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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

L.A. FILE NO. 100-1960.

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	3/13/41	2/5/41	[redacted] (b)(7)(C) MRK

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
LANGSTON HUGHES	INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject, a negro poet, announced on circular as speaker at the "Book and Author" luncheon in Pasadena, California. Subject announced as member of the American section of Moscow's "International Union of Revolutionary Writers" and author of poem entitled "Good-bye, Christ", which appears to be of a Communistic nature. (U)

C.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: (b)(7)(D)

A review of instant file reveals that under date of November 16, 1940, the [redacted] advised the Los Angeles Field Division that [redacted] Pasadena, California, had furnished the [redacted] with a circular which was received through the mail announcing the luncheon which was to be held at the Vista del Arroyo Hotel, Pasadena, on November 15, 1940, at which time a young negro poet, LANGSTON HUGHES, was to speak. This letter advised that HUGHES, however, did not appear on the announced program. (U)

(b)(7)(D)

The [redacted] enclosed with its report several photostatic copies of the circular in question. This circular also contained a poem written by LANGSTON HUGHES entitled "Good-bye, Christ". This poem appears to be of a Communistic nature. The circular is headed "Attention, Christians!!" and urges attendance at the "Book and Author" luncheon and announces LANGSTON HUGHES as the author of the poem referred to above and as a member of the American section of Moscow's "International Union of Revolutionary Writers". The circular also mentions (U)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
E. ERCEN C	R.A. Hood	100-15739-1 MAR 25 1941

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3- Los Angeles

MAR 17 1941

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FINE

4

that GEORGE PALMER PUTNAM would introduce HUGHES. (U)

ENCLOSURES: To the Bureau, two photostatic copies of a circular announcing the "Book and Author" luncheon. (U)

-C L O S E D-

2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AV
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $30

Enclosures to Bureau, 3/13/41

L. A. File 100-1960.

ATTEN[illegible] CHRISTIANS ! !

Be sure to attend the Book & Author Luncheon
At
VISTA DEL ARROYO HOTEL,
Pasadena, California

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1940—at 12:15 Promptly

Hear the Distinguished Young Negro Poet

LANGSTON HUGHES

Author of the following poem, and member of the American section of Moscow's

"INTERNATIONAL UNION OF REVOLUTIONARY WRITERS"

"GOODBYE CHRIST"

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story too,
Called it Bible—
But its dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many

"Kings, generals, robbers and killers—
Even to the Czar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's church,
Even to THE SATURDAY EVENING
POST.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.

"Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehova,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion
at all—
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin
Worker *ME*—

"I said, *ME!*

"Go Ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord.
And please take Saint Ghandi with you
when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimie McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
The world is mine from now on—
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire."

ATTEND THE LUNCHEON CHRISTIANS
And Hear
GEORGE PALMER PUTNAM
Introduce the author of the above "poem,"
MR. LANGSTON HUGHES
Distinguished young Negro poet—and eat, *if you can.*

4

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California
February 7, 1942

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

Dear Sir: RE: LANGSTON HUGHES
INTERNAL SECURITY - J

(b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(C) [redacted] On January 31, 1942 [redacted] Los Angeles, office telephone [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] that LANGSTON HUGHES, internationally famous Negro poet, had attended a luncheon at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, Japan sometime in 1933 and at this luncheon HUGHES was the principal speaker. In his speech, HUGHES related to a predominantly Japanese audience the alleged ill-treatment of the negroes in this country. He predicted that there would one day come a war in which all the colored races, black, yellow, and red, would join in the subjugation of the whites. HUGHES stated that there was a natural bond between these colored races and that their opposition to the white race should be expressed in combat. (U) (b)(7)(D)

The informant advised that she had recently heard HUGHES on a nation-wide broadcast from New York and that the above described expressions were recalled to her mind with the thought that possibly HUGHES is presently engaged in subversive activities. (U)

This information is furnished for whatever value it may possess. (U)

Very truly yours,

R. P. HOOD
Special Agent in Charge

JRA:RD

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8 APR 9 1942

5 MAR 24 RECD

RECORDED
INDEXED
100-15139-2

FEB 20 1942

4

LANGSTON HUGHES

NEGRO POET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Youngstown, Ohio,

April 29, 1943.

In his speech at the W. Federal Street branch of the YMCA, negro branch, subject praised the Soviet Union where he spent 18 months studying in Moscow.

He stated that there will be no racial discrimination in the United States if the people would follow the Russian example. Stated that he is a believer in t Russian Soviet form of government and thereby admitted being a Communist.

Hannah and Ben Blumenthal tried very hard to have subject go with them and other white communists for a visit at the Blumenthal home at 103 Brooklyn Ave. aft the meeting. Although he really wanted to go with the communists, he was committe to go with S. S. Booker, YMCA secretary, to his home at 310 W. Myrtle Ave. where a group of negro intellectuals consisting of Maynard Dickerson, Wm. Howard, Clarence Robinson, Rev. Gibson, Henry Fugett, Bertram Carlson and others, discussed racial affairs until about 1 A. M.

Subject left here for Cleveland, Ohio.

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-15139-3

B B I

24 MAY 17 1943

6

8 MAY 11 1943

LANGSTON HUGHES

CLEVELAND, OHIO

NEGRO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Youngstown, Ohio,

April 24, 1943.

This person is an "alleged" poet, reader, etc., but in reality he is a Communist Party propagandist delivering his lectures in negro YMCA's and under the auspices of intellectuals.

He is to speak in Pittsburgh, Pa., April 25th, and is scheduled to speak at the West Federal Street (Negro) YMCA, Youngstown, Ohio, April 28th at 8 P. M. under the auspices of the Phi Betta Kappa Sorority and the Alpha Phi Alpha Chapter....the male and female gender of the intellectual clique operating the NAACP. Tickets are on sale at the Booker T. Washington branch of the YMCA, or better known as the W. Federal Street branch, the Belmont Ave. (negro) branch of the YMCA and the Communis Party headquarters on West Boardman Street.

S.S. Rocker, secretary of the W. Federal Street YMCA, is chairman. Maynard Dickerson, Wm. Howard, Henry Fugett, H. Emerson, Dr. Love, S. S. Booker, Rev. H. B Gibson, Dr. J. F. Tate, dentist, Dr. C. W. Hall, negro physician, are the sponsors

In other places where Hughes has orated he has been condemned by the negro press and religious organizations as a communist which he has not denied.

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-15131-4

141

EX-56

4-750 (Rev. 12-14-88)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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.

☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552		Section 552a
☐ (b)(1)	☐ (b)(7)(A)	☐ (d)(5)
☐ (b)(2)	☐ (b)(7)(B)	☐ (j)(2)
☐ (b)(3)	☐ (b)(7)(C)	☐ (k)(1)
_____	☐ (b)(7)(D)	☐ (k)(2)
_____	☐ (b)(7)(E)	☐ (k)(3)
_____	☐ (b)(7)(F)	☐ (k)(4)
☐ (b)(4)	☐ (b)(8)	☐ (k)(5)
☐ (b)(5)	☐ (b)(9)	☐ (k)(6)
☐ (b)(6)		☐ (k)(7)

☐ 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.

☒ Documents originated with another Government agency~~(ies)~~. These documents were referred to that agency~~(ies)~~ for review and direct response to you. DEPT. OF ARMY

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100-15139-5

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XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX 7

FBI/DOJ

LANGSTON HUGHES (NEGRO)

COMMUNIST

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Youngstown, Ohio,

April 28, 1943.

This person is a well known negro poet who admits being a Communist. He was brought to Youngstown for a lecture tonight by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, assisted by the Communists.

The meeting was checked for attendance from 7:30 to 8:30 P. M. and it was noted that about 125 persons attended the meeting which was held at the West Federal Street (Negro) YMCA. It was noted that about every white communist leader attended, including Ben and Hannah Blumenthal, Mr. & Mrs. Johnjulio, Morris and Anna Been, Betty Sanic, Bud Earhart, the Turner family, Mary Scanlon, (cashier for the Robins Furniture Co.), Ruth Shulman, also such negroes as Nathaniel Lee, Bertram Carlson and wife, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. James, Attorneys Clarence Robinson, William Howard, Maynard Dickerson, Henry Fugett, Rev. Gibson, Underwood, Emerson, etc.

The affair attracted but little attention outside of the radical negro and white field as the negroes failed to respond in numbers because of the adverse publicity given the local meeting by press announcements stating that tickets were on sale at the Young Communist League office. The communists and negro radicals in the NAACP did not solicit such "free" advertising, but could not deny it because the YCL did have tickets on sale for the affair. RECORDED & INDEXED 100-15-1296

S. S. Booker, secretary of the negro YMCA, was chairman. Nathaniel Lee sang. Lee is employed at the Ohio Works of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corp. JUN 3 1943

Langston Hughes is reported to be married to a white woman who was formerly the daughter-in-law of Mother Ella Reeves Bloor, Communist woman leader in the U. S.

8

394

FV-20

RWB:AKR

100-15139

Date: June 22, 1943

To: SAC, NEW YORK

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

Subject: LANGSTON HUGHES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

RECORDED

100-15139-7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 24 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

It is noted that while this subject is carried on "key figure" in your Division no investigative report has ever been submitted by your office. You are requested to prepare a report in the near future summarizing all information presently in your possession concerning him and including therein complete information as to his birth, citizenship and Selective Service Status.

(b)(7)(C)

The only report on this subject which appears in the Bureau's files is that of Special Agent [redacted] of Los Angeles dated March 13, 1941. It is noted that the case is closed with that report. The information available to the Bureau does not indicate where this subject presently resides although there are indications from information in the "Daily Worker" from time to time that he is [illegible] Communist activities in the New York area and, accordingly, New York is being designated as the office of origin.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. T.
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
JUN 23 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 26 1943

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9

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles - 13 - California
July 7, 1943

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

RE: LANGSTON HUGHES
INTERNAL SECURITY-C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 22, 1943, (100-15139). - See 11 N.W.B.

For the information of the New York Field Division, I am attaching hereto a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, dated March 13, 1941, in the above-entitled matter.

(b)(7)(c)

There is no further information in the Los Angeles files which would be of benefit in this matter and, pending receipt of any leads from the New York City Office, this file is not being reopened in the Los Angeles Office.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD
SAC

Op. 7

VIP:AH
100-1960

c.c. New York City - Enclosure

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EX-14 100-15139-8
F B I
25 JUL 13 1943

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

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10 59 JUL 2[illegible] 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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No. 1 CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK NY FILE NO. 100-25775 EP

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK CITY	8/7/43	6/5,8,28,29/43	[redacted] b7C

	CHARACTER OF CASE
LANGSTON HUGHES	CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject was vice-president of the League of American Writers in 1940 and has been a member of thirteen Communist Party Organizations. Very active in affairs sponsored by alleged Communist Front Organizations. Now residing in New York City and classified 4-H by Local Board No; 58 138th Street and Broadway, New York City. On 6/5/43 Bureau of Criminal Identification and on 6/8/43, Credit Bureau of Greater New York were checked with negative results.

- C -

DETAILS: This report is predicated upon the fact that subject is member of thirteen alleged Communist Front Organizations. These organizations are: LEAGUE OF PROFESSIONAL GROUPS FOR FOSTER AND FORD; NEGRO COMMITTEE TO AID SPAIN and NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO AID SPANISH DEMOCRACY, 1937; AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MEXICAN PEOPLE, sponsor, 1938; FOURTH AMERICAN WRITERS CONGRESS, committee member, 1941; FRIENDS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE, sponsor, 1938; "SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY", contributor, 1941; "SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY", editor, 1942; FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION, member; AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM, member of Executive Board; LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS, vice-president, 1937, 1939, 1940; CONGRESS OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, 1942; AMERICAN PEACE MOBILIZATION, 1940; NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, 1934.

b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identify is known to the Bureau reports that on February 14, 1943 the Council for Pan-American Democracy sponsored at the Martin Beck Theater on the night of the eighth, had LANGSTON HUGHES among the artists who spoke extending greetings to his co-workers in the arts and to Latin American artists.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: C. E. Conroy SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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100-15139-9

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INDEXED

41 AUG 11 1943

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1 - New York

FILES DIVISION

NY# 100-25775

(b)(7)(D)

According to Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, on January 12, 1943 at the HUGH MALZAC Dinner the speakers were ANNA M. ROSENBERG, Regional Director of the War Manpower Commission; ALLAN HAYWOOD, CIO Director of organizations; LANGSTON HUGHES, negro bard; JOSEPH CURRAN, President of National Maritime Union; COUNSELMAN A. CLAYTON POWELL, JR. and DOROTHY K. FUND of the Negro Labor Factory Committee.

LANGSTON HUGHES was one of the negroes who met with the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States on May 26,1938 in an attempt to draft the handling of the negro commssion at the 10th Annual convention of the Communist Party of theUnited States of America.

LANGSTON HUGHES is mentioned as a contributing editor to "LABOR DEFENSE" published monthly by the INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, 8 E. 11th Street, New York City. The Red Network by ELIZABETH DILLING described LANGSTON HUGHES as a member of the National Council of Artists, Publishers and Musicians; a negro Communist leader in the League of Professional Groups for Foster and Ford; in 1932 a member of the negro delegation to Russia to study Communism; also in 1932 a member of the National Committee for the defense of political prisoners; a member of the Scotsborough Unity Defense Committee; a member of the staff of "NEW MASSES"; a sponsor of the San Francisco Workers School in 1933 and a member of the International Union. He lectured at University of North Carolina in 1932 and is presidentof League for Struggle for Negro Rights; member of the National Committee for the FRIENDS OF SOVIET UNION in 1934.

At Local Board No: 58, 138th Street and Broadway, it was discovered that subject's order number 11931. He originally registered at Local Board Number 25, Chicago,Illinois, being there on business at that time. His present address is c/o Mrs. FAY HARPER, 634 Mt. Nicholas Avenue, New York City. He described himself as self employed with annual income of approximately $1200. He listed his date of birth as February 1, 1902 at Joplin, Missouri. He stated he attended Columbia University in New York City one year and later attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania for three and one-half years pursuing a liberal arts course in both institutions. On his registration form subject has written "I use this opportunity to regret as a citizen of the United States the dissolving of the brigade of the armed forces of the United States into white and negro units thereby making colored citizens the only group so singled out for Jim Crow treatment which seems to me contrary to the letter andspirit of the constitution and dangerous to the moral and well being of not only the colored citizens of this country but those of our darker allies as well". On December 21, 1942 the subject was classified 4-H because of his age.

On June 5, 1943 the Bureau of Criminal Identification and on June 8, 1943 the Credit Bureau of Greater New York were checked with negative results.

-CLOSED-

12

RWB:AKR

RECORDED 100-15139-9

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Date: August 28, 1943

To: SAC, NEW YORK

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

Subject: LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTERS

b)(7)(c)

[redacted] Reference is made to the closing report of Special Agent [redacted] of your office dated August 9, 1943. It is noted that while reference is made to this subject's alleged membership in several Communist front organizations his Communist Party connections have not been fully developed, the principal information in that connection being secured from "The Red Network" by Elizabeth Dilling. The Bureau desires that this case be reopened and that further information be secured which would more definitely establish his Communist connections.

In further connection with this report the report in several instances fails to set forth in detail the source of the information. For example, the opening paragraph in the details lists the organizations with which he is said to have been connected. It is desired that his connections with these organizations be more specifically set forth in the report either by reference to the individual furnishing the information or the publication or leaflet from which it was taken.

It is further noted in the second paragraph of page two that Langston Hughes is said to have met with the Executive Committee of the Communist Party in 1938. It does not appear what the source was of this information.

For your further information concerning Hughes the Bureau has received from an unknown outside source in Youngstown, Ohio, three one-page reports concerning him. The first report, dated April 24, 1943, states Hughes is a Communist Party propagandist and that on April 25, 1943, he was scheduled to speak in Pittsburgh. The second report dated April 28, 1943 from this source stated that Hughes admits being a Communist and that he was brought to Youngstown for a lecture sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People assisted by the Communists. This source stated that at this lecture every white Communist leader in the Pittsburgh area attended. The third report, bearing the date April 29, stated that at the speech delivered in Pittsburgh Hughes praised the Soviet Union, where he spent 18 months studying in Moscow. Hughes was also said to have made the statement that no racial discrimination would exist in the United States if this country were to follow the Russian example and that he believed in the Soviet form of government.

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

143

JUL 14 1943

13

The Bureau's files also contain a report received from the Military Intelligence Service in Washington on April 27, 1943, which sets forth a poem which has been attributed to Langston Hughes. This poem is as follows:

"Goodbye Christ

(A poem by Langston Hughes)

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon -
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too.
Called it the Bible -
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many
Kings, generals, robbers, and killers -
Even to the Tsar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's Church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.
Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all -
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker ME -
I said, ME!
Go ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord.
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And Step on the gas, Christ!
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
The world is mine from now on -
And nobody's gonna sell me
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionnaire."

14

It is desired that the foregoing information be incorporated in the next report submitted by your office.

Attention is also called to page two of your report in which it is stated that Elizabeth Dilling mentioned that Hughes was [redacted] member of a Negro delegation which visited Russia in 1932 to study Communism. It is desired that efforts be made to determine whether or not subject left the country as stated.

15

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-25776 GMA

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK CITY	11/5/43	9/15,16,21,24, 10/16/43.	[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
LANGSTON HUGHES	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Two poems apparently of a Communist nature written by subject set forth. A publication entitled: "A New Song" by LANGSTON HUGHES and published by the INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER, INC., 80 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C., has been secured and is being kept in the file of the New York Field Division.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 100-15139. P (b)(7)(c)
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 9, 1943 at New York City.

DETAILS: Subject of this case is a key figure in the New York Field Division. Copy of a poem entitled: "Goodbye Christ", which was secured from the Enemy Alien Squad, New York City Police Department and written by subject, is set forth:

"

Goodbye Christ

(A poem by Langston Hughes)

Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon -
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too.
Called it the Bible -
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many
Kings, generals, robbers, and killers -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: E. E. Conroy SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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100-15139 | 15

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1 Col.S.V.Constant, ID, 2SC
3 New York CC-Bur, 8-2, DR
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30 NOV 8 1943

77 FEB 29 1944

16

EX-37

Even to the Tsar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's Church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.
Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all -
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker ME -
I said, ME;
Go ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord.
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And Step on the gas, Christ;
Move;
Don't be so slow about movin';
The world is mine from now on -
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionnaire.

(b)(7)(D)

The source from which the [redacted] had secured this poem wasn't indicated. Another poem written by the subject was also secured from the files of the [redacted] and had been secured from the "Daily Worker" of April 2, 19[illegible]. The poem is entitled: "One More S in the U.S.A.", by LANGSTON HUGHES, and is set out as follows: (b)(7)(D)

One More S in the U. S. A. Workers Song

by Langston Hughes
(On the occasion of the Eighth Convention of the C.P. U.S.A.)

