saying that the United States was the sole country where complete freedom of speech existed. Just 24 hours after this conceited declaration the Illinois State authorities forbade Paul Robeson, famous Negro singer and antifascist fighter, not from delivering a political address, but from singing. As you see, personal rights and liberties are defended in the United in a most original manner. Freedom exists in the United States but that is for fascists and reactionaries but not for progressive and democratic elements. They cannot find auditoriums for making speeches. This is freedom of speech now existing in the United States.

100-12304-64X
FBI

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DATE 11/21/00 BY SP5 RSO/MLM

RECORDED 31 SEP 25 1947
EX-114

Blw

Foreign Radio Broadcast # 46

4/28/47

241.

51 OCT 3 1947

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Ely

May 3, 1947

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Director, FBI

CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

RACIAL URGEY CREATED BY PAUL ROBESON'S
SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT PEORIA, ILLINOIS

It is believed that you will be interested in the following information.

The Daily Worker of April 19, 1947, reflects that a concert scheduled by Paul Robeson at Peoria, Illinois, was called off by the City Council. Paul Robeson, according to the article, in a telephone statement to the Council on African Affairs, New York City, assailed the Peoria City Council which had unanimously adopted a resolution condemning an appearance there of "any speaker or artist who is an avowed active propagandist for un-American ideology." According to the article, Mayor Earl C. Triebel had reversed an earlier approval for the use of the City Hall which is to be used for the reception of Paul Robeson by a citizen's committee. The Mayor's reversal, according to the article, was based on his fear of "riots or disturbances." In a statement the Mayor had inferred that "Robeson is coming here for a fight" because the singer had told the press of threats he had received. According to this article Paul Robeson made the statement that he did "not intend to be killed" and expressed conviction that "Peoria citizens, feeling as I do, will demonstrate their own feelings against the un-American assault in their own way."

Through a reliable and confidential source it was ascertained that [redacted]

[redacted] a special conference was held at [redacted] which was participated in by leading Communists of the Chicago area, including Gilbert Green, Chairman of District No. 8 of the Communist Party, and William L. Patterson, negro, Second Vice Chairman of District No. 8. According to the informant, William L. Patterson, who, it is known, visited Peoria, Illinois, advised the other Communist officials present that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever had before and that they expected violence. Alfred Brennecht, First Vice Chairman of District No. 8, asked Patterson if some of the boys had guns and Patterson said that everybody had a gun.

It is not known if Patterson referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people," or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria, inasmuch as Patterson is a negro.

The Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited Paul Robeson to appear again in Peoria at some future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to give a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism."

If any additional information concerning the above is obtained, it will be furnished to you immediately.

SENT FROM D.
TIME 6:33 P.M.
DATE 5-9-47
BY [signature]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-12304-65
FBI
MAY 29 1947

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 [signature]
MAY 14 1977

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSC/EMK

G.I.R.-9

SP5 RSC/EMK

247

MAY 7 1947

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242

EVERETT M. DIRKSEN
18TH DISTRICT ILLINOIS

HOME ADDRESS:
PEKIN, ILLINOIS

JOHN R. GOMIEN
SECRETARY

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

May 6, 1947

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Can you examine the attached letter and send me an answer to question number one and also number three, if possible, as set forth on page two? This matter has stirred up considerable interest in Peoria.

You can return the file with your reply.

Sincerely,

Everett M. Dirksen
Everett M. Dirksen

Enclosure

[Redacted]

G.I.R.-9

b7c

Ack. 5/9/47 containing original (copy made for our file)

20

J. M. [unclear]

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-12304-67

244

R31

7 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJS/CLM

[Handwritten signature]

1-178

PAUL RIBESON

COPY

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Roy B. Tisdell Post 537
207 South Globe Street
Peoria, Illinois

April 24, 1947

Dear Ev.:

I am very much in need of your assistance and advice in a matter that has arisen here in Peoria, namely the appearance of Paul Robeson here to render a concert in the Shrine Mosque, April 18th.

I deem it unnecessary to take step by step as to what has happened here, because I am well aware that you read both of our newspapers the Peoria Star and Journal-Transcript.

One, Mr. Cannon, assistant music instructor at Bradley, booked Mr. Robeson for a concert on the above mentioned date. The ticket sale to this affair went along as usual and on April 12th, Mr. Cannon called in my office for information as to whether one Mr. Robeson was branded by my group as a Communist, and what steps we were taking in the stoppage of the sale of tickets. I informed him that we had no knowledge of any subversive activities on the part of Mr. Robeson, therefore, could not give him any information, other than it was a custom to buy tickets at the last minute due to our financial status.

On Monday, April 14, Mr. Gomer Bath began a campaign in the Peoria Star to arouse public sentiment against Mr. Robeson. Here he cited some of the supposed incidents that occurred to prove his statements.

1. Robeson sang Russian National Anthem in Los Angeles and dedicated it to Eisler.
2. Robeson is supposed to be affiliated with 34 Communistic organizations.
3. The fact that Robeson's son attended Russian schools.