Put one more S in the U.S.A.
To make it Soviet
One more S in the U.S.A.
Oh we'll live to see it yet

When the land belongs to the farmers
And the factories to the working man
The U.S.A. when we take control
Willbe the U.S.S.A. then.

Now across the water in Russia
They have a big U.S.S.R.
The Fatherland of the Soviet
But that is mighty far
From New York, or Texas, or California, too
So listen, fellow workers,
This is what we have to do

Put one more S in the U.S.A.
(Repeat Chorus)

But we can't win out by just talking
So let us take things in our own hands
Then down and away with the bosses sway-
Hail Communistic land
And shout out, fellow workers,
Our new slogan to the sky:

Put one more S in the U.S.A.(etc)

But we can't join hands strong together
So long as whites are lynching black
So black and white in one union fight
And get on the right track.
By Texas, or Georgia, or Alabama led
Come together, fellow workers,
Black and white can all be red:

Put one more S(etc)

Oh the bankers they all are planning
For another great big war
To make them rich from the workers dead,
That's all that war is for.
So if you don't want to see bullets holding sway
Then come on, all you workers,
And join our fight today:

Put one more S(etc)

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(b)(7)(D)

Also discovered in the file of the [redacted] was another clipping from the "Daily Worker" of September 9, 1937, which contained a photograph of the subject and an article to the effect that the Negro poet was to broadcast during the following week from Madrid, Spain, where he had remained after attending the International Writers Congress which convened there several weeks before.

Confidential Informant T-1 on September 19, 1941, provided, among other publications of the International Workers Order, a collection of poems entitled: "A New Song" by LANGSTON HUGHES. This pamphlet contains an introduction by MICHAEL GOLD, Frontispiece by JOE JONES and seventeen poems which had been copyrighted by the subject in 1938. Some of the titles in this collection are:

"Little America Buy America Again."
"Justice".
"Chant For Tom Mooney."
"Chant For May Day."
" Ballads of Lenin."
"Song of Spain"
"Open Letter to the South."
"Negro Ghetto" and "The Lynching Song."

All of these poems make reference to the injustice of the wage earner's lot and in most of them there is also a reference to the workers taking over the Park Avenue section or in short, all the desirable aspects of the living of the well-to-do. This publication is being maintained in File No. 100-2936 in the New York Field Division.

-P E N D I N G-

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NY#100-25776

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will continue to check and report further Communist activities and studies being pursued, if any.

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NY100-25776

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

(b)(7)(c)

Confidential Informant T-1 mentioned in report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 5, 1943 at New York City is as follows:

[redacted] (b)(7)(D)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

N.Y. FILE NO. 100-25776 EW

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	2/19/44	11/27; 12/2/43; 1/10, 12/44	[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
LANGSTON HUGHES	INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: An article entitled "Negroes in Moscow" and subtitled "In a Land Where There is no Jim Crow" found in the October 1933 copy of INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE was written by Subject and is date-lined Moscow, 1933. An article by Subject in the CHICAGO DEFENDER of 9/4/43, set forth. Subject advises every adult negro to join an organization for the betterment of negroes and one which is trying to break down discrimination against negroes. He also speaks of Russia's intolerance of racial discrimination. Report on Subject by Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, dated November 27, 1943, set forth. [redacted] advises (b)(7)(D) Subject is Communist Party Member, but that for the past year, he has not been so keen on the Party. A review of periodicals and other literature in the files of the New York Field Division reflect Subject is a member of 19 front organizations.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE (b)(7)(D)

P.

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 100-15139 (b)(7)(c)
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 5, 1943, at New York, New York.

DETAILS: In an article entitled: "Negroes in Moscow", and subtitled "In a Land Where There is no Jim Crow" appearing in the October 1933 issue of INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE, Subject writes of the statue of Pushkin standing in the Central Square of Moscow. Subject identified Pushkin as

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3 New York
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19 FEB 21 1944

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22 ... 17 1944

the great grandson of Peter the Great. Subject speaks of the outstanding place of Pushkin in the literature of all time. The theme of the article, however, is the complete acceptance of this person of colored blood by the Russian masses. The article is written in the present tense and described the author's contacts with other negro people who have either been born in Moscow or have worked there for years. He comments on the fact that negroes have mingled so completely in the life of Moscow that he has been unable to find several colored people of outstanding reputations whom he was anxious to meet. He concludes this article with a poem by a Moscow poet, JULIAN ANISSIMOV, called "Kinship":

"The blood of Pushkin
Unites
The Russian and the Negro
In heart
Tomorrow
We will unite anew
In the International."

This article is date-lined Moscow, 1933.

The CHICAGO DEFENDER of September 4, 1943, carried an article by the Subject. He stated that many people were writing to him, asking what to do now about the racial situation in America. Subject stated that he felt that every adult negro able to work or fight ought to join an organization for the betterment of negroes and one which is trying to break down discrimination against negroes. He pointed out that all should join the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF COLORED PEOPLE and the URBAN LEAGUE.

As to the MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT, he stated that he was a member of it, but that he has two things against it: first, that it does not admit white people; second, that its leader, A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, is always attacking Russia.

Subject stated that: "Russia is the only country in the whole world that will not tolerate racial discrimination and it is the only country where the poor man has an equal break. As to the white people in America, there are so many here, that I think we have to learn to work with them and they with us." Subject stated, however, that "by being a member of the MARCH ON WASHINGTON, I felt that maybe I could persuade

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THE MOVEMENT to admit white people and to get Mr. RANDOLPH to lay off of our Soviet Union."

(b)(7)(D) [redacted] In a report dated November 27, 1943, Confidential Informant whose identity is known to the Bureau, provided the following: "LANGSTON was among the first Negro intellectuals that joined the Party. He has never been known generally, not even in the Party circle, as a member of the Party. He was known to such persons as JAMES W. FORD, SAMUEL PATTERSON, HARRY HAYWOOD, OTTO HALL, LOUISE THOMPSON, B. D. AMIS, TIMOTHY HOLMES and others in the top circles.

"Being an outstanding Negro poet, his name in united front movements carried prestige and weight. He wore the badge of liberal or progressive. The Party exploited this to the utmost in the Scottsboro Case, the American League Against War and Fascism, National Negro Congressand other united front movements. His name was used to draw other Negro intellectuals and professionals into these movements, and with considerable success.

"Langston has always been strictly a racialist evinced in all his poetical works. He came into the Party on the basis of its program on the Negro question. Shortly after Russia's entrance into the War, he, like ANGELO HERNDON, felt that the Party was abandoning the struggle for Negro rights. Up and until Browder's release from the Federal Penitentiary, this view was prevalent. The major responsibility for this was placed on the shoulders of JAMES W. FORD.

"Since then LANGSTON has not been so keen on the Party. His pen first, last, and always is for the rights of his people. He has not been expelled, neither has any public issue been made of it. He is spoken of as a 'progressive poet'. His name in the last year has been conspicious by its absence from united front movements, organised and led by the Party. He has not participated in any united front movements here in my knowledge for over a year."

A review of periodicals and other literature in the files of the New York Field Division reflected that Subject is a member of the following front organizations:

AG - H AMERICAN PEACE MOBILIZATION - National Council 1940

LEAGUE OF PROFESSIONAL GROUPS FOR FOSTER AND FORD, - Member 1932

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N. Y. 100-25776

LEAGUE OF THE STRUGGLE FOR NEGRO RIGHTS - President, 1935

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS - Member 1934

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLES RIGHTS - Member 1940-1941

NEGROES COMMITTEE TO AID SPAIN with the Medial Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy - Sponsor 1937

A. P. M. Test Dinner for MARCANTONIO, - Guest of Honor 1941

A. P. M. Test Dinner for MARCANTONIO, - Sponsor 1941

AG LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS, - Vice president 1937, 1939, 1940

HCUA 1951 AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE MEXICAN PEOPLE - Sponsor 1938

1951 AMERICAN WRITERS CONGRESS (L.A.W.) Committee Member 1941

AG ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE - Sponsor 1938

HCUA 1951 2377 1959 SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY - Contributor 1941

SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY Editorial Council 1942

COMMON GROWTH, - Editorial Advisory Board 1942

AG CONGRESS OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP - Patron 1942

UNITED NATIONS IN AMERICA Dinner given by the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born, speaker, April 17, 1943

Tenth anniversary, National Conference of American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, speaker, 1943

HCUA 1951 BOOK UNION - Advisory Council 1943

PENDING

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N. Y. 100-25776

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York, New York:

Will continue to check and report further Communist activities.

26

HR:rol

100-15139

April 11, 1944

NOT RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

RE: SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

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

HUGHES, LANGSTON NATIVE BORN COMMUNIST

634 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, New York (Res.)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF Declassification
DATE 7-27-78

DECLASSIFIED BY 3832
ON 7/20/78 LLS/gw

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
APR 11 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

3 APR 12 1944

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ECR:HAF
NY 100-25776

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

RE: LANGSTON HUGHES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

INSPECTOR HARBO: The last report submitted in this case is a report (b)(7)(C) dated February 19, 1944 by Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(C) [redacted] in which a lead is set out to continue to check and report further Communist activities. Routing slips were sent to Special Agent [redacted] by the supervisor (b)(7)(C) on July 12th and August 4, 1944. The case was reassigned to Special Agent [redacted] on August 31, 1944. (b)(7)(C) Inasmuch as there was no specific investigation to be conducted after the submission of the above-mentioned report, the case should have been placed in a pending inactive status, instead of being carried as assigned and delinquent for most of the time since the report was submitted. Inasmuch as 6 months have elapsed since the submission of the last report, it is now time for further check into the activities of the subject. In line with Bureau instructions, an effort should be made to procure a handwriting specimen of the subject. It is noted that there is a photograph of the subject in the file. Copies should be furnished to the Bureau with the next report.

SAC E.E.Conroy
Super. J.R.Malley The Inspector's comments have been noted. This case will be brought up to date and placed in a pending inactive status.

100-15139
NOT RECORDED
31 OCT 6 1944

Inspection Report
New York Office
Inspector Harbo
September 13, 1944

29

78 OCT 10 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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This case originated at NEW YORK, N. Y. NY File No. 100-25776 els

Report made at	Date made	Period	Report made by
NEW YORK, N. Y.	10/4/44	9/9,11,21,22, 25,26/44	[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

Title	Character
LANGSTON HUGHES [redacted]	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis of facts:

Autobiography of subject set forth. First became active Workers Movement 1930. Member INTERNATIONAL UNION REVOLUTIONARY WRITERS 1933. On National Committee of AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR & FASCISM 1934. Contributing Editor "Labor Defender" 1937. Member American Committee for Technical Aid to Spain 1937. Attended INTERNATIONAL WRITERS CONGRESS at Madrid, Spain, 1937. Supported verdict in Soviet Purge Trials 1938. Member AMERICAN PEACE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE 1940. Member LEAGUE AMERICAN WRITERS, 1941. On Editorial Council, SRT PUBLICATIONS, INC., 1941. Listed as lecturer, SCHOOL FOR DEMOCRACY, 1942. Signed Second Front Call 1942. On Editorial Board, magazine "Common Ground", 1942. Speaker meeting held by COUNCIL FOR PAN AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, 1943. Subject's drama, "For this We Fight", presented at NEGRO FREEDOM RALLY, Madison Square Garden, 1943. On Committee, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, 1943. Sponsor of AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY, 1944. Member National Committee for People's Rights. Subject believed to be residing 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York.

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ENCL 1 attached 173 21

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EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE 7/20/78 LLS/gfw

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF classification DATE 7-27-78 MLA

REFERENCE: Bureau File 100-15139. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 19, 1944, at New York, N. Y. (b)(7)(c)

Approved & forwarded SAC	Do not write in these spaces	
E. E. Conroy Acc.	100-15139-13	

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2 - New York

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NY 100-25776

DETAILS: The subject of this case is carried as a key figure in the New York Field Division.

"The Big Sea", published by A. A. KNOPF, in 1940, is an autobiography of LANGSTON HUGHES, and is summarized as follows:

HUGHES was born February 1, 1902 at Joplin, Missouri. His early youth was spent in Lawrence, Kansas. In 1916, he moved to Clevela with his mother, where he remained until he had completed his high school education at Central High. In 1920, he visited his father, who was living in Mexico, and stayed with him for approximately a year. In September of 19. he enrolled at Columbia University in New York, where he completed a one year course. During this same year, he found time to attend the Rand School in New York under the guidance of LUDWIG LE ISOHN and HEYWOOD BROUN.

At the end of the school year, he went to sea, and from that time until 1926, he drifted about in various countries of Europe, includ ing Italy, France, and Spain. He had begun to write poetry prior to his goi to sea. As a result of his talent in this field, he was given a scholarship to attend Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He began his studies at this school in 1926, and completed his course there in three years.

A review of the files of the New York Field Division was made, and the following information was reflected:

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that subject first becam active in the Workers Movement and interested in social conditions in 1930; that he had visited Russia in 1933; and that he was a correspondent in Madrid, Spain, during the Spanish Civil War.

Confidential Informant T-2 advised that one SONYA GROLL, with the alias JUNE CROLL, a white person, married LANGSTON HUGHES sometime in 1932, and they had a child.

In the Daily Worker, edition dated September 1, 1933, on page 5, the subject is stated to have written an article entitled "Moscow and Me", in which he describes his trip to Moscow for the purpose of filming a picture "Black and White". He stated that he admired the Soviet system for its non race prejudice, and he stated that all places were open to him as he possessed credentials of the INTERNATIONAL UNION OF REVOLUTIONARY WRITERS.

In the Call to the Second United States Congress Against War and Fascism on September 28, 1934 at Chicago, Illinois, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was on the NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM.

The February, 1937 issue of the "Labor Defender" reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was a Contributing Editor of this magazine, which is published by the INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, 8 East 11th Street, New York City.

In the Daily Worker, published March 29, 1937, on page 4, he wrote that the participation of Negroes in the Spanish War on the side of the Loyalist Government shows that the Negroes are growing in international consciousness. This article also reflected that he is a member of the AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL AID TO SPAIN.

An article in the Daily Worker, dated September 7, 1937, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES, "the Negro poet", made a broadcast from Madrid, and that several weeks before he had attended the INTERNATIONAL WRITERS CONGRESS at Madrid, Spain.

According to the Daily Worker of January 22, 1938, on page 2, the subject was interviewed on his return from Spain after spending six months there. It is reported that HUGHES told of the heroic work of the many Negroes from the United States in Spain's fight against General Franco, and that he was convinced of a Loyalist victory.

An article in the Daily Worker, dated April 28, 1938, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of 150 prominent American artists, writers, and composers, who issued a statement in support of the verdicts of the recent Moscow Trials of the Trotskyite-Bukharinite Traitors.

The 1938 International Workers Order Convention proceedings reflect that EMANUEL LEVIN, National Education Work Director, distributed ten thousand copies of the collected poems of LANGSTON HUGHES.

In the Daily Worker, dated August 14, 1939, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of 400 leading figures in education who relcas a manifesto denying the fantastic falsehood that the U.S.S.R. and the Totalitarian States are basically alike.

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The Daily Worker issue of September 3, 1940 reflected a list of officers elected by the EMERGENCY PEACE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE Convention held September 2, 1940, in which LANGSTON HUGHES is carried as a member.

In the "New Leader", dated November 11, 1940, an article appeared which read as follows:

> "Two new fronts have been added by the Comrades to the long and tiring list of networks swung by the Comintern through the professions. One is the Lawyers Committee to Keep the United States Out of War. The other is the Negro Playwrights, sponsored by Stalin stooges, PAUL ROBESON, RICHARD WRIGHT, HAL EMERSON, BEN DAVIS, LANGSTON HUGHES, and all the lads."

In an article published in the Daily Worker, dated April 5, 1941, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of more than one hundred leading American writers who signed the Call of the Fourth Congress of the LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS to be held June 6-8, 1941.

Confidential Informant A, whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised the plenary session, of the COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A., was held in New York City from June 28, 1941 to June 29, 1941, and that among the persons attending was JUNE CROLL (formerly SONYA CROLL), wife of LANGSTON HUGHES, Negro poet.

Confidential Informant T-2 advised in October, 1941, that LANGSTON HUGHES is on the Editorial Council of the SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY PUBLICATIONS, INC., 114 East 32nd Street, New York City.

[redacted] (b)(1)

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Confidential Informant T-3, in a report dated January 7, 1942, advised that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of those listed as being instructors and a guest lecturer at the SCHOOL FOR DEMOCRACY, 13 Astor Place, New York City.

An article appearing in the Daily Worker dated September 22, 1942, page 7, column 3, reflected that HUGHES was one of 500 American writers who signed a Second Front Call in a letter to the President.

b)(7)(D)

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that as of November 27, 1942, LANGSTON HUGHES was on the Editorial Board of the "Common Ground", a magazine published by the COMMON COUNCIL FOR AMERICAN UNITY, 222 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

In an article in the Daily Worker dated December 23, 1942, page 7, column 7, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES headed a list of writers who will lecture at the SCHOOL FOR DEMOCRACY during the winter term beginning January 4, 1943, and that he will speak on the life and culture of the Negro people.

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] reported b)(7)(D) that LANGSTON HUGHES was a speaker at a meeting held at the Martin Beck Theater on February 14, 1943, "Night of the Americas", to further cultural ties between Latin America and the United States. This meeting was put on by the COUNCIL FOR PAN AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.

[redacted] b)(1) (c)

In the Daily Worker, dated May 19, 1943, page 7, column 2, the following information was related:

> LANGSTON HUGHES' drama, "For this we fight", will be presented at Madison Square Garden June 7th in connection with a Negro Freedom Rally. Concluding a lecture tour, which took

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him to several midwestern universities and Army camps during the winter, including a government radio broadcast from Toronto, the poet will speak May 26th at the Tom Paine Forum in Philadelphia.

In an article appearing in the Daily Worker, dated May 24, 1943, page 1, column 5, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of 220 prominent Americans who addressed an open letter to the president urging an immediate severence of diplomatic relations with Finland, and a declaration of war.

Confidential Informant T-9 reported a conference between BEN DAVIS and GIL GREEN, which took place on May 20, 1943. BEN DAVIS complained of the lack of cooperation of the Daily Worker in publicizing a meeting (probably the Negro Freedom Rally in which LANGSTON HUGHES presents his drama "For this to Night"). GREEN wanted to know if the Daily Worker was getting enough material, and DAVIS replied that they were getting more than they could use. GREEN is reported to have said that there should be some real material on the cultural aspects on ROBESON, on what the LANGSTON HUGHES thing is, and, of course, the main thing is the political importance of the meeting.

In an article occurring in the Daily Worker dated September 16, 1943, it was reflected that a meeting of writers was held under the auspices of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP for the purpose of a nationwide collection of books to restore the libraries of the Soviet Union. LANGSTON HUGHES is noted as being on the committee.

Confidential Informant A, whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that LANGSTON HUGHES sponsored and attended a Citizens Emergency Conference for International Unity at Hunter College, Park Avenue and 69th Street, New York City, on September 25, 1943, and that one of the panel discussions was devoted to the problem of discrimination in the Armed Forces.

An article appearing in the Daily Worker dated October 1, 1943, page 8, column 6, reflected that the IPO has called a Cultural Conference for Sunday, October 10, 1943, at Malin Studios, 135 West 134th Street, New York, to deal with the problems of the drama, music, dance, and instrumental groups working in the field of folk art, and that LANGSTON HUGHES will make the main speech on folk art and the war.

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Confidential Informant A, whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that on October 10, 1943, LANGSTON HUGHES made the keynote speech of the Cultural Conference held by the New York District of the IPO.

An advertisement appearing in the New York Times dated December 22, 1943, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was a signer of a declaration put forth by the Reichstag Fire Trial Anniversary Committee, which was an advertisement commemorating "The fire that has been burning for ten years". Many other well known Communists were joint signers.

An article appearing in the Daily Worker issue dated January 30, 1944, page 3, column 4, reflected that EARL BROWDER, LANGSTON HUGHES, and others will speak and pay tribute to the memory of ART YOUNG, Editor of NEW MASSES, on January 27, 1944 at Manhattan Center.

An article appearing in "The People's Voice", dated February 19, 1944, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES participated in a radio debate on the race question on America's Town Meeting of the Air. The article further reflected that HUGHES advocated an over-all Federal program protecting the rights of minorities and that he stated that Democracy does not lose by sharing its privileges, but that it loses by denying them.

Confidential Informant T-4 advised that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of the National Sponsors of the AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY as of February 18, 1944.

An article appearing in the "People's Voice", dated March 18, 1944 reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES made a spring cross-country tour following his recent appearance on the Town Meeting of the Air, and that he read his poems to the men of Fort Reiley as a guest of the 18th and Madison USO Clubs, Junction City, Kansas. His campus programs included the University of West Virginia, the University of Kansas, Wiley College, Sam Houston College, and Prairie View State College in Texas.

Confidential Informant T-3 advised in a report dated June 7, 1944 that LANGSTON HUGHES was affiliated with the FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION, and in this report he is listed as a COMMUNIST PARTY member.

In an article appearing in the Daily Worker dated July 8, 1944, page 8, column 3, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was one of the seven poets who met in a discussion group at the Jefferson School of Social Science, 575 Sixth Avenue.

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An undated pamphlet entitled "National Committee for People's Rights", 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City, listed LANGSTON HUGHES as being a member.

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that his records reflected that the subject still resided at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York. It reflected further that HUGHES was a newspaper reporter for the AFRO AMERICAN at Baltimore in 1938 and 1939, and that he was in Los Angeles, California, during the period 1939 to 1940, where he was the author of an RKO film "Way Down South", and where he was a dramatist at the Federal Theater, Los Angeles. It further reflected that in January, 1941, he had a temporary address at the Good Shepherd Community Center, 5720 South Parkway, Chicago, Illinois.

A check of the mail box at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue reflected that the name of HARPER and HUGHES appeared on the mail box of apartment 1-D. b/(7)(D)

[redacted] of the apartment house located at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York, was contacted under a suitable pretext. He advised that the subject's aunt, TOY HARPER, resides in apartment 1-D, and that LANGSTON HUGHES receives his mail there. [redacted] also related that HUGHES has a studio somewhere in the 400 or 500 block on East 141st Street. [redacted] advised that his son, [redacted] had formerly worked for the subject in doing odd jobs in the studio and running errands for him. [redacted] stated that he would secure the address of this studio for the writer. He also stated that TOY HARPER and her husband, EMERSON HARPER, were presently in Denver, Colorado, and that they were travelling about the country with an orchestra. [redacted] also advised that he had been formerly connected with Company L of the New York City Patrol, and that he had resigned because he was unable to secure help in the [redacted] He also advised that he was the [redacted] of Local 32H, Building Service Union, AFL. b/(7)(D) b/(7)(D) b/(7)(D)

[redacted] New York City, [redacted] of the building at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, advised that [redacted] had worked for him as a [redacted] for a number of years, and that he considered him entirely reliable. [redacted] made the lease of apartment 1-D available, which reflected only the names of EMERSON and TOY HARPER. [redacted] advised that they were excellent tenants [redacted] since the building was constructed fifteen years ago. b/(7)(D) b/(7)(D)

Confidential Informant T-6 made the records of his office available which did not reflect a LANGSTON HUGHES residing in the 400 or 500 block on East 141st Street, New York.

Confidential Informant T-7 made the records of his office available which reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES still receives mail at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York.

The files of the New York Field Division were checked for the names of [redacted] with negative results.

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(D) [redacted] was telephonically contacted, and he advised that LANGSTON HUGHES had given up his studio on West 141st Street approximately a year ago. [redacted] (b)(7)(D) He now is of the opinion that HUGHES is living at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, and he will advise the writer if this is true.

Confidential Informant [redacted] (b)(7)(D) whose identity is known to the Bureau, was contacted for any information concerning the activities of LANGSTON HUGHES, and he made the following report:

LANGSTON HUGHES has spoken for years to various COMMUNIST PARTY gatherings. He is used more as a front, generally contacted through the IWO, and usually through LOUISE THOMPSON, and WILLIAM PATTERSON, both former National Committee members of the IWO and COMMUNIST PARTY. They are husband and wife, now living in Chicago. He is generally near LOUISE THOMPSON. Was sent to Spain by Party during Civil War period. He believed HUGHES to be in Chicago, and that he was a writer on the Chicago Defender.. He described HUGHES as being forty-two years of age, 5'8" tall, medium build, brown eyes, having

38

a mustache and marital status - unknown.

A more recent picture of LANGSTON HUGHES appearing in the Daily Worker dated October 1, 1943, page 8, column 6, was obtained, and a copy of this picture is being submitted as an enclosure with this report.

ENCLOSURE ----------LUTZAU (1)

Photograph of subject

P E N D I N G

39

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

Will review the files of the Office and report any information concerning the activities of the subject not set forth in instant report.

Will contact confidential Informants of the Office for any information concerning the activities of the subject. It is known that HUGHES has been a writer on the Chicago Defender and that he is a close friend of LOUISE THOMPSON and WILLIAM PATTERSON.

BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND:

Will review the files of the office and report any information concerning the activities of the subject, who was a news reporter for the AFRO AMERICAN, 1938-9.

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

Will report the activities of the subject for the period 1939-40. Subject was connected with the Federal Theater and was the author of an RKO film entitled "Way Down South".

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

Will check with the State Department to determine if the subject obtained a passport to leave the country as stated sometime in 1932 or 1933 to go to Russia and whether he obtained a passport sometime in 1937 when he is alleged to have spent the latter six months in Spain.

40

NY 100-25276

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK:

Will obtain handwriting specimens of the subject at Local Board 58, 138th Street and Broadway.

Will recontact [redacted] b)(7)(D) [redacted] for the purpose of developing him as a confidential informant.

Will continue to check and report further Communist activities of the subject.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

(b)(7)(C) The confidential informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 10/4/44 at New York, New York, are identified as follows:

(b)(7)(C) T-1 is an unrevealed informant in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 20, 1942 at New York.

(b)(7)(C) T-2 is an unrevealed informant in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 8, 1941, at Pittsburgh.

(b)(7)(D) T-3 is records of [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

T-4 is a mimeographed list of National Sponsors found in Room 717, Steinway Hall, 113 West 57th Street, New York City.

T-5 is Local Board 58, 138th Street & Broadway, New York.

T-6 is [redacted] (b)(7)(C) of Hamilton Grains Station Post Office, 523 West 146th Street, New York.

T-7 - College Station Post Office, 217 West 140th Street.

T-8 is Confidential Informant [redacted] (b)(7)(D) whose identity is known to the Bureau.

T-9 is Confidential Informant [redacted] (b)(7)(D) whose identity is known to the Bureau

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300.

1 Enclosures for BUREAU Office

Re: NEW YORK FILE NO. 100-25776

of the heaviest weapons used in the
gainst the people.

interest of sharpening this weapon
hat the International Workers Order
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New York
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and per-
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working
folk art.
eminently
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LANGSTON HUGHES

a conference, poet and playwright
will make the main speech of the
k art and the war. Another ardent

ARTHUR C. SIDER, PRINCIPAL
FRIEDRICH G. ROTH, ASS'T PRINCIPAL
JULIA C. FARNAM, ASS'T PRINCIPAL

AGNES E. COLLINS, AS:
CONGRESS STREET SU

Central High School

BRIDGEPORT : CONNECTICUT

October 26, 1944

2-3

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The purpose of this letter is to obtain from your organization, if it is available, information or an opinion regarding the Negro poet, Mr. Langston Hughes. The circumstances are these--I have engaged him to speak to the students of Central High School, November 14. Monday, October 23, there appeared an article in the New York Sun by George E. Sokolsky stating that Mr. Hughes belonged to twelve organizations which Attorney-General Biddle declared to be subversive and communist, and that these organizations are once "which the Department of Justice, for its particular purposes accepted as communist or communist dominated."

I should like to know, if it is not out of place to release the information, whether or not this is the truth. I should also like to know whether or not the Federal Bureau of Investigating as any evidence that Mr. Hughes has at any time been engaged in activities subversive to the United States Government. My only interest in the matter is to safeguard the pupils [redacted] and any information or advice that you may give me regarding the propriety of Mr. Hughes talking to a typical student body that is not concerned with the Negro problem will be deeply appreciated.

b)(7)(C) [redacted] b)(7)(C)

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] b)(7)(C)

b)(7)(C) [redacted]

45 10/30/44

100-15137-14

RECORDED & INDEXED

14 OCT 28 1944

#113

RWB:mer
100-15139 14

November 1, 1944

(b)(7)(c)

[redacted]

Central High School
Bridgeport, Connecticut (U)

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

I am in receipt of your letter of October 26, 1944, in which you requested information concerning a lecturer who is scheduled to appear before the students of your high school in the near future. (U)

I appreciate your interest in making this request but I regret to state that I am unable to be of any assistance to you in this matter. The Attorney General, Mr. Francis Biddle, has ruled that information in the possession of this Bureau is confidential and cannot be released except upon his express authorization. (U)

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Tracy
Mohr
Carson
Gordon
Hanford
Jones
Quinn Tamm
Rosse
Glady

COMMUNICATIONS SECT.
MAILED 8
NOV 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

74 NOV 8 1944

46

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

McC:MJG

0-25770

[redacted]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: October 27, 1944

(U)

D25387

Attention: F.B.I. LABORATORY (U)

[redacted] (S) (U)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF Classification
DATE 7-27-78 MLR

Encls (3)

CLASSIFIED BY 3832
EXEMPT FROM GDS. CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE 7/20/78 LLS/ghw

[redacted]

335826

100-15139-14X

37 OCT 31 1944

NO ANS. NEC. Part of
SPEC. RETAINED IN LAB.

(U)

NOV 15 1944

11-11-44
ND:MFA

RECORDED

[redacted] AA

47

4-750 (Rev. 4-17-85)

XXXXXX
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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.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ 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.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-15139-14X ENCLOSURES

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX 47

FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director

DATE: October 28th, 1944

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

(b)(7)(C)

[redacted] Reference is being made to the report of dated October 4th, 1944 in regard to the above-captioned subject. This is to advised that the indices of the Baltimore Field Division have been checked against the name LANGSTON HUGHES with negative results. (U)

Accordingly, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin. (U)

LLK:lmg
100-11071

cc N.Y.C.

RECORDED 100-15139-1
F B I
41 OCT 30 1944

EX-18

58 NOV 6 - 1944

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. FILE NO. 100-16762

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	11-8-44	10-12,31-44	[redacted] NAD

(b)(7)(C)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
"CHANGED" JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with alias Langston Hughes	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Passport issued to the subject on February 20, 1936 for a contemplated trip of one year duration to Spain and general European travel for residence and study under a Guggenheim Fellowship. He intended leaving New York on March 7, 1936, via the SS CHAMPLAIN. The Afro-American employed the subject as a correspondent in Spain in July, 1937, he attended the Second International Congress of Writers in July, 1937, at Valencia, Spain. (U)

- RUC -

Reference: Bureau file #100-15139 (b)(7)(C) Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 4, 1944, at New York, N.Y. (U)

Details: At Washington, D. C.

The title of this case has been designated changed to reflect the full name of the subject as being JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, as evidenced by the fact that subject's passport was applied for and issued in that name. (U)

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, made available the passport file of the subject and the following information was noted therein:- (b)(7)(D)

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
[signature]		100-15139-16

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2 - Washington Field

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-34

COPY IN FILE

49

Passport No. 256358 was issued to JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES on February 20, 1936, for a contemplated trip of one year's duration to Spain and general European travel for residence and study under a Guggenheim Fellowship. He intended leaving New York March 7, 1936, via the SS CHAMPLAIN. In his application the subject stated that he had had the following foreign residence:-

Russia, July 1932 to June, 1933.
Mexico, December, 1934 to June, 1935.

There is contained in the files of the State Department a letter from the Afro-American at Baltimore, Maryland, dated July 8, 1937, requesting assistance of the State Department to enable HUGHES to go to Spain from France as a correspondent for the Afro-American. A dispatch from the American Consulate at Valencia, Spain dated July 8, 1937, advised that the subject was a delegate to the Second International Congress of Writers organized by the Anti-Facist Intellectuals for the Defense of Culture. This passport was renewed on July 9, 1938 for un-specified travel. However, he did state at that time that he intended leaving New York July 13, 1938 via the SS NORMANDY. Prior to this the subject was issued passport No. 352769 on March 25, 1931, for travel to the West Indies and South America and was renewed at Riga, Latvia, on March 11, 1933, and passport No. 63271 dated July 8, 1920, for travel to Mexico.

In his passport application he stated that he was born in Joplin, Missouri, on February 1, 1902; that his father was JAMES NATHANIEL HUGHES, born in Charlestown, Indiana, and now deceased. Subject gave his permanent residence as being 212 South Pleasant Street, Oberlin, Ohio, and his legal residence as being c/o A. A. KNOPF, 730 5th Avenue, New York City, New York.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-1960

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES	12/4/44	11/13,15,17,18 23/44	[redacted] (b)(7)(c) RD

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
LANGSTON HUGHES	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: LANGSTON HUGHES was a member of the staff of International Literature; member of Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Workers School in 1934; spent summer of 1933 in U.S.S.R.; member of American League Against War and Fascism in 1934. Was in Japan in 1933 at which time he predicted that a war would be fought between the white and colored races. In 1934 HUGHES was president of the "League for Struggle for Negro Rights"; a sponsor of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade; signed call for the first Writers' Congress and was a vice-president of the League of American Writers; a member of the New Theatre League; a member of the National Council of the American Peace Mobilization; a member of the editorial staff of "Soviet Russia Today"; participated in program in support of National Party Building Program (G.P.); a member of the National Citizens Political Action Committee. Author of "Good-Bye Christ". (U)

- RUC - (b)(7)(c)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, 10/4/44. (U)

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

This subject is carried as a key figure in the New York City Field Division. (U)

The files of the Los Angeles office have been searched and informants (U)

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100-15139-17

RECORDED

INDEXED 60

EX-33

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1 - Bureau
2 - New York City
3 - Los Angeles

FBI
DEC 11 1944

JAN 13 1944

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interviewed. The result of this investigation is being set out herein. (U)

The official organ of the International Union of Revolutionary Writers, "International Literature" listed LANGSTON HUGHES as an American author, member of its staff in 1933 along with UPTON SINCLAIR, MICHAEL GOLD, JOHN DOS PASSOS, THEODORE DREISER and others. (U)

Source A has informed that LANGSTON HUGHES is a Negro poet, a radical, although probably not a member of the Communist Party. Source further informed that he was a contributor to "New Masses" in 1933 and supported the National Committee to Aid Victims of German Fascism in 1934 and that he was a member of the School Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Workers School in 1934; that he spent the summer of 1933 in the U.S.S.R.; that he was a member of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners in 1934; that he was also a member of the National Committee, American League Against War and Fascism in 1934. (U)

(b)(7)(D) [redacted] Los Angeles, advised the Los Angeles office that LANGSTON HUGHES, internationally famous Negro poet, had attended a luncheon at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, Japan in 1933 and at this luncheon HUGHES was the principal speaker. [redacted] stated (b)(7)(D) that HUGHES related to a predominately Japanese audience the alleged ill treatment of the Negroes in this country. She stated that he predicted that some day a war would result in which all of the colored races, black, yellow and red, would join in the subjugation of the white race. She informed that HUGHES stated that there was a natural bond between these colored races and that their opposition to the white race should be expressed in combat. (U)

In 1934 LANGSTON HUGHES was the president of the "League For Struggle For Negro Rights", according to information appearing in the report of the Committee on Un-American Activities of the 75th Congress in 1938. This report also stated that the poems of LANGSTON HUGHES were read by DOROTHY GRAY. It also stated that "HUGHES is a Communist leader and writer". (U)

Source B informed that LANGSTON HUGHES is listed as a sponsor of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade along with the following: UPTON SINCLAIR, DONALD OGDEN STEWART, MARTHA DODD, LOUIS FISCHER, LILLIAN HELLMAN and others who generally sponsor such organizations. (U)

The "National Republic" for February, 1935 lists LANGSTON HUGHES (Negro) as one of the individuals who signed the call for the first Writers' Congress. His name appears along with the following: (U)

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EARL BROWDER	JOHN HOWARD LAWSON
ERSKINE CALDWELL	JOSEPH NORTH
MALCOLM COWLEY	M. J. OLGIN
THEODORE DREISER	SAM ORNITZ
GUY ENDORE	ISADORE SCHNEIDER
JAMES T. FARRELL	GEORGE SKLAR
MICHAEL GOLD	JOHN L. SPIVAK
CLARENCE HATHAWAY	LINCOLN STEFFENS
GRANVILLE HICKS	ALEX TRACHTENBERG
HERBERT KLINE	ELLA MAE WINTER

(u)

Several of those named are nationally known members of the Communist Party. Others have written much Communist material. (u)

LANGSTON HUGHES was listed as one of the seven vice-presidents of the League of American Writers elected at the Second National Congress at New York City June 4, 1937 as is shown in a prospectus on record of the proceedings issued by the League of American Writers. (u)

LANGSTON HUGHES is listed as a contributor to "Fighting Words", a book edited by DONALD OGDEN STEWART. (u)

The January, 1936 issue of "New Theatre", the official publication of the New Theatre League, which number was the anniversary number celebrating the second anniversary of the paper, on page 40 states the following: "We are proud that among those who have associated themselves with us in the creation of the New Theatre are: (u)

LANGSTON HUGHES
CLIFFORD ODETS
ALBERT MALTZ
GEORGE SKLAR
ARCHIBALD McLEISH
JOHN HOWARD LAWSON
HAROLD CLURMAN and others.