Withstanding these three items mentioned, true or false, I sincerely doubt the legality of the Mayor-Carl O. Trieble and his 20 Aldermen of branding one Paul Robeson of being a Communist and closing all public buildings to his appearance. I contend that it is an abuse of the Civil Liberties law together with the destruction of the Constitution of the United States.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSC/CM

100-12304-67

245

COPIES DESTROYED 4/18

Ev., I've stated the facts openly and honestly, at this point I ask you to lend your assistance as a Representative of our form of government, and the people of the 16th Congressional District.

1. I want you to get a report from the F.B.I. on one Paul Robeson.
2. A report from the Committee Investigating Un-American Activities.
3. If Paul Robeson has ever been accused by either of these committees and what disposal was made of the accusation, if any.

Ev., these questions are very important in this community because of the fact that I taken a stand in Robeson's behalf, based on the Civil Liberties law, which deem is my duty.

I am enclosing a copy of my statement to the press, [REDACTED] but withstanding this fact they attempt to bring pressure that I denounce Robeson as a Communist, which I believe an un-American act. I await your reply together with the material pertaining to the questions mentioned. b7c

I am also enclosing a statement of the People's Side of the Incident on Paul Robeson.

I assure you that this favor will be greatly appreciated.

Your Friend,

/s/ [REDACTED] b7c

Encl: 2
CAH/1

246

7/14
1-194

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 3, 1947

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: RACIAL UNREST CREATED BY PAUL ROBESON'S SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT PEORIA, ILLINOIS

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

The Daily Worker of April 19, 1947, reflects that a concert scheduled by Paul Robeson at Peoria, Illinois, was called off by the City Council. Paul Robeson, according to the article, in a telephone statement to the Council on African Affairs, New York City, assailed the Peoria City Council which had unanimously adopted a resolution condemning an appearance there of "any speaker or artist who is an avowed or active propagandist for un-American ideology." According to the article, Mayor Carl Q. Triebel had reversed an earlier approval for the use of the City Hall which was to be used for the reception of Paul Robeson by a citizen's committee. The Mayor's reversal, according to the article, was based on his fear of "riots or disturbances." In a statement the Mayor had inferred that "Robeson is coming here for a fight" because the singer had told the press of threats he had received. According to this article Paul Robeson made the statement that he did "not intend to be bullied" and expressed conviction that "Peoria citizens, feeling as I do, will demonstrate their own feelings against the un-American assault in their own way."

b7E

6-17-47

[REDACTED] it was ascertained that several officials of the Communist Party in Chicago discussed the reaction of the people in Peoria after the scheduled singing engagement of Paul Robeson was banned and he was refused the use of the Peoria Public Hall which is operated by the City of Peoria, Illinois. Among those Communist officials present were Gilbert Green, Chairman of District No. 8; Alfred Wagenknecht, First Vice Chairman; William L. Patterson, negro, Second Vice Chairman, and Jim Keller, Organizer. William L. Patterson, according to [REDACTED] who it is known visited Peoria, Illinois, advised the other Communist officials present that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever had before and that they expected violence. Alfred Wagenknecht asked Patterson if some of the boys had guns and Patterson said that everybody had a gun.

It is not known if Patterson referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people," or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria, inasmuch as Patterson is a negro.

lll

The Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited Paul Robeson to appear again in Peoria at some future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to make a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism."

RECOMMENDATION:

INDEXED 100-12304-68

Inasmuch as the above incident almost caused a riot, it is being brought to your attention. There is attached for your approval a letter to the Attorney General and a letter to MID with copies for ONI, also bringing this information to their attention.

HOB:mod

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Handwritten signatures and initials: *Robeson*, *lll*, *JAM*, *7/14/47*, *247*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: May 8, 1947

McGee

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

[Redacted] Passport Division, State Department,
called Mr. Roach this morning to supply the following information concern-
ing Paul Robeson.

He stated that Robeson had made application for United States passport to proceed to Panama, Cuba and Mexico. He stated that his address as listed on the passport application was Enfield, Connecticut and that his passport should be sent to him in care of George McGee, 22 East 89th Street, New York City. He stated that he desired to leave New York City on or about May 22, 1947 and would travel to Panama via Miami by commercial airlines. He anticipates being absent for approximately one month from the United States.

[Redacted] stated that unless some Governmental agency raised some objection, a passport would be issued.

RECOMMENDATION

It is suggested this memorandum be referred to the Internal Security Section for its information.

PER:ONE
one in York
letter 5/22/47
g.l.m.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

1100-12384-69
17
19 MAY 14 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5
RSG/jcm

AM

b7c
G.I.R.-9

May 22, 1947

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

Paul Robeson
Internal Security - C

For your information, the Bureau has received information from the State Department that the subject has made application for a U. S. passport to proceed to Panama, Cuba and Mexico. His address listed on the application was Enfield, Connecticut. He requested that his passport be sent to him in care of George McFee, 22 East 89th Street, New York City. He stated that he desires to leave New York City on or about May 22, 1947, and would travel to Panama via Miami on commercial airlines. He stated that he anticipates being absent for approximately one month from the United States.

RECORDED

100-12304-69

EX-55 JEM:MH

Handwritten signatures and initials

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/88 BY SP-5 RJK/UM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
MAY 22 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

3 JUN 27 1947

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