(u)

Source C has informed that ODETS, LAWSON, MALTZ and HUGHES are members of the Communist Party and have been very active in the Communist movement for a number of years. (u)

The stationery of the American Peace Mobilization lists LANGSTON HUGHES as a member of the National Council of that organization. (u)

The stationery of the League of American Writers in 1940 listed LANGSTON HUGHES, Los Angeles, California as a director of the League of American Writers, Hollywood Chapter. The other directors at that time were listed as DONALD OGDEN STEWART, UPTON SINCLAIR, JOHN STEINBECK. (U)

GENE HAGBERG on June 7, 1940 informed the Los Angeles office that LANGSTON HUGHES was a writer and was associated with the Hollywood Branch of the League of American writers. (U)

Source C has informed that LANGSTON HUGHES is a Negro writer: that he comes to Los Angeles on certain occasions and also to Carmel, California where he associates with the so-called "intellectual group" of the Communist Party and that he has long been considered a Communist and identified with the Communist movement. (U)

LANGSTON HUGHES is listed as a member of the National Council of the American Peace Mobilization on literature sent out by that organization in January, 1941. LANGSTON HUGHES was elected to the National Council of the American Peace Mobilization, according to Confidential Informant [redacted] of the Cincinnati office, Cincinnati, Ohio. (U) b(2)(D)

The Los Angeles Times for January 24, 1941 stated: "The League of American Writers, a New York Corporation, dedicated to the advancement of peace and democracy as against Fascism and reaction, informed the Secretary of State that CHARLES A. PAGE of Hollywood, California hadbeen designated its California agent". It also stated that the following individuals are the California directors of the group: (U)

DONALD OGDEN STEWART
Carmel, California

LANGSTON HUGHES
Los Angeles, California

UPTON SINCLAIR
Pasadena, California

JOHN STEINBECK
Los Gatos, California

(U)

The magazine "Soviet Russia Today" in 1941 shows that the editing management of this paper was in the hands of JESSICA SMITH, editor; and THEODORE BAYER, managing editor, with the full-time assistance of ISADORE SCHNEIDER. (U)

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The editorial council consisted of DOROTHY BREWSTER, ROBERT W. DUNN, THYRA EDWARDS, A. A. HELLER, LANGSTON HUGHES, DR. JOHN A. KINGSBURY, CORLISS LAMONT, GEORGE MARSHALL, ISOBEL WALKER SOULE and MAXWELL S. STEWART. (U)

Source D reported that the February 12, 1943 issued of the "People's World" ran a news item on page three, column 5, stating that "This patriotic meeting of members of the Communist Party and friends" would launch the "National Party building campaign February 12th to May, 1943"; that CARL WINTER and PETTIS PERRY would speak; that MARY TROY would give dramatic readings of "The Blood Donor" and LANGSTON HUGHES' "Black Mother"; that 25¢ admission including tax, would be charged. (U)

The Labor Herald for September 1, 1944 under the heading "McWILLIAMS Joins P.A.C. Campaign", stated in part " CAREY McWILLIAMS, former California Commissioner of Immigration and Housing, and now secretary of the Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee, last week added his name to the growing list of prominent Americans on the National Citizens Political Action Committee. McWILLIAMS' name was announced concurrently with those of Captain HUGH MULZAC, LANGSTON HUGHES and Rev. S. L. CORROTHERS." (U)

"Captain MULZAC has commanded the S.S. Booker T. Washington since its launching more than two years ago. He is the first Negro Naval Captain and has a record of 40 years' service in the Merchant Marine. (U)

"HUGHES is considered one of the most prolific of Negro writers; he is a poet, novelist, short story writer, playwright and newspaper columnist." (U

"Rev. CORROTHERS is President of the National Non-Partisan Colored Ministers Association". (U)

A sample of the writing of LANGSTON HUGHES is being copied here. The following sacrilegious poem of LANGSTON HUGHES (Negro poet) appeared in the December 21, 1940 issue of The Saturday Evening Post, the title of which is "Good-Bye Christ": (U)

"GOOD-BYE CHRIST"

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon -
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story too,
Called it Bible -
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many

(U)

"Kings, generals, robbers and killers -
Even to the Czar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.

"Good-bye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehova,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion
at all -
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin
Worker ME -

"I said, ME!

"Go ahead on now,
You're geeting in the way of things, Lord.
And please take Saint Ghandi with you
when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
The world is mine from now on -
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire."

(U)

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

LA 100-1960

SOURCE A: [redacted] (b)(7)(D)
American Legion
Indianapolis, Indiana
This information is found in the report of Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(C) [redacted] Indianapolis, 12/14/50 re "Communist Activities in the United States; Internal Security" LA File #65-4723-1-p.23.

SOURCE B: Literature issued by the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and found in LA File #100-3512-2a-p.4,10. (U)

SOURCE C: CONF. INFT. (b)(7)(D) [redacted] Information found in LA File re [redacted] Communist Activities; Immigration Matter"-Report of Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(C) Los Angeles, 12/7/40, LA File #39-23-154 p. 8.

SOURCE D: (b)(7)(D) [redacted] Information appearing here is found in the report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, 3/15/43, Re "Communist Party, U.S.A., District 13, Los Angeles Field Division; Internal Security - R" #100-1763-1249-p. 9.
(b)(7)(C)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-17322

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	12-9-44	12/6,7/1944	[redacted] (6)(7)(C)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
LANGSTON HUGHES	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject was reported to have stayed at the Grand Hotel, Chicago for a short time. He was reported to have been a sponsor of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Subject is a regular columnist for the "CHICAGO DEFENDER". (U)

- R U C - (6)(7)(C)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 4, 1944, at New York, New York. (U)

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

According to a report of Hill's Reports Incorporated, 209 West Jackson Boulevard, in 1940 the Subject was listed as a sponsor of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, 55 West 42nd Street, New York City. (U)

(6)(7)(D)

On February 24, 1943 Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Assistant Director of the Abraham Lincoln School and reported to be a member of the Communist Party, had requested LANGSTON HUGHES, negro, columnist for the "CHICAGO DEFENDER" a negro newspaper to do a syndicated column on the Abraham Lincoln School for the negro press of the country. On January 19, 1944 [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that ANN GAYLE was writing a letter to LANGSTON HUGHES, 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City for WILLIAM L. PATTERSON. (U)

(6)(7)(D)

not furnished as not well protected

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S J Drayton jr SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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100-15139-18

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2 - Chicago

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EX-4

58

Chicago File #100-17322

NR INET

b)(7)(D) [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, learned from SEMA BELGRADE of the Abraham Lincoln School that LANGSTON HUGHES was in Chicago on the evening of February 25, 1944 and was scheduled to address a meeting at the South Chicago Branch Library. BELGRADE told the Informant that HUGHES was staying at the Grand Hotel and that she had requested him to contact LOUISE THOMPSON of the International Workers Order. On February 28, 1944 [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, reported that LANGSTON HUGHES no longer resided at the Grand Hotel, Chicago. (U)

b)(7)(D)

Confidential Informant [redacted] and Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau were contacted concerning activities of the Subject with negative results. (U)

b)(7)(D)

It has been noted from reading the "CHICAGO DEFENDER", a weekly negro newspaper, published in Chicago, that the Subject is the author of a column appearing in each issue of this newspaper. (U)

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

59

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

[redacted]

oC:MD
-25776

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI ATTENTION FBI LABORATORY DATE: JANUARY 3, 1945

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK CITY

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES; INTERNAL SECURITY - C

80045

D29310

[redacted] (6)(1)

Enclosures (4)

CLASSIFIED BY 3832
EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE
7/20/78

ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF classification
DATE 7-27-78 MCA

NO ANS. NEC. parts of truck
SPEC. RETAINED IN LAB

RECORDED 100-15139-19

B I

E 3

41 JAN 5 1945

1/18/45

SECRET

[illegible] CIRCLE NO. 61 and WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

SCHEDULE FOR MAY - 1945

May 8th-A short business meeting will be held after which the National President will present the Women's Auxiliary with a charter, followed by a social hour. Ice cream, cake and coffee will be served.

May 15th-Joint social evening. Cards and Bunco. Prizes for various games. Refreshments. Bring your friends and have a good time.

May 20th-Invitational Meeting.

May 22nd and 29th - Regular meeting.

- -

Don't forget our Saturday night parties. Bunco and Dancing. Good music.

[redacted]

4-750 (Rev. 4-17-85)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.

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☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-15139-19 ENCLOSURES

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX
61

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin: NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NY File No. 100-25776 M

Report made at:	Date made:	Period:	Report made by:
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	1/8/45	11/23,18,24,28, 29/44	[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

Title:	Character of case:
JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with alias Langston Hughes	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis: Subject resides at 634 St. Nicholas Ave., NYC. Spends most of his time on lecture tours throughout the country. Was on west coast from latter part of September to early November, 1944. Dies Committee reports reflect subject ran for office, CP ticket. Leader in 1932, League of Professional Groups; officer in Workers Cultural Federation, 1932. President National Negro Conference, 1934; member of National Committee, Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy. Speaker at Third American Conference Against War and Fascism. Signer of letter to STALIN, 1938. On Advisory Council of Book Union. Editorial counsel of "Soviet Russia Today", 1940; sponsor of Friends of Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and on National Advisory Board of New Theatre League. Subject was requested to leave Japan in 1933 after being questioned by Tokio police six hours. Was suspected of communicating with Japanese Communists. Sponsored and attended dinner given to FERDINAND SMITH, 9/21/44. (U)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(c) dated October 4, 1944, at New York City. (U)

DETAILS: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES is considered a key figure in the New York Field Division. (U)

Approved and Forwarded: S.A.C. G. C. Conroy

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2 - Pittsburgh

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FEB 19 1945

& C2 R.W.B.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62

NY 100-25776

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES lives at 634 St. Nicholas Ave., New York, when he is in New York. He stated, however, that the greater portion of the subject's time is spent on tours throughout the country. Subject left New York in the latter part of September for the west coast and returned to New York on or about November 21, 1944. The informant further advised that HUGHES is planning another tour and that he seldom remains in New York for more than a month at a time. Since his return to New York from the west coast HUGHES has made a trip to Boston. The informant further advised that the subject lectures before schools and colleges. (U)

Informant stated that the subject writes articles for the following newspapers: "Pittsburgh Courier", Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. "Amsterdam News", New York, "Peoples Voice", New York, and the "Chicago News", Chicago, Illinois. (U)

Confidential Informant T-2 made the records of his office available which reflected the following information: (U)

The subject's lecture agent is WILLIAM SEAKINS, 500 5th Ave., New York City. The subject's literary agent is MAXIM LIEBER, 439 5th Ave. (U)

The subject in January and February of 1941 was confined to the Peninsula Community Hospital, Carmel by the Sea, California. (U)

The records also reflected the subject lived at the following address from February, 1941 to November 14, 1941: Hollow Hill Farms, Carmel Valley, Monterey, California. (U)

On November 14, 1941, the subject advised the informant that he was going to Chicago and the following would be his address: c/o ARNA BONTEMPS, 703 East 50th Place, Chicago, Illinois. (U)

Dies Committee reports were reviewed and the following information was reflected: (U)

J. B. MATTHEWS, Director of Research for the Dies Committee, stated that: (U)

"A number of individuals are members of the Communist Party of public record. LANGSTON HUGHES, for example, has run for office on the Communist Party ticket." (U)

Volume 1 page 379:

"LANGSTON HUGHES was one of the leaders of the League of Professional Groups which was founded in 1932 in time to throw its support to the Communist Party ticket and the headquarters of the League was at 35 East 12th St., headquarters of the Communist Party." (U)

63

Volume 1 page 547:
LANGSTON HUGHES is listed as a member of the Federation of Revolutionary Writers in 1932, and was listed as being an officer in the Workers Cultural Federation. (U)

Volume 1 page 624:
LANGSTON HUGHES was president of the National Negro Conference in 1934, which organization is directing the Communist movement among negroes in the United States. (U)

Volume 2 page 1585:
LANGSTON HUGHES was a speaker at the Third American Congress against War and Fascism held in Cleveland, Ohio, January 3, 4, and 5, 1936. (U)

Volume 2 page 1594:
LANGSTON HUGHES was admitted to the National Executive Board of the American Congress Against War and Fascism in 1936. (U)

Volume 5 page 2177:
J. B. MATTHEWS testifying before the Dies Committee stated that in the first issue of a magazine entitled "Fight", a Communist magazine, LANGSTON HUGHES was the writer of an article. J. B. MATTHEWS also advised the Committee that HUGHES was a well-known Communist. (U)

Volume 7 Page 4928
ALEXANDER WACHTEL testifying before the Dies Committee, stated that LANGSTON HUGHES was on the Advisory Council of the Book Union, 381 4th Ave., which is the same address as that of the International Publishers. (U)

Volume 1 page 375:
LANGSTON HUGHES was signer of a letter addressed to STALIN in April, 1936, which read in part: (U)

"The measures taken by the Soviet Union to preserve and extend its claims and its strength, find echoes here, where we are staking the future of the American people on the preservation of progressive democracy and the unification of our efforts to prevent fascists from strangling the rights of the people. American liberals must not permit their outlook on these questions be confused nor allow recognition of the beliefs of the Soviet in the international fight for democracy against fascism to be destroyed. We call upon them to support the efforts of the Soviet Union to free itself from insidious internal dangers." (U)

Volume 1 page 569:
LANGSTON HUGHES is listed as being on the National Committee of the Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy, which organization is a branch of the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy. (U)

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Volume 13 page 7729.
LANGSTON HUGHES' name appeared on the letterhead of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade as a sponsor. (U)

Appendix 5 page 1680.
LANGSTON HUGHES was one of 400 individuals who signed an open letter appearing in the September, 1939 issue of "Soviet Russia Today" which called for greater unity for anti-fascist forces and strength of the front against aggression through a closer cooperation with the Soviet Union. "Our object is to point out the real purpose behind all these attempts to bracket the Soviet Union with the fascist states and to make it clear that Soviet and fascist policies are diametrically opposed." (U)

Appendix 5 page 1682:
Subject is listed as being on the editorial council of "Soviet Russia Today" in the issue of May, 1940. (U)

The files of the New York "World Telegram" were reviewed and the following information was reflected: (U)

The issue of this paper dated August 15, 19?., reflected that the subject was speaker at Columbia University at which time he stated that he had been arrested in Cuba because he had protested the seizure of his property. (U)

An article appearing in issue of June 3, 1932, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was lecturing through the south and west on literary subjects and had also delivered a number of speeches on behalf of the Scottsboro Boys. (U)

The July 25, 1933 issue reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES had engaged passage on the TAIGO MARU from Yokahoma for San Francisco after six hours of questioning by the Tokio police. The police suspected HUGHES of communicating with the Jap Communist movement. This was not proved but police suggested HUGHES leave immediately. He arrived in Tokio, Sunday from Shanghai after recently visiting Russia. Eleven Jap visitors of HUGHES were questioned as they were suspected of being Communists, but later were released. (U)

The June 4, 1936, issue reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES was the winner of New Theatre League prize for a one act play entitled "Angelo Herndon Jones" on an anti-fascist theme. (U)

An item appeared in the paper dated October 17, 1938, reflecting that STEVE NADLER, St. Paul consulting engineer, testified before the House Committee investigating un-American activities. He stated that the Communist influence at the Minnesota State University is shown in that the "Marxists Club got LANGSTON HUGHES, a Communist of the first order, to make a speech there." (U)

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The "Daily Worker" issue of January 30, 1944, page three, column four, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES is scheduled to speak in tribute to ART YOUNG, editor of "New Masses" until his death, and all prominent Communists are scheduled to speak. (U)

Literature and pamphlets available in this office reflect that the subject was sponsor of the Artists League of America in 1944 and that he was the sponsor of the New York League of American Support Plan Action against the Evils of Discrimination. (U)

The "Daily Worker" issued of July 8, 1944, column eight, page three, reflected that he was scheduled to attend a Sunday evening party on July 9, 1944, at the Jefferson School of Social Science, to discuss the subject "Seven Poets in Search of an Answer." (U)

The "Daily Worker" issue of September 21, 1944, page twelve, column 1, reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES sponsored and attended a dinner given to FERDINAND SMITH, secretary of the National Maritime Union, at the Hotel Commodore. Many prominent Communists were in attendance including EARL BROWDER and JAMES W. FORD. (U)

-P E N D I N G-

66

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK S0500 FILE NO. 100-17322

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	2/22/45	2/12/45	(b)(7)(C) [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with alias Langston Hughes	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Confidential Informants unable to obtain additional information concerning subject's activities while in Chicago during 1941. (U)

- RUC - (b)(7)(C)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 1/8/45 at New York. (U)

DETAILS: At Chicago, Illinois:

Confidential Informants [redacted] (b)(7)(D) whose identities are known to the Bureau, were re-contacted and were unable to furnish additional information concerning subject. (U)

(b)(7)(D)

Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that he had been unable to obtain any information concerning the subject's activities in 1941. The Informant stated that [redacted] who formerly resided at (b)(7)(C) [redacted] Chicago, no longer resided at that address and that the janitor and other tenants in the building did not recall either her or the subject. (U)

not furnished DR as not pertinent PSE

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100-15137-21

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(1-Col. S. V. Constant, D of I 2 SC)
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67 APR 25 1945 69

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-24847

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	4/5/45	2/23,27, 3/7, 3/15,17/45	[redacted] (b)(7)(c) RAM

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with alias Langston Hughes	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] Limited information obtainable regarding subject's activities while in Carmel Valley, California, area in 1941. Hollow-Hills Farm, where subject stayed, owned by NOEL SULLIVAN who is reputed to entertain there all types of persons, and is characterized as "a negro lover", with very liberal views. Subject in Peninsula Community Hospital for 10 days beginning January 14, 1941 as a medical patient. Credit and criminal checks negative. Office indices check indicates no new information not previously reported. (U)

- RUC - (b)(7)(c)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 1-8-45 at New York. (U)

DETAILS: AT CARMEL, CALIFORNIA

Source T-1 advised that Hollow-Hills Farm is owned by NOEL SULLIVAN, a well known musician, who spends most of his time at the farm "entertaining all kinds of persons". Further, SULLIVAN is reported to be "a negro lover" with very liberal views, but it was not known if he was interested in Communism. T-1 had no further information regarding the subject. (U)

Source T-2 advised he had never heard of the subject. However, he confirmed the information given by Source T-1. SULLIVAN receives mail through P. O. Box Q, Carmel, and through the Jamesburg Route out of Monterey, California. (U)

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6 Bureau
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(1-D of 1 2 SC)
San Francisco

68

Source T-3 advised that he had never heard of the subject. However, he stated that SULLIVAN has lived in the Carmel Valley for eight years and is known as a very devout Catholic; however, he entertains people, regardless of race or creed, at his farm. (U)

Source T-4 advised that NOEL SULLIVAN is in his mind a loyal citizen, but one who entertains very liberal views and entertains persons at his farm, regardless of their race or creed. He stated that SULLIVAN is a devout Catholic who is very interested in assisting the church and is possibly a person who could without his own knowledge entertain persons of very radical beliefs. (U)

Source T-4 also stated he had met the subject, as LANGSTON HUGHES, when he visited NOEL SULLIVAN in 1941 and that he considered HUGHES very radical because of his writings. However, he characterized HUGHES as being a person whose writings appeared radical because he was writing for the negro race and therefore always wrote on the defensive. (U)

Source T-4 stated he has known SULLIVAN for eight or ten years and does not question his loyalty to the country. Further, he has never heard anything in connection with SULLIVAN which would indicate that he, himself, was inclined towards Communism. (U)

Source T-5 stated he had no information regarding the subject. However, he knew that NOEL SULLIVAN inherited a good deal of money from his father (who left close to a quarter of a million dollars to the Catholic Church at Carmel), and also money from his uncle, JAMES D. PHALEN, former United States Senator from California. He characterized SULLIVAN as an eccentric Bohemian liberal who has entertained numerous famous negroes at his farm, one of whom was Marian Anderson. (U)

Source T-5 stated that SULLIVAN could without his own knowledge become involved with radicals or persons interested in Communism, but that SULLIVAN himself is loyal to the United States. (U)

The Police Department records at Monterey and Carmel, California, were checked for subject's name with negative results. The records of the Peninsula Credit Exchange were checked for subject's name with negative results. (U)

The records of the Peninsula Community Hospital at Carmel reflect that subject, as LANGSTON HUGHES, was a patient at the hospital for approximately ten days beginning January 14, 1941, and his doctor was RUSSELL WILLIAMS who is presently overseas in the United States Army. His records indicated that he had listed his nearest friend as NOEL SULLIVAN. (U)

69

Due to the nature of the information obtained regarding NOEL SULLIVAN, it is not deemed advisable to interview him regarding the activities of the subject. (U)

The following persons were contacted for possible information regarding the subject with negative results: (U)

(1) [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

(2) [redacted] (b)(7)(D) (U)

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The indices of this office were checked for the subject's name and that of NOEL SULLIVAN. No new information was obtained regarding the subject. NOEL SULLIVAN is mentioned merely as being a person interested in the rights of the negro race. (U)

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

70

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

T-1 [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

T-2 [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

T-3 [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

T-4 [redacted] (b)(7)(C) (u)

T-5 [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

The above sources are listed as confidential sources of information due to their position and the nature of the information furnished. (u)

71

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

NE:RHS
100-25776

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: May 2, 1945

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, w.a.
Langston Hughes
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Bureau File No. 100-15139

(U)

94321

(b)(7)(C)

Reference is made to the report of SA [redacted] dated January 8, 1945 in the above entitled matter. (U)

Inasmuch as investigation concerning this subject's background and activities are believed to be in a current status, this case is being placed in a pending inactive status. Investigation will again be instituted six months from the date of the above mentioned report unless unusual Communist activities by the subject preclude the same. (U)

RECORDED 100-15139-22

EX-46

56 MAY 21 1945

[redacted]

72

Detroit, Michigan
May 4, 1945.

[redacted] (b)(7)(D)

Re: Lecturer

Has been reported to the writer that the prominent Negro lecturer, Langston Hughes, will be the speaker at the Detroit Institute of Arts, on Friday, May 11th. Hughes has been rated as a "left winger" by the Catholic investigator's and also has received the same classification from G.L.K. Smith and Rev. Charles Coughlin. (U)

1 ENCL

100-15137-23

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 24 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

52 JUN 18 1945

[redacted]

73

CAN MUSIC AND POETRY
Foster Better
INTERGROUP UNDERSTANDING?

Hear

LANGSTON HUGHES

and

DU PREE CHOIR

IN A JOINT

Music—Poetry Recital

Friday, May 11, 1945

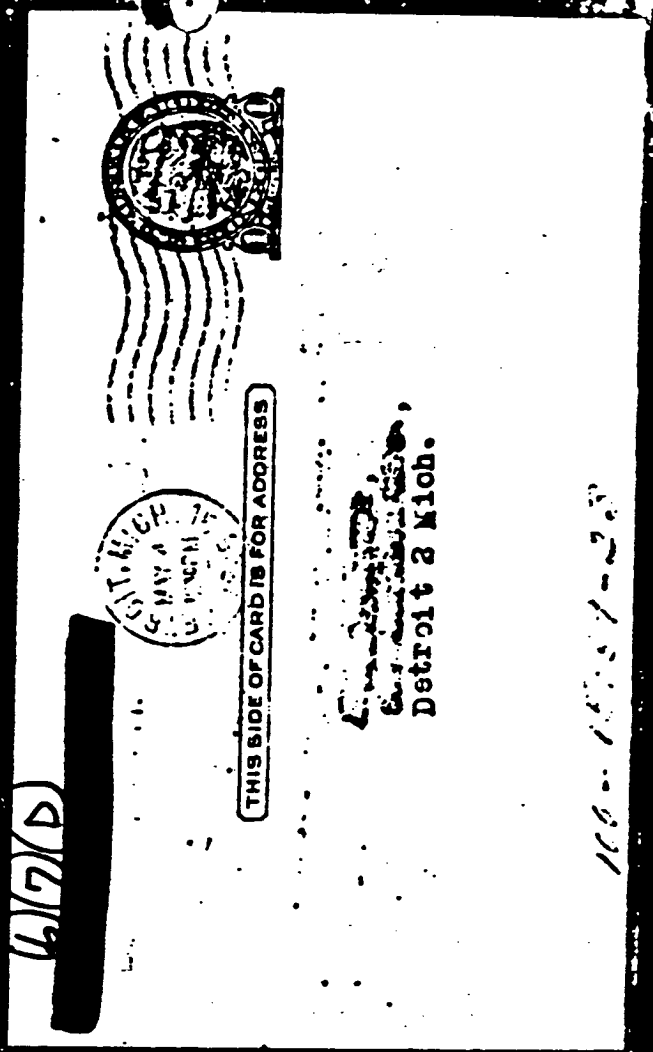
8:30 P. M.

Art Institute—Woodward at Kirby

The poetry of Langston Hughes ranges from unrhymed verse to singing ballads, including folk rhythms, lyrical verses, blues, epic poems and rhymes. Some of these poems treat of racial themes, others are broadly American; humorous and sad they range in subject matter from love to social protest.

Ballads, blues, folk songs and spirituals—some of all of these will be executed by the DuPree Choir.

ADMISSION—$1.50 INCLUDING FEDERAL TAX



(b)(7)(D)

LANGSTON HUGHES
Internationally Known Negro Poet
Presented by PLYMOUTH LECTURE SERIES
In Observance of its
EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-25776 CEM

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	NOV 26 1945	10/9,30; 11/14-16/45	[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

TITLE: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with alias, Langston Hughes

CHARACTER OF CASE: SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject is a sponsor of the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the Joint Anti- Fascist Refugee Committee; Contributing Editor to SPOT LIGHT, former AYD publication affiliated with National Negro Congress, Negro Labor Victory Committee, Peoples Voice, and IWO; on lecture tour of high schools in New York metropolitan area for the Common Council of American Unity; resides with Aunt, TOY HARPER, at 634 St. Nicholas Ave., Apartment 1-D, NYC. (U)

AGENCY ICC - CIA
REQ. REC'D 5-6-54
REP'T FORW. 5-7-54
BY [illegible]

AGENCY ICC - State (Pres. Prog.)
REQ. REC'D 5-22-58
REP'T FORW. 6-6-58
BY [illegible]

AGENCY ICC - CIA
REQ. REC'D 9-9-58
REP'T FORW. 9-18-58
BY [illegible]

(U) - C - (U)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(C) New York, 1/8/45. (U)

CLASSIFIED BY [redacted] 3832
EXEMPT FROM GDS. CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE 7/21/78

DETAILS: The character of this case is being changed from INTERNAL SECURITY - C to SECURITY MATTER - C. (U)

Confidential informant T-1 advised that the subject sent a letter to one EUGENE KONECKY, Communist and Editor of FRATERNAL OUTLOOK, addressed to this individual's office at 80 5th Avenue, New York City, on December 11, 1944. (U)

In the January 6, 1945, issue of the NEW YORK AGE, an editorial was written reflecting that the subject was being sent on a good-will tour of high schools in the New York metropolitan area on behalf of the (U)

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100-15139-24

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F B I
25 NOV 28 1945

CC DR
12-4-45

Common Council for American Unity at 222 Fourth Avenue, New York City, in an effort to widen group understanding. (U)

It is to be noted that during October, November, and December of 1944, the subject allegedly spent one day in each of twenty five schools giving speeches and reading poetry to the various classes. (U)

This article further stated that in most schools his visit climaxed or was integrated with various projects of study — poetry, discussions of race relations and the extension of democracy, local problems such as housing, the history of the Reconstruction, et cetera. It is also noted that his tour began in mid-October, with a week spent in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the express invitation of this Board of Education, which allegedly was attempting to institute a new program of bettering inter-cultural and interracial understanding. It is to be noted further that several New Jersey schools were included in the tour subsequent to that by the subject, at which he gave speeches. (U)

The article concludes stating that it was the hope of the Common Council to send the subject to many schools during the year of 1945, and that during the latter part of January, it was expected that he would go on a lecture tour through the Middle West and the South. (U)

An article appearing in the "Daily Worker" issue of January 29, 1945, page 11, column 2, reflected that the subject was one of the judges for the $150 cultural award which was sponsored by the Lincoln Steffens Lodge 500 of the IWO, as a part of the celebration of Negro History Week, February 11 through the 18th, 1945. This prize was to be presented to a young Negro whose work was considered to be an outstanding contribution to American culture, and the presentation was to be made at the Lodge's annual dance on February 3, 1945, at Manhattan Center, New York City. (U)

In the Pittsburgh Courier dated May 1, 1943, an article was written entitled "UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH GROUP HEARS LANGSTON HUGHES." This article stated that the subject spoke before a class of the School of Applied Social Science in the Group Work studio on Wednesday at the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh, where he gave a sociological explanation of his various works to remove the stigma of the color touch. During this speech, he read several of his poems and following the speech, the subject was the honored guest at a dinner of the Loendi Club, R. MAURICE MOSS, executive secretary of the Urban League sponsoring the poet's appearance in Pittsburgh. (U)

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The May 20, 1944, issue of the Pittsburgh Courier carried an article which was captioned "LANGSTON HUGHES CLOSES MUSIC WEEK PROGRAM AT 'Y'." Under this caption, it was reflected that LANGSTON HUGHES, a poet and author, closed a successful music week program at the Centre Avenue YMCA, Thursday May 11. The theme of this program was "Music for Fellowship." It was noted further that the February 10, 1945, issue of the Pittsburgh Courier carried a photograph of the subject, indicating that he was the most popular living negro poet, novelist, playwright, columnist, and contributor to leading national magazines. It further stated that he had won the HARMON AWARD for literature in 1931. (U)

The "Daily Worker" issue of March 6, 1945, page 11, column 2, carried an article captioned "ASCH RECORDS POETRY OF LANGSTON HUGHES." This article reflected that an album of the poems written by LANGSTON HUGHES was being released by ASCH RECORDINGS. It is noted that these recordings were to include several varieties of blues, lyrical verse, work ballads, epic poems and rhymes. Among these recorded poems are: "Harlem Sweeties," "Little Lyric Wake," "Merry-go-Round," "Klu Klux Klan," "Good Morning Stalingrad," "Worry Blues," "In Time of Silver Rain," and a number of additional previously published poems. (U)

It is to be noted that at a dinner given by the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee that the subject was listed on the dinner invitation for the date of March 22, 1945, as one of the sponsors of that particular occasion. It is to be noted also that the subject was listed as Contributing Editor to "SPOTLIGHT", the former American Youth for Democracy publication which was discontinued around May 1945. It is to be noted from the literature distributed that the subject was a guest lecturer at the George Washington-Carver School. (U)

[redacted] (b)(1) (U)

Confidential informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that a meeting of the Negro Freedom Rally was held at Madison Square Garden, New York City, June 25, 1945, and that a pageant was presented entitled "Carry on America, Victory Is What You Make It." It is to be noted that the subject, along with NORMAN CORWIN and HOWARD FAST, Communists, wrote the aforementioned pageant. (U) (b)(7)(D)

78

Confidential informant T-3 advised on October 30, 1945, that the subject traveled throughout the country a great deal, but that he was presently in the City of New York at that time and was residing with his Aunt TOY HARPER at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, Apartment 1-D, New York City. (U)

In view of the fact that the subject's Communist activities do not seem to be of sufficient importance to warrant further investigation, this matter is being closed upon the authority of the Special Agent in Charge. (U)

- C L O S E D -

79

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

(b)(7)(c) The confidential informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] at New York City, November 26, 1945, are as follows: (u)

T-1 (b)(7)(E) [redacted] (u)

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

T-2 [redacted]

(b)(1) [redacted] (c)

T-3 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] (u)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will continue to observe and to report the Communist activities of the subject (U)

CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

* Will review the files of the office and report any information concerning the activities of the subject not set forth in report submitted by the New York Office. (U)

* Will contact confidential informants of the office for any information concerning the activities of the subject. It is known that HUGHES has been a writer on the Chicago "Defender" and that he is a close friend of LOUISE THOMPSON and WALTER PATTERSON. (U)

Will check on the activities of subject while a resident at 703 East 50th Place, Chicago, as of November 14, 1941. (U)

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

* Will report the activities of the subject for the period 1939 and 1940. Subject was connected with the Federal Theatre and was the author of an R.K.O. film entitled "Way Down South." (U)

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

AT MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Will report any Communist activities of the subject in 1941. He lived at Heller Hill Farm, Carmel Valley until November, 1941, and was confined to the Peninsula Community Hospital, Carmel by the Sea, California, from January through February, 1941. (U)

PITTSBURGH FIELD DIVISION

AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Will review the indices of the office for any pertinent information (U)

B1

concerning the subject. Will determine if the subject is or has been writer of articles appearing in the Pittsburgh "Courier" and report same if pertinent. (U)

NY 100-25776

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

(b)(7)(C) Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 8, 1945, at New York, New York, are as follows: (U)

(b)(7)(D) T-1 is [redacted] New York City: (U)

(b)(7)(D) T-2 is [redacted] New York City. (U)

The above are being kept confidential at their request. (U)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

:CEM
-25776

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: November 26, 1945

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, aka. Langston Hughes
SECURITY MATTER - C

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] Reference is made to the attached report of Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(c) dated November 26, 1945, at New York City.

This subject is being removed from the Key Figure list of the New York Field Division, inasmuch as it does not appear that his Communist activities are of sufficient importance to indicate such designation. The Security Index Card concerning the subject is being maintained.

RECORDED 100-151
INDEXED 25 NOV 28 1945

Enclosures (5)

DEC 10 1945

84

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: April 9, 1946

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD

11:40 AM

SUBJECT: DR. LANGSTON HUGHES

(b)(7)(c)

By reference from the Director's Office, I took a call from [redacted] Extension [redacted] Capitol, who stated the Senator is interested in obtaining any information we might have on Hughes, who he stated is apparently a Negro poet, if it is not too confidential. I advised [redacted] that according to a long-established rule of the Department we cannot give out information in our files. However, I told [redacted] I would check our files and if they contain any information which is not strictly confidential, that is, if the information comes from sources to which he can be referred, that we would be glad to furnish him this. I told [redacted] I would call him back. (u)

(b)(2)(c)

RECORDED 100-15139-25

(b)(7)(c)

After checking the file on Hughes, I called [redacted] back and advised him that the Dies Committee has considerable information on Hughes, according to our information, one item being to the effect that subject ran for office on the Communist Party ticket at one time. Another item [redacted] was a clipping from the Daily Worker on [redacted], 1945, page 11, which stated that subject has recorded an album of poems to be released by the Asch Recordings, one of which is entitled "Good Morning, Stalingrad." I advised [redacted] that of course, we are restricted from giving out any confidential information but the above items are matters of public record and he might check the Dies reports for any further information. [redacted] stated that subject had made a speech in Montclair, New Jersey, which was very Communist in nature and it was sponsored by a group of people who knew nothing of his background. (u)

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(c)

JKM:EOD

50 MAY 1 - 1946

85

100-15139

SAC, New York City

November 26, 1946

Director, FBI

JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with aliases
SECURITY MATTER - C
(New York file No. 100-25776)

(U)

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. (U)

EX - 24

100-15139-26

RECORDED F B I
53 DEC 2 1946

ARS MED

NOV 26 1946
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 DEC 6 1946

86

1-10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-25776 DES

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	12/9/46	10/15,16; 11/13/46	[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

TITLE
JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, with alias, Langston Hughes

CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:
Subject continues to use 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, NYC as his residence address. He is a negro poet, novelist, playwright, and columnist. Subject was born 2/1/02 at Joplin, Missouri; is a citizen of the U.S. (U)

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau file 100-15139. (b)(7)(c)
Report of Special Agent [redacted] New York, 11/26/45. (U)
Bureau letter #28, Series 1946, 3/12/46.

DETAILS:

This report is predicated on the above mentioned reference Bureau letter. (U)

As of October 16, 1946, it was ascertained that the subject's residence address is 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, Apartment 1-D, New York City. It was determined, through confidential informants of the New York Field Office, that the subject's occupation continues to be that of poet, novelist, playwright, and columnist. (U)

The records of Local Board 58, 138th Street and Broadway, New York City reflected that the subject, a negro, was born on February 1, 1902 at Joplin, Missouri and is a citizen of the United States. (U)

M

not furnished DR (U)
is not pertinent
DEJ

COPIES DESTROYED
29 SEP 12 1973

- CLOSED -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED Edward Scheidt SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

100-15139-27.

RECORDED

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - Bureau
3 - New York

FBI
15 DEC 11 1946

ENTRY IN FILE
57 JAN 24 1947

87

E. CLYDE SMOOT, 1st Vice-Comm.
W. N. PERKINSON, 2nd Vice-Comman.

WM. D. MIZELL, Commander
JAMES R. BURTON, Assistant Adjutant

THOS. H. FAGAN, 3rd Vice-Comm.
R. R. FAULKNER, Finance Off.

FEDERAL POST No. 141

C. D. TAIT, SR.
Chaplain
C. E. ENGLAND
Historian
EMMETT R. WRAY
Sergeant-at-Arms
F. P. KNIGHT
Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms
S. T. SANYOUR
Athletic Officer
M. S. ROBINSON
Service Officer
Child Welfare

KARL STALNAKER, Adjutant
P. O. Box 123
Richmond 1, Virginia

J. B. BRYANT
Post-War Employment
CHRIS. C. TOMPKINS
C. W. KENNEWAY
Color Bearers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
H. M. Stewart
C. A. Hood
D. F. Williams
J. M. Hagood
B. B. Dietrich
C. A. White
B. L. Jenkins

February 27, 1947

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation, 94320
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: SUBJECT: Langston Hughes

A short time ago a certain individual, one Langston Hughes by name, a negro poet and lecturer (so-called by our daily newspapers), whose doubtful claim to fame seems to be that he wrote the lyrics to a suggestive musical show called "Street Scene" which is now playing on Broadway in New York, addressed the YWCA in the Egyptian Building here in Richmond. From the nature of his remarks, as quoted by the papers, he either appears to be a Communist or is a fellow-traveler riding along in some other radical organization with communistic backing awaiting the opportune moment to come out in the open with it.

Since we are pledged to ~~[illegible]~~ battle communism in every shape and form it would be greatly appreciated if you could give all information you can on this negro Langston Hughes, as it appears to us, from his remarks, that he must be communistic.

Also give us, the leanings of Virginius Dabney, Richmond editor of the Times-Dispatch here, and oblige, as at times his editorials seem to appear quite radical.

Respectfully,

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

ADDRESS: P. O. Box 123.

Ackn 3-8-47 aft/jes

Milnes

88

RECORDED & INDEXED 100-1513 MAR 1 1947

EX-11

52

gm

March 8, 1947

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] 94319

Federal Post No. [redacted]
The American Legion
Post Office Box 123
Richmond 1, Virginia

(U)

(b)(7)(c) Dear [redacted]

I would like to thank you for your letter dated February 27, 1947, and to state that I appreciate your interest in writing me as you did. (U)

I sincerely regret, however, that due to a long established policy the information contained in the files of this Bureau must be considered strictly confidential and available only to certain authorized persons. I am sure that you will recognize the necessity for such a policy. In view of this I am unable to give you the information which you desire. (U)

It is hoped that you will call on me again in the future if matters of mutual interest arise. (U)

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAR 8 1947 P.M.
FBI

RECORDED 100-15139-28
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 18 1947

MAR 18 1947

89

ROBERT A. TAFT, OHIO, CHAIRMAN
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LISTER HILL, ALA.
PHILIP R. RODGERS, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE

May 10, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

I am enclosing two circulars which were sent to me by a constituent in Minnesota. They were picked up either before or after a meeting at which Gerald K. Smith appeared.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Ball

JHB/Dsm
Encl
Circulars.

LANGSTON HUGHES - photograph

ack 5/15/47

100-15137-24

MAY 13 1947

90

184c

"HATE CHRIST"

Is the Slogan of the Communists

One of the most notorious propagandists for the lovers of Stalin is Langston Hughes, a Negro poet. This Negro move in the circles of the high-toned (?) whites. He has conferred with and addressed groups to whom Eleanor Roosevelt has spoken and with whom she has cooperated. He moves in the circles of mongrelizers and race mixers. He has been paid large fees for addressing many tax-supported and state-owned universities and colleges. The following poem is one of his most popular among his Red followers:

This hymn of hate is designed to persuade the simple Christian, whether he be black or white, to throw down Christ, to say goodbye to Christ, and embrace Marx, Lenin and Stalin.

LANGSTON HUGHES
Notorious Negro Stalin lover who wrote the revolutionary song "Goodbye Christ."

GOODBYE CHRIST

Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too.
Called it the Bible—
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers 've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many
Kings, generals, robbers, and killers—
Even to the Tzar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's Church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.
Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all—
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker ME—
I said, ME!
Go ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord,
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
The world is mine from now on—
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire.

• • •

Goodbye Christ, good morning Revolution!

ATTENTION: Extra copies of this sheet may be had at the following rates:

25 copies	$ 1.00
100 copies	2.00
1000 copies	15.00

Address your request to Gerald L. K. Smith, Post Office Box 8, Harper Station, Detroit 13, Michigan.

THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, a monthly magazine edited by Gerald L. K. Smith, is the official organ for the crusade of Christian Nationalism. This dynamic magazine is devoted exclusively to the most fearless and deadly issues of the hour. Subscription rate: 1 year, $2.00; 6 months, $1.00. Subscriptions should be addressed to Gerald L. K. Smith, Editor, Post Office Box 8, Harper Station, Detroit 13, Michigan.

91

10 Million White People to be Driven From Their Homes to Make Room for Black Communist Soviet-

American Negro Communists Now Being Trained In Moscow to Run Black Area, thus Driving out the Whites and Enslaving their own Fellow Negroes.

On the opposite side of this sheet is an exact copy of a map taken out of the secret files of the Communist Party. The blacked-in area represents what the Communists hope some day (if they can promote a bloody revolution) will be the Negro Communist Soviet. It represents approximately 120,000 square miles. About 10 million white people will have to be driven out of their homes. Among the leading cities that will be turned over completely to the Negroes will be Charleston, Atlanta, Shreveport, New Orleans, Savannah, as well as many others. The land which now belongs to the whites will be confiscated and turned over to the Red bureaucrats for control.

This plan was advocated within the past year by the Communist Negro member of the New York City Council, Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. Shortly before the war this plan was discussed in detail by Josef Stalin in an address before Lenin University where 2,000 American Communists are being trained now to run the United States. As late as February 10, 1947, a copy of a textbook, now being used in the Russian Army, was exhibited before the Congressional Committee for the Investigation of Un-American Activities. The title of the military textbook is How to Bomb And Sabotage the U.S.A.

It is to be observed that a border zone has been left adjacent to the blacked-in area. This border zone is to be populated by both black and white. Of course, all segregation will be outlawed and the white people as well as the blacks in this border zone will be under black rule.

The revolutionary conspirators believe that the moment we have a period of unemployment, a general strike can be called, thus paralyzing telephone lines, railroads, electric power systems, and major factories. Trained revolutionists will immediately slaughter leadership and seize control. This would seem fantastic were it not for the fact that the Red flag now dominates most of Asia and most of Europe.

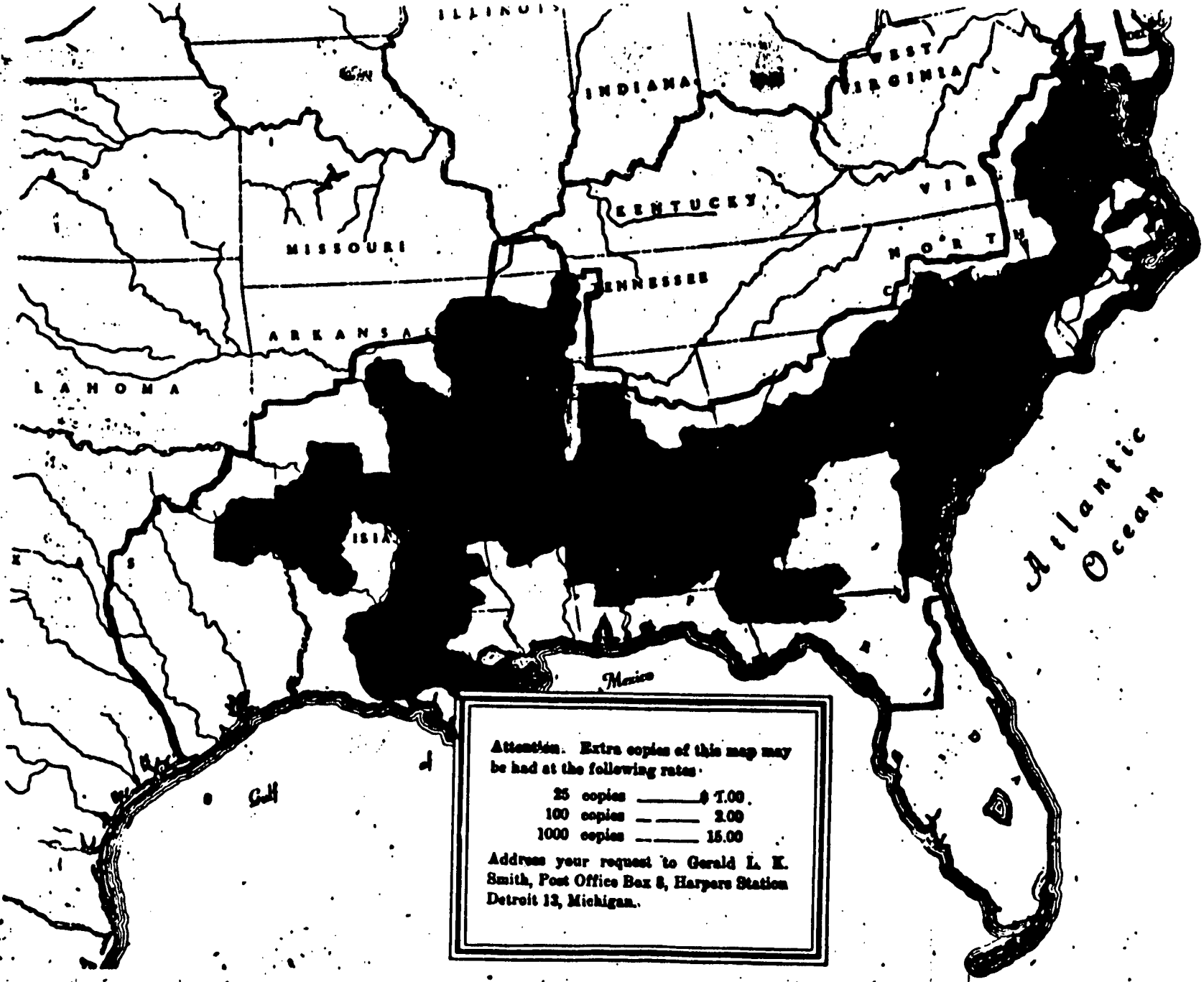
THIS MAP WAS REPUBLISHED AND EXHIBITED BY COMMUNIST LEADERS AS LATE AS JANUARY 1947.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Cross and the Flag, a monthly magazine edited by Gerald L. K. Smith, is the official organ for the crusade of Christian Nationalism. This dynamic magazine is devoted exclusively to the most fearless and deadly issues of the hour. Subscription rate: 1 year, $2.00; 6 months, $1.00. Subscriptions should be addressed to Gerald L. K. Smith, Editor, Post Office Box 8, Harper Station, Detroit 13, Michigan.

(SEE MAP ON OPPOSITE SIDE)

92

(Copyright, 1947, by Gerald L. K. Smith)



THE ABOVE IS A MAP OF THE PROPOSED NEGRO COMMUNIST STATE TO BE CARVED OUT OF THE SOUTH

See other side for de

184H

May 17, 1947

RECORDED

100-15139-29

Honorable Joseph H. Ball
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

(U)

My dear Senator:

Thank you for your letter dated May 10, 1947, and enclosed circulars which you furnished to me. This material is being made a matter of record in our files. (U)

I appreciate your thoughtfulness and interest in sending these circulars to me. (U)

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards, (U)

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

AFL:jd

RECEIVED DIRECTOR F B I U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE MAY 19 10 46 AM '47

RECEIVED ALBANY N.Y. MAY 19 9 24 AM '47

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
MAY 19 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

94-58 JUL

100-15137

Mr. Nichols ~~Memorandum~~ 6/5/47

M. A. Jones

Langston Hughes

Pursuant to your request there is set out below available information from our files concerning Langston Hughes, Negro poet and author. (U)

Hughes was born February 1, 1902, at Joplin, Missouri. His early youth was spent in Lawrence, Kansas. In 1916, he moved to Cleveland with his mother, where he remained until he completed high school. He visited his father in Mexico in 1920, staying approximately one year. He completed a one-year's course at Columbia University in New York in 1921, and also attended the Rand School in New York under the guidance of Ludwig Lewisohn and Heywood Broun. (U)

At the end of the school year he went to sea and until 1926 drifted about in various countries of Europe, including Italy, France, and Spain. He had begun to write poetry prior to his going to sea and as a result of this talent he was given a scholarship to Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He enrolled in this school in 1926 and completed his course in three years. (U)

The New York Office has received information that Hughes first became active in the Workers Movement and interested in social conditions in 1930; that he visited Russia in 1933; and that he was a correspondent in Madrid, Spain, during the Spanish Civil War. (U)

According to information received by the New York Office, Hughes married one Sonya Croll, with the alias June Croll, a white person, in 1932, and they had one child. (U)

The September 1, 1933, issue of the Daily Worker contains an article written by Hughes in which he describes his trip to Moscow for the purpose of filming a picture "Black and White." He stated that he admired the Soviet system for its non race prejudice and that all places were open to him as he possessed credentials of the "International Union of Revolutionary Writers." (U)

In the Call to the Second United States Congress Against War and Fascism on September 28, 1934 at Chicago, Illinois, it was reflected that Langston Hughes was on the National Committee of the American League Against War and Fascism. (U)

EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE 7/21/78 LLS/ldn

The February, 1937, issue of the Labor Defender reflected that Hughes was a Contributing Editor of this magazine, which is published by the International Labor Defense, 8 East 11th Street, New York City. (U)

SLIP(S) OF Classification
DATE 1-27-78

In the March 28, 1937, issue of the Daily Worker, Hughes wrote that the participation of Negroes in the Spanish War on the Loyalist side shows that the Negroes are growing in international consciousness. The article reflected that he is a member of the American Committee for Technical Aid to Spain. (U)

Original cannot be located and is not on file. Division 4 will be filed with this copy or may be given a new serial.

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-15137

F
19 JUL 1947

Tolson
M. A. Tam
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Nease
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Harbo
Mohr
Nease
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Rosen
Tele. Room
Nease
Tele. Candy

95 OLD:sab

7/23/47 JAN

CRIMINAL

The Daily Worker, dated September 7, 1937, contained an article reflecting that Hughes made a broadcast from Madrid, and that he had attended the International Writers Congress at Madrid, Spain. (U)

In an interview on his return from Spain, Hughes is reported to have told of the heroic work of the many Negroes from the United States in Spain's fight against General Franco, and that he was convinced of a Loyalist victory. (Daily Worker, January 22, 1938) (U)

The Daily Worker on April 28, 1938, reported that Hughes was one of 150 prominent American artists, writers, and composers who issued a statement in support of the verdicts of the Moscow Trials of the Trotskyite-Bukharinite Traitors. (U)

The 1938 International Workers Order Convention proceedings reflect that Emanuel Levin, National Education Work Director, distributed 10,000 copies of the collected poems of Hughes. (U)

The August 14, 1939, issue of the Daily Worker reflected that Hughes was one of 400 who released a manifesto denying the fantastic falsehood that the U.S.S.R. and the Totalitarian States are basically alike. (U)

According to information received by the New York Office, Langston Hughes was a member of the Emergency Peace Mobilization Committee in 1940; a member of the League of American Writers in 1941; member of the Editorial Council of the Soviet Russia Today Publications, Inc., in 1941; lecturer at the School for Democracy in 1942; signer of a Second Front Call in the form of a letter to the President in 1942; on the Editorial Board of the magazine, "Common Ground," published by the Common Council for American Unity, 222 Fourth Avenue, New York City, in 1942; speaker at a meeting held by the Council for Pan American Democracy, held in 1943; and author of a drama, "For This We Fight," which was presented at a Negro Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden in 1943. In 1943, Hughes served on a committee of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship to collect books to restore the libraries of the Soviet Union. In 1944, Hughes was one of the National Sponsors of the American Youth for Democracy. (100-15139-13) (U)

Reports of the Dies Committee reflect that at one time Hughes ran for office on the Communist Party ticket; that Hughes was a leader of the League of Professional Groups in 1932; and that he was an officer in the Workers Cultural Federation in 1932. The Dies Committee report also reflects that Hughes was president of the National Negro Conference in 1934, which organization is directing the Communist movement among negroes in the United States. (U)

The July 25, 1933, issue of the New York World Telegram reflected that Hughes was requested to leave Japan after being questioned by Tokio police for six hours. He was suspected of communicating with Japanese Communists. (U)

The September 21, 1944, issue of the Daily Worker reflected that Hughes sponsored a dinner given to Ferdinand Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union, at which many prominent Communists were in attendance, including Earl Browder. (U)

96

Information received January 8, 1945, by the New York Office reflects that Hughes lives at 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York, when he is in New York. The greater portion of his time is spent on tours throughout the country and lecturing before schools and colleges. At that time Hughes wrote for the Pittsburgh Courier, the Amsterdam News in New York, Peoples Voice, New York and the Chicago News. (100-15139-20) (U)

Information received by the New York Office on December 9, 1946, reflects that Hughes' occupation continues to be that of poet, novelist, playwright and columnist. (100-15139-27) (U)

With reference to the poem "Goodbye Christ," reportedly written by Hughes, our files indicate that the Los Angeles Office in February of 1941, received photostatic copies of a circular containing this poem and stating that it was written by Hughes. (100-15139-1) (U)

The Director of Intelligence for the War Department in Chicago, on April 27, 1943, furnished a copy of the poem, "Goodbye Christ," and attributed the authorship to Hughes. (100-15139-5) (U)

According to information received from our Chicago Office in December, 1944, the poem "Goodbye Christ," written by Hughes, appeared in the December 21, 1940 issue of the Saturday Evening Post. (U)

The poem "Goodbye Christ" is set out below:

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon -
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too.
Called it the Bible -
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many
Kings, generals, robbers, and killers -
Even to the Tsar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's Church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.
Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all -
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker ME -
I said, ME!

(U)

97

Go ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord,
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And Big black Saint Beeton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
The world is mine from now on -
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire.

* * *

Goodbye Christ, good morning Revolution!"

(U)

MONTGOMERY S. WINNING, PRES.
BEE E. WEBSTER, VICE-PRES.

Springfield Urban League

234 SOUTH FIFTEENTH STREET, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.
TELEPHONE 2-8411
FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AMONG NEGROES
AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

MRS. IVAN HAPPER, SEC.
WILLARD BUNN, JR., TR.

GEORGE B. WINSTON, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

December 23, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The Springfield Urban League is planning to spearhead a drive to present Langston Hughes, the noted Negro Poet, in a public lecture here. We would like to have clarified from your office whether or not you have him catalogued as a communist. I know him personally and I strongly feel he is not one. A word from your office will greatly help us to determine whether or not we should present him, as you know we have to be careful as to who we present these days.

Your prompt reply to this letter will be greatly appreciated.

RECORDED

Patriotically yours,

[redacted] (6)(7)(C)

Springfield Urban League

(6)(7)(C) [redacted]

99

FREEDOM TRAIN

by Langston Hughes

I read in the papers about the
Freedom Train.
I heard on the radio about the
Freedom Train.
I seen folks talkin' about the
Freedom Train.
Lord, I been a-waitin' for the
Freedom Train!

Down South in Dixie only train I see's
Got a Jim Crow car set aside for me.
I hope there ain't no Jim Crow on the Freedom Train,
No back door entrance to the Freedom Train,
No signs FOR COLORED on the Freedom Train,
No WHITE FOLKS ONLY on the Freedom Train.

I'm gonna check up on this
Freedom Train.

Who's the engineer on the Freedom Train?
Can a coal black man drive the Freedom Train?
Or am I still a porter on the Freedom Train?
Is there ballot boxes on the Freedom Train?
Do colored folks vote on the Freedom Train?
When it stops in Mississippi will it be made plain
Everybody's got a right to board the Freedom Train?

Somebody tell me about this
Freedom Train!

The Birmingham station's marked COLORED and WHITE.
The white folks go left, the colored go right—
They even got a segregated lane.
Is that the way to get aboard the Freedom Train?

I got to know about this
Freedom Train!

If my children ask me, *Daddy, please explain*
Why there's Jim Crow stations for the Freedom Train,
What shall I tell my children? . . . *You* tell me—
'Cause freedom ain't freedom when a man ain't free.

But maybe they explains it on the
Freedom Train.

When that train goes steamin' through South Caroline,
Will them Greenville lynchers pay it any mind?
Or will that twelve-man jury what let 'em loose,
Turn their heads and spit tobacco juice?

Wonder will they spit on the
Freedom Train?

When my old mother in Atlanta, 83 and black,
Gets in line to see the Freedom,
Will some white man yell, *Get back!*
A Negro's got no business on the Freedom Track!

Mister, I thought it were the
Freedom Train!

Her grandson's name was Jimmy. He died at Anzio.
He died for real. It warn't no show.
The freedom that they carryin' on this Freedom Train,
Is it for real—or just a show again?

Jimmy wants to know about this
Freedom Train.

Will *his* Freedom Train come zoomin' down the track,
Gleamin' in the sunlight for white and black?
Not stoppin' at no stations marked COLORED nor WHITE,
Just stoppin' in the fields in the broad daylight,
Stoppin' in the country in the wide open air
Where there never was no Jim Crow signs nowhere,
No Welcomin' Committees, nor politicians of note,
No Mayors and such for which colored can't vote,
And nary a sign of a color line—
For the Freedom Train will be yours and mine!

Then maybe from their graves in Anzio
The GI's who fought will say, *We wanted it so!*
Black men and white will say, *Ain't it fine?*
At home they got a train that's yours and mine!

Then I'll shout, *Glory for the*
Freedom Train!
I'll holler, *Blow your whistle,*
Freedom Train!
Thank God-A-Mighty! Here's the
Freedom Train!
Get on board our Freedom Train!

THIS fall, specially built railroad cars, each painted white, with a gold American eagle in the center flanked by blue and red stripes, will start out on a year's run. It is called the Freedom Train, and will carry some precious heirlooms—100 original documents basic to US democracy. It will cross the land four times, visit more than 300 cities. The sponsors have said they will by-pass any town which plans segregation on the train carrying, among other documents, the Emancipation Proclamation. Langston Hughes, 44-year-old Negro poet and novelist, was inspired by the idea to write the poem which appears here. But he remains skeptical about what the local citizenry in the deep South may do to the Freedom Train. "Checkin' on the Freedom Train," adapted from a Negro spiritual, expresses the hope of the riders of the Jim Crow cars that this will be a different kind of train. Like most literature voicing the spontaneous longings of the Negro, it is easy to sing. A moving musical version will be published by W. C. Handy, the man who wrote "The St. Louis Blues."

December 31, 1947

RECORDED 100-15137-32

EX-117 [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

Springfield Urban League
234 South Fifteenth Street
Springfield, Illinois (U)

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

Your letter dated December 23, 1947, has been received. The information contained in the files of this Bureau is confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will draw no inference whatsoever from my inability to comply with your request. I am enclosing some material I thought you might enjoy reading. (U)

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

(W) Secularism - Breeder of Crime
Questions and Answers ~~on Communism~~ on loyalty program
Red Fascism
How to Fight Communism
Dir. Testimony

Note: Bureau files contain numerous references reflecting Hughes to be a Communist. He is the author of the sacrilegious poem which was utilized in the Director's speech, "Secularism - Breeder of Crime." (U)

VWP:lo

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
DEC 31 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
DEC 31 5 01 PM '47

101

FO JAN 15 1948

JAN 24 1948

WESTERN UNION

WU12 PD

SPRINGFIELD ILL JAN 24 1948 1123A

J EDGAR HOOVER, DEPT JUSTICE

FED BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ADVISE COLLECT AT ONCE FINDING ON LANGSTON HUGHES COLORED

POET SPEAKS IN STATE BLDG MAR 11 IS HE A COMMUNIST

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] REP INTER VETERANS COUNCIL CARE [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] SPRINGFIELD ILL

T28P

RECORDED 39-3

F B I

31 JAN 31 1948

MAR 11.

cc: Mr. Nichols

7 MAR 6 1948

102

RECORDED
& ?
INDEXED 100-15134-33

January 27, 1948

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]
Springfield, Illinois (U)

(b)(7)(c) Dear [redacted]

Your telegram dated January 24, 1948, has been received. Information contained in the files of this Bureau is confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will draw no inference whatsoever from my inability to comply with your request. As of possible interest, I am enclosing a copy of "Secularism - A Breeder of Crime" which contains a poem written by the person you mention. (U)

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

NOTE: The sacriligeous poem contained in this speech was written by Langston Hughes, Negro Communist. (U)

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
JAN 28 1948 P.M.
VWP:mfl
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 27 7 11 PM '48
RECEIVED READING ROOM

Telson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Egan
Gurnea
Harbo
Mohr
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Lo. Room
Nease
Sandy

21 MAR 6-1948 274

103

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: FEBRUARY 11, 1948

FROM: SAC, SPRINGFIELD

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

(b)(7)(c)

This is to advise that this office is in receipt of information from [redacted] of the local post of the Amvets and [redacted] of the Inter-Veterans Council comprising eighteen veterans' organizations in Springfield, to the effect that the organizations which he represents are in receipt of information to the effect that LANGSTON HUGHES is believed to be a member of the Communist Party. He explained that LANGSTON HUGHES, who is a nationally known poet and author of the poem, "The Freedom Train," has been invited to speak in Springfield at the Centennial Building, a state-owned building, on March 11, 1948, by the Urban League and various other local organizations whose alleged purpose is to promote harmony between the races. No comment was made, but he was encouraged to make his own investigation. (U)

(b)(7)(c)

On February 10, 1948, the [redacted] and [redacted] (colored) called at the Springfield Office, at which time they made inquiry concerning LANGSTON HUGHES. They explained that they were partially responsible for the coming appearance of LANGSTON HUGHES in Springfield and that they did not desire to sponsor a member of the Communist Party. Accordingly, they desired information from this Bureau as to whether or not this man was a member of the Communist Party. (U)

They were advised politely but firmly that this office could give out no information concerning any individual or organization whether under investigation or not. (U)

(b)(7)(c)

Inasmuch as [redacted] has indicated that some elements of the veterans' organizations are determined to oppose the appearance of LANGSTON HUGHES in Springfield, it is possible that the appearance of LANGSTON HUGHES will be attended by some violence and possible racial incident. (U)

The painting of LANGSTON HUGHES by HIRAM JACKSON, a local negro artist, is on public display in the Springfield Public Library next to an inflammatory painting entitled, "White Supremacy." (U)

Accordingly, the matter is being called to the attention of the Bureau with the request that this office be authorized to call the attention of the Springfield Police Department and Illinois State Police to this matter. (U)

WLO
wab
100-7382

SAC-SPFLD. 2-27-48 MET

(U)

RECORDED 100-15139-34

FEB 13 1948

EX-7

104

100-151539-34

RECORDED

SAC, Springfield

Director, FBI

LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C
Your file #100-7382

(U)

February 26, 1948

Reurlet February 11, 1948, advising that Langston Hughes is scheduled to speak in Springfield, Illinois, on March 11, 1948, wherein you request to be advised whether you should call the attention of the Springfield Police Department and Illinois State Police to the fact that some violence might ensue as a result of plans on the part of the veterans' organizations to oppose the appearance of Hughes as a speaker. (U)

In view of the circumstances the Bureau feels that you should advise the Springfield Police Department and Illinois State Police concerning the possibility of violence if this meeting is held; however, you should be careful not to give the impression that you are trying to assert any influence to prevent the meeting. (U)

100-151539

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
FEB 26 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MET:gas,mhc

52 MAR 2 1948

105

AMVETS • • • American Veterans of World War II, Post 61

W. DON FORSYTH, Commander
425½ East Washington Street
Springfield, Illinois

JOSEPH S. RYDER, Adjutant
101 South Fifth Street
Springfield, Illinois

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

February 2, 1948

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

Dear Sir:

I wish to thank you for the reply to my telegram in regard to Langston Hughes.

(6)(7)(C)

I feel that I should explain my connection in this matter. I am the [redacted] of a committee appointed by the Inter-Veterans Council which is composed of representatives of the eighteen Veterans organizations in this city to obtain proof that this Langston Hughes is an active Communist. We know that he has been, but in order to try to obtain a cancellation of his lecture we need black and white statements.

We are sure the Ministers Alliance, Council of Churches, Business Men's Club, Y. W. C. A. and other civic groups will remove their names from the sponsors list if we can show them proof of this man's affiliation.

This situation is rather precarious since the Interracial relations here have been strained from time to time. However, two members of my committee are colored and are definitely anxious to obtain a cancellation to this lecture.

Several prominent citizens have asked the Veterans to take a stand on this matter and we feel that we definitely wish to do so, but we want to do it in a sensible way and that is by talking the sponsors into cancelling this lecture.

I have written Mr. Parnell Thomas and also Senator Scott Lucas in hopes of obtaining the desired information.

If you can supply me with any additional information, I will be ever grateful for same and I am sure the Veterans of this city will feel likewise.

RECORDED & INDEXED 1 20-15139-
F B I
15 FEB 20 1948

106

J. Edgar Hoover--February 2, 1948

Your office here knows me and you may be assured that my committee has the best interest of its fellow members and the citizenry of Springfield at heart.

Your grateful friend,

[redacted] b)(7)(c)

[redacted]

Springfield, Illinois

b)(7)(c) [redacted]

107

100 15139-35

58

February 16, 1948

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

Springfield, Illinois (U)

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 2, 1948, and to express my appreciation of the feeling which prompted you to write me as you did. (U)

As indicated in my letter of January 27, 1948, information in this Bureau's files is considered confidential and may be disclosed only to certain authorized persons. This is a long-established departmental policy promulgated by the Attorney General. (U)

I am certain that upon reflection you will recognize the necessity of such a rule. (U)

(b)(7)(c)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnee
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Hoose
Miss Gandy

NOTe: Files reflect that [redacted] sent a telegram on 1/24/48 asking for the same info. By let dated 1/27, he was sent "Secularism - Breeder of Crime" which contains the poem I mentioned below. Langston Hughes is the subject of closed Security Matter - C case 100-15139. He is a negro poet and Joan Edgar Hoover writer, a CP member, GEI:OFM associated with a multitude Director of Communist fronts and author of the sacriligeous poem "Goodbye Christ" which ends "Goodbye Christ, Hello revolution. (U)

Sincerely yours,

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62 MAR 6 1948

274

108

First Methodist Church
Springfield, Illinois

February 20, 1948

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

May I inquire about a letter purporting to come either from you or your organization concerning a negro, Langston Hughes, written to some local representative of the American Legion?

From several different sources including a very well balanced minister, it has been reported to me that this letter said substantially, that the F.B.I. would give out no information concerning whether Mr. Hughes is or is not a Communist but that one could read for himself the poem "Good Bye Christ", all or part of which was quoted in the letter. Moreover, that either you or your organization as the writer of the letter, is being used as authority to prove that Mr. Hughes is a Communist.

My interest in this is two fold:

1- The reputation of the F.B.I. I have always held the F.B.I. in the highest regard, something that I cannot say for some other governmental organizations. We certainly need some judicial fact finding organization like the F.B.I., that is interested in truth not a smear campaign. Therefore it is hard for me to believe that you (or your organization) has written such a letter which refuses to give facts but which makes it possible to use your good name to label him a Communist.

The poem itself is not evidence. I read recently an article by him in which he interprets this poem. Though written in the first person (as poets so often do) it does not, he claims, express his own conviction but is a representation of what those on the extreme left are thinking. I myself greatly dislike the poem but if the interpretation is what he claims it to be, then it is not evidence that he is a Communist.

2- The facts concerning Langston Hughes. I had nothing to do with bringing him to Springfield. Indeed I had never heard of him until after announcement had been made of his coming. Since then both sides have come to me with their evidence. The negroes and some of their white friends have shown me the evidence of the Un-American Committee that he is a Communist. Frankly I do not put too much credence in this

Enc. 2/26/48

109

Committee for they have smeared some of my friends who are no more Communist than you are. So if you have any facts you can release about Langston Hughes, I certainly would like to have them. If he is a Communist I want nothing to do with him; if he is being martyred through hysteria, I will champion his cause.

(b)(7)(c) This is important to me. [redacted] I want facts if I can get them, for I cannot afford to be a coward or to go off half cocked.

Best wishes to you in the great work you are doing.

Cordially,

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

WE SEE BY THE PAPERS

DOUBLE SPRINGS, ALA.: Winston County went Republican as [illegible] in 1940, though all other Alabama counties voted Democratic by majorities of as much as 75 to 1. This county has gone Democratic only once since the Civil War—in 1932, when the strife split the Republicans and [illegible] the county to Roosevelt, 1006 to [illegible]. Winston is known as the Free State, having, on July 4, 1861, formally seceded from the Confederacy by popular vote. It furnished five companies of infantry to the Union army. In 1864, when the Confederacy enforced the draft and carried off a local youth to jail in Jasper, a posse from Winston stormed Jasper, freed the prisoner and burned the jail.

CINCINNATI: For more than sixty years this city has owned outright a 338-mile-long, double-tracked, main-line railroad from here to Chattanooga. Then the Louisville & Nashville was opened soon after the Civil War, the loss of river traffic from Cincinnati to Louisville so alarmed this city that it voted bonds to build a competing line, totaling $18,300,000 before the road was opened in 1877. Once familiarly known as the Queen & Crescent route, the line has been operated since 1881 under lease by what now is the Southern Railway System. This company pays Cincinnati a yearly rental of [illegible],000,000 plus 2 per cent of the net profits. Some $14,000,000 in bonds still is outstanding. Excess of rental over interest up to 1940 has been [illegible] $20,000,000. Kentucky now is trying to collect income tax from Cincinnati on these rentals since 1936.

FORT DIX, N. J.: When a federalized National Guard regiment gave a show here just before the election, Harold Duchin, a company cook, wrote and directed the production and himself impersonated Hitler and President Roosevelt. The show was a satire of Army life, with digs at all, from the sergeants to the brass hats. The latter, including the commanding general of the 44th Division, attended and laughed uproariously. In the take-off on the President, Duchin portrayed him as promising "two porks to every pot" and "two stoves in every tent." Duchin was a hero for three days, then suddenly was confined to quarters pending an investigation. After two days under arrest, he was brought before an examining board, questioned [illegible], then released. It is commonly understood here that Washington, reading newspaper accounts of the show, demanded that the offenders be disciplined.

TACOMA: Clark H. Eldridge, chief engineer of the $6,400,000 Tacoma Narrows Bridge, which collapsed four months after it was opened, blames the RFC and the PWA, which supplied the money. "We had a tried-and-true conventional bridge design," he said, "but we were told that we couldn't have the money without using plans furnished by an Eastern firm of engineers." This design, Eldridge said, was an adaptation of the design of the Whitestone Suspension Bridge, New York City, which has displayed in a lesser degree the same characteristic motion under wind pressure which wrecked the Narrows bridge.

SCRANTON, PA.: In the week before election, the WPA [illegible] the district [illegible] of [illegible] retailing in local stores at [illegible] and more, to families employed [illegible] the projects in Lackawanna County. At the same time the Surplus Commodities Corporation sent into the county for free distribution 21,000 bed sheets and 7500 baby-size all wool blankets.

NEW YORK: Between the halves at the Giants-Pittsburgh Steelers professional football game at the Polo Grounds, the crowd was [illegible] a square [illegible] underwriting the [illegible] and they were searching [illegible] beer's false teeth, lost in [illegible] month after he was [illegible] Miller. A cop found them.

KANSAS CITY, MO.: On October [illegible] fifth, Kansas City passed five years without a school child being killed by a motor [illegible]

PASADENA: Below is a photograph of a circular distributed here in early November.

ATTENTION CHRISTIANS ! !

Be sure to attend the Book & Author Luncheon
At
VISTA DEL ARROYO HOTEL,
Pasadena, California

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1940—at 12:15 Promptly

Hear the Distinguished Young Negro Poet

LANGSTON HUGHES

Author of the following poem, and member of the American section of Moscow's

"INTERNATIONAL UNION OF REVOLUTIONARY WRITERS"

"GOODBYE CHRIST"

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now
They ghost you up a swell story too,
Called it Bible—
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it
They've sold you to too many

"Kings, generals, robbers and killers—
Even to the Czar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's church,
Even to THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've become [illegible]

"Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah
Beat on away from here now
Make way for a new guy with no religion
at all—
A new guy named
More [illegible] Lenin Peasant Stalin
Worker ME—

"Lord, ME!

"The Man [illegible] now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord
And please take Saint Gladys with you
when you go
And Saint Hope Plus
And Saint Amen M. Prayer,
And Holy Ark Saint Bedeen
Of the Consecrated Dime
And [illegible] on the guy, Christ!
The world is mine from now on—
Mine!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
And in both your hands will ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a [illegible]"

ATTEND THE LUNCHEON CHRISTIANS
And Hear
GEORGE PALMER PUTNAM
Introduce the author of the above "poem,"
MR. LANGSTON HUGHES
Distinguished young Negro poet—and eat, *if you can.*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ern Railway System. This company pays Cincinnati a yearly rental of $1,250,000 plus 2 per cent of the net profits. Some $14,000,000 in bonds still is outstanding. Excess of rental over interest up to 1940 has been nearly $20,000,000. Kentucky now is suing to collect income tax from Cincinnati on these rentals since 1936.

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"INTERNATIONAL UNION OF REVOLUTIONARY WRITERS"

"GOODBYE CHRIST"

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story too,
Called it Bible—
But its dead now.
The popes and the preachers 've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many

"Kings, generals, robbers and killers—
Even to the Czar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's church,
Even to THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.

"Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehova,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all—
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker *ME*—

"I said, *ME!*

"Go Ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord.
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimie McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
The world is mine from now on—
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire."

ATTEND THE LUNCHEON CHRISTIANS
And Hear
GEORGE PALMER PUTNAM
Introduce the author of the above "poem"
MR. LANGSTON HUGHES
Distinguished young Negro poet—and eat, *if you can.*

[illegible] now look to the [illegible] Constitution," he said [illegible] has not always held that [illegible] sally, Justice Hall [illegible] the strongly worded opinion [illegible] blocked from appointment to the [illegible] eral bench in 1937 by Labor opposition.

UTICA, N. Y.: Dorothy May[illegible] Negro soprano, was called to the phone during an intermission in her concert here. A voice said he was calling [illegible] the NBC studio in New York [illegible] Olin Downes and [illegible] were waiting there to join her [illegible] broadcast for the Red Cross. Why wasn't she there? Miss Maynor [illegible] membered no such engagement [illegible] decided that she must have blundered. The voice suggested that she sing over the phone; a record would be made of her voice and rebroadcast. She obliged only to learn later that the call was a hoax. Lotte Lehman had the same trick played upon her recently.

NEW ORLEANS: The march of [illegible] streamliners continu[illegible] train between New [illegible] and New Orleans, the Crescent [illegible] thirty-two hours, but early next [illegible] the same group of railroads will inaugurate daily Diesel-powered, light weight, streamlined coach trains leaving New York at 4:30 P.M. and reaching New Orleans at 7:30 [illegible] the next day. The Kansas City Southern has inaugurated the South[illegible] Belle [illegible] streamliner between Kansas City and here, and the Rock Island [illegible] launched a new Rocket [illegible] Amarillo, [illegible] fornia trains.

AUSTIN: The University of Texas copyrighted the numbers worn by players on its foot[illegible] season [illegible] unofficial game program [illegible] side the stadium. The [illegible] of the official programs is one [illegible] sources [illegible]

February 26, 1948

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-15739-36

13 [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

First Methodist Church
Fifth Street at Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois (u)

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

I wish to acknowledge your communication of February 20, 1948, and I am at a loss to understand your references to the FBI and Langston Hughes. (u)

(b)(7)(c) I did receive a letter from [redacted] (b)(7)(c) of the Springfield Urban League, who requested to be advised whether or not I would catalogue Mr. Hughes as a Communist. I informed [redacted] of the confidential character of the files of the FBI and specifically stated, "I am sure you will draw no inference whatsoever from my inability to comply with your request." This is the general tenor of replies to requests for information of this nature. (u) (b)(7)(c)

I, of course, am familiar with Mr. Hughes' poem "Goodbye Christ." In fact, I referred to it in an address which I prepared for delivery before a conference of Methodist ministers in Evanston, Illinois last winter, a copy of which I am enclosing. In this connection, I am also enclosing a photostatic copy of a page from the December 21, 1940 issue of the Saturday Evening Post, which reproduces an announcement of a luncheon wherein Mr. Hughes would speak and quotes the poem. You will observe that Mr. Hughes is referred to as a member of the American section of Moscow's "International Union of Revolutionary Writers." (u)

I very well appreciate your position and while I would like to be of assistance, nevertheless, in view of the confidential character of our files, it would not be possible for me to elaborate any further on this matter. (u)

With best wishes and kind regards, (u)

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Hoover

Enclosure - "Secularism - A Breeder of Crime" (u)

59 APR 16 1948

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
FEB 27 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FEB 26 7 14 PM 1948
RECEIVED READING ROOM

113

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 5, 1948

FROM : SAC, Springfield

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES
S M - C

BUFILE 100-~~151539~~

Rebulet 2-26-48. (U)

✓ 6(7)(c)

This is to advise that [redacted] of the Inter-Veterans Council, Springfield, Illinois, has called at the Springfield Division and advised that through the efforts of the veterans, it has been possible to obtain the cancellation of LANGSTON HUGHES, and that he will not appear on March 11, 1948, as scheduled. (U)

Accordingly, it will not be necessary to communicate with either the Springfield Police Department or the Illinois State Police in this matter. (U)

G.I.R.-4

M

ALO:ms
100-7382

RECORDED & INDEXED 100-151539-37
F B I
10 MAR 9 1948

17

EX-116

71 MAR 16 1948

Kankakee Chamber of Commerce

Kankakee, Illinois

... SERVING THE KANKAKEE, BRADLEY AND BOURBONNAIS AREA ...

213 EAST COURT STREET — 220 NORRIS BLDG. — PHONE MAIN 2

February 24, 1948.

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A local group is sponsoring a program by Langston Hughes at our Hich School on March 14.

I have just had a delegation of our American Legion visit me with the information that this individual is a Communist and that he belongs to a number of the Left Front Organizations.

If this is true, we would like to take action at once to inform local organizations who are sponsoring him and ask that he be invited to cancel his engagement. Can you give me any information on Langston Hughes?

Very truly yours,

KANKAKEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[redacted]

b(7)(c)

b(7)(c) [redacted]

RECORDED 1 100-15 13238
F B I
31 MAR 13 1948

The Hoover Co. of Illinois

115

March 6, 1948

(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

Kankakee Chamber of Commerce
220 Norris Building
213 East Court Street
Kankakee, Illinois

(U)

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

100-15129-38

I received your letter of February 24, 1948, and regret that I cannot be of service in connection with your request for information which may be in the files of this Bureau. In accordance with a long-standing policy, our records are confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this rule and that no inference will be drawn that we do, or do not, have information in our files because of my inability to be of assistance. (U)

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAJ:ig

Note: Bureau files contain numerous references reflecting Langston Hughes (referred to in [redacted] letter of 2-24-48) to be a Communist. He is the author of the sacrilegious poem utilized in the Director's speech on Secularism. (100-15139) (U)

(b)(7)(C)

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAR 8 - 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

59 MAR 18 1948

116

ARIZONA STATE COLLEGE
Tempe, Arizona

March 20, 1948

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing a mimeographed document which apparently is being circulated in this vicinity.

If you can give me any information on Langston Hughes, I should like to have it. We, of course, try to maintain the highest degree of freedom of speech on our campus but we do not want anyone who is billed as a poet spreading Communistic propaganda. If you can give us any information for our guidance, we would appreciate it and should like to have it as early as possible.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

cc-Federal Bureau of Investigation
Phoenix, Arizona

RECORDED

100-15139-34

F B I

21 MAR 29 1948

117

BLASPHEMER

SCHEDULED TO SPEAK AT

TEMPE COLLEGE

THE PUBLIC RECORD...OF...LANGSTON HUGHES...who is booked to speak to the Students at the Arizona State College at Tempe, Arizona., on April 6, 1948.

GOODBYE CHRIST
By Langston Hughes

Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon-
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too.
Called it the Bible--
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many
Kings, generals, robbers, and killers-
Even to the Tzar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's Church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.
Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all-- A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker ME--
I said, ME!
Go ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord,
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton
Of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
The world is mine from now on--
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire.

Langston Hughes, a notorious Negro with some 82 Communist affiliations, has been particularly active in Negro Communist activities. He was originally active in the (Communist) Workers' Cultural Federation in 1930, the New Theater League, and the Southern New Theater School. He has contributed to the Communist publications New Masses, Soviet Russia Today, Labor Defender, Champion, and The Anvil. He was active in Spanish Red Ranks during the Communist revolution in that country, and he is a member of its Red Army reserve, the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, a section of the International Brigade. He has been prominent in Communist-fronts, some of the better known ones are, the American Peace Mobilization (see The Show Up - issue No. 4), Conference on Pan-American Democracy, League of Struggle for Negro Rights, League of American Writers, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Book Union, and the American Student Union. One of his poems, a favorite with Communists, is called "Put Just One More "S" in USA" (Soviet) (page 109-testimony of Walter S. Steele before the Committee on un-American activities--80th Congress--July 21, 1947

118

PETITION

Hon. Sidney P. Osborn., Governor of Arizona.

WE, Americans of every Creed, Nationality, and Color are in agreement in protesting the scheduled appearance of LANGSTON HUGHES on the Campus of Arizona State College on April 6, 1948.

NAME	ADDRESS

100-15139-39

119

PETITION

NAME	ADDRESS

100-15139-39

March 25, 1948

RECORDED & INDEXED

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]
Arizona State College
Tempe, Arizona

(b)(7)(c) Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 20, 1948, with enclosure has been received. I regret that I cannot be of service in connection with your request for information which may be in the files of this Bureau, as, in accordance with a long standing policy our files are confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this rule and that no inference will be drawn that we do, or do not, have information in our files because of my inability to be of assistance. It has occurred to me that the enclosed material might be of some interest to you. The patriotic motives prompting your communication are indeed appreciated. (U)

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC: Phoenix (Dr. per FBO Library)

(U) Enclosure
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT
HOW TO FIGHT COMMUNISM
SECULARISM

WN:hoo

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
MAR 26 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

59 APR 16 1948

121

MAR 29 1948

TELETYPE

FBI, PHOENIX 3-26-48 4-15 PM MST JFC

DIRECTOR, FBI ROUTINE

LANGSTON HUGHES, SM-C. RELET TO BUREAU FROM ARIZONA STATE COLLEGE, TEMPE, ARIZONA, REQUESTING INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER SUBJECT IS COMMUNIST. CARBON COPY OF LETTER RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE. COLLEGE OFFICIALS WERE ADVISED WHY BUREAU COULD NOT REVEAL CONFIDENTIAL DATA IN OUR FILES. PRESS REPORTS REFLECT SCHEDULED APPEARANCE OF SUBJECT AT THE COLLEGE HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

LOGAN

END

6-15 PM OK FBI WA OVM

60 APR 10 1948

100-13139

F B I

29 MAR 80

EX-63

122

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

A. RA[illegible]
RICHA[illegible]

First Methodist Church
Fifth Street at Ca[illegible] Avenue
Springfield, Illinois

REV. ALMA V. CAR[illegible]

March 3, 1948

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 26th and a copy of the address before the Methodist ministers at Garrett.

On the middle of page six is an introductory paragraph to the poem "Goodbye Christ." Does this paragraph mean that Langston Hughes ran for "public office on the ticket of the Communist party"? If you know this to be true then of course that settles the matter. Langston Hughes at least has been a Communist.

However the whole matter is very strange. I have read a personal letter from him and also a magazine article by him in which he denies ever having been a Communist. (He could hardly do this if he has run for office on a Communist ticket which certainly is a matter of public record.) And he also insists that this poem is not an expression of his own view but as a poetic mechanism describes what a Communist thinks.

Again more power to you and the truly judgicious matters in the very important work committed to your care.

Sincerely,

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

100-15127-41

31

123

March 27, 1948

100-15139-41

RECORDED

(b)(7)(c) 31 [redacted]
First Methodist Church
Fifth Street at Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois (U)

(b)(7)(c) Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 3, 1948, came to my attention upon my return to the city. As I mentioned in my communication of February 26, 1948, I appreciate your position and would like to be of assistance but I am bound by the confidential nature of the files of the FBI. (U)

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

FEC:mb

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 29 12 07 PM '48

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
APR 2 - 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

59 APR 16 1948

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file

LANGSTON HUGHES — NEGRO POET.

Reports and records of the House Un-American Activities Committee reflect the following information on above subject.

1925-1933 Member of the All America Anti Imperialist League, a Communist Party front organization according to Attorney General Biddle.

1932 Member of the League of Professional Groups organized to support the candidacy of WILLIAM Z. FOSTER for presidency on the C.P. ticket.

1934 President of the National Negro Congress, a C.P. front

1934 Affiliated with or sponsor of Council for Pan-American Democracy, a C.P. front

1935 Signer of call for a National Convention of the League of American Revolutionary Writers.

1936 Speaker at the Third American Congress Against War and Fascism, a C.P. front. Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 3-5, 1936.

1936 Member of Committee of Professional Groups for Browder and Ford. (C.P. candidates for Presidency and Vice Presidency.

1937 Member of the Editorial Council of SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY, "for many years the leading propaganda journal for the Soviet Union in the United States" according to House Un-American Activities Committee, Appendix IX, page 1602.

In November of 1937 HUGHES signed the "Golden Book of American Friendship with the Soviet Union" eulogizing the 20th Anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

1938 Signed a public statement supporting Stalin's bloody purges which took the lives of an estimated 8,000,000 victims.

Sponsor of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, cited as a subversive or Communist front organization by several state legislative committees as well as the House Un-American Activities Committee.

1939 Signer of an open letter demanding closer co-operation between the United States and Soviet Russia.

Subject also was an officer, sponsor, member, affiliated with or contributor to the following C.P. fronts or C.P. line publications over a period of twenty years.

JUN 5 1945

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American-Russian Institute
American League Against War and Fascism
American Peace Mobilization
American Youth Congress
American Student Union
American Youth for Democracy
ANVIL
Book Union
CHAMPION (organ Young Communist League)
DAILY WORKER
DYNAMO (Communist journal of revolutionary poetry)
Friends of the Soviet Union
Co-Ordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo
LABOR DEFENDER (organ of International Labor Defense)
League of American Writers
League of Workers Theatres
International Labor Defense, legal arm of the Communist Party
International Workers Order, fraternal & insurance branch of C.
National Committee to Aid the Victims of German Fascism
National Committee to Defend Political Prisoners
National Committee for Peoples Rights
National Council to Aid Agricultural Labor
National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights
National Federation for Constitutional Liberties
National Writers Congress
Negro Cultural Committee
Negro Playwrights Company, Inc.
NEW MASSES
Non-Partisan Committee for Re-election of Congressman Vito Marcantonio
Non-Sectarian Committee for Political Refugees
PARTISAN
Morris Schappes Defense Committee
Southern Negro Youth Congress
SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY
FIGHT

At least two witnesses before the House Un-American Activities Committee called HUGHES a "Communist poet."

Page 644, Appendix IX of the House Un-American Activities Committee states, "LANGSTON HUGHES was for a period of approximately twenty years a professed card-holding member of the Communist Party, USA."

Page 262, Appendix IX calls subject, "a card-holding member of the Communist Party."

Hughes also wrote the following alleged "poetry".

"Good morning, Revolution:
You're the very best friend
I ever had
We gonna pal around together from now on."

126

GOOD BYE CHRIST!

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too,
Called it Bible—
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many.

Kings, generals, robbers, and killers—
Even to the Czar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's Church
Even to the Saturday Evening post,
You ain't no good no more;
They pawned you
Till you've done wore out.

Goodbye!
Christ Jesus, Lord, God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all—
A real guy named
Marx, Communist, Lenin, Peasant, Stalin, Worker, ME—
I said, Me!

Go ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things, Lord.
And please take Saint Ghandi with you when you go.
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And big black Saint Becton of the Consecrated Dime.
And step on the gas, Christ!
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin'!
The world is mine from now on—
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire."

REVOLUTION

Great mob that knows no fear
Come here!
And raise your hand
Against this man
Or iron and steel and gold
Who's bought and sold
You
Each one
For the last thousand years.

Come here,
Great mob that knows no fear
and Tear him limb from limb,
Slit his golden throat
Ear to ear,
and end his time forever
Now ———
This year ——
Great mob that knows no fear.

— Langston Hughes

June 16, 1948

Commission on Ministerial Training
The Methodist Church
810 Broadway
Nashville 2, Tennessee

100-15121

Dear

In Mr. Hoover's absence from the city your letter of June 1st enclosing a communication from Langston Hughes has been called to my attention. This exchange of correspondence is somewhat mystifying to me since it appears that you have questioned the propriety of quoting the poem, "Goodbye Christ," by Langston Hughes in Mr. Hoover's lecture, "Secularism - A Breeder of Crime," which I had the privilege of presenting for him at the Conference of Methodist Ministers in Evanston, Illinois, on November 26, 1947. Frankly, it would appear to me that had there been any question about the propriety of using this poem, certainly Mr. Hoover should have been consulted. While I have not checked into the law on the subject, nevertheless, it seems to me that this poem is in the public domain and is a matter of public record. As a matter of fact, it is recorded in full in the printed hearings of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, 75th Congress, 3rd Session, Volume II, page 1366. Likewise it appeared on a poster advertising Langston Hughes' appearance at a Book and Author Luncheon at Vista Del Arroyo Hotel, Pasadena, California, on November 15, 1940. This poster was reprinted in the December 21, 1940, issue of The Saturday Evening Post. A photostatic copy of page 34 of this issue of The Saturday Evening Post is enclosed.

Volume 14 of the printed hearings of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 77th Congress, 1st Session, page 8474, carries the testimony of Mr. J. B. Matthews as follows: "A number of these individuals are members of the Communist Party of public record."

LBN:MP

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
JUN 17 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 17 59 PM '48

129

June 16, 1948

Langston Hughes, for example, has run for office on the Communist Party ticket."

Langston Hughes' explanation that in this poem he characterizes the extreme right as seen by the extreme left is an insult to the intelligence of anyone who can read. If there ever was a blasphemous utterance, it is this poem, and while I note that he now declines to grant permission to reprint the poem, it certainly would appear that he had not withdrawn it from circulation at the time it was used to advertise the above-mentioned luncheon that he was to address.

Before making any recommendations to Mr. Hoover, I would like to know exactly what question has been raised about the use of the poem. It is a matter of public record and it would appear to be in the public domain. I frankly do not like the idea of vacillating in a case such as this and I am inclined to recommend and to urge that the Director withdraw the entire lecture from publication if the poem is deleted therefrom. However, before doing this I wanted the additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

COMMISSION ON MINISTERIAL TRAINING
THE METHODIST CHURCH

810 BROADWAY

NASHVILLE 2, TENNESSEE

Affiliated with the Board of Education

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NEW YORK, N. Y.
DR. HARRY W. McPHERSON
NASHVILLE, TENN.

J. RICHARD SPA
EDUCATIONAL DIR

June 1, 1956

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The enclosures from Langston Hughes, the author of "Goodbye Christ", explains why we are having to delete your quotation of this poem from our forthcoming volume, THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND SECULARISM. We are sorry but can well understand the circumstances for his attitude.

Most cordially yours,

On tour,
May 24,
1948.

810 Broadway,
Nashville, Tennessee.

My dear

Your letter of May 13 just reaches me as I am completing a cross-country lecture tour, having been away from New York since early March.

My answer to your request is that I do not grant permission for the use of the poem, Goodbye Christ in the book being published by the Abingdon Cokesbury Press.

The Gerald L. K. Smith forces, the Klan, and other anti-Negro groups have, in recent years, usually on unsigned mimeographed sheets and entirely without permission distributed this poem as representative of my thoughts and work, often mutilated and cut, or combined with portions of other poems out of context. The poem was written about twenty years ago, is not in any of my own books, and because it was widely misunderstood when it first appeared---irony and satire being difficult to use in poetry, it seems---I withdrew the poem from circulation. The persons who have put it into circulation again are hardly up to any good purpose, being the most anti-Negro, anti-labor, and anti-Jewish groups in our America. I would hate to see the Commission on Ministerial Training of the Methodist Church helping them to continue their misrepresentation with no reference to the hundreds of other poems I have written, a number of them as in the FEET O' JESUS section of my book, THE DREAM KEEPER, being of a religious nature---clearly so in contrast to the irony of the poem GOODBYE CHRIST which is, to mind, most sympathetic to the symbol of good which certainly the very forces now distributing the poem are helping to drive from the minds of men.

Rushing for a train, I regret this hasty answer.

Sincerely yours,

Langston Hughes

Langston Hughes

CONCERNING "GOODBYE, CHRIST"

by

Langston Hughes

In the early days of the American depression, I wrote a poem called, GOODBYE, CHRIST, which later appeared in the NEGRO WORKER. Ever so often, since its appearance, I have been termed on occasion a Communist, or an Atheist, usually by the most reactionary and un-Christian-like groups in America, namely the America First group, the Gerald L. K. Smith organizations, and during the 1944 presidential campaign, by various anti-Roosevelt papers like the NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR and the NEW YORK SUN. The organizations which have attacked me through this poem are, for the most part, the most anti-Negro, anti-Jewish, and anti-labor groups in our country. They could, therefore, hardly be called Christian, or be characterized as acting in behalf of Christ whose teachings they certainly do not honor.

I am not a member of the Communist Party now and have never been a member of the Communist Party.

I am not now an atheist and have never been an atheist, although I must say that I do not believe in an anti-Jewish, anti-Negro, anti-Labor God. On page 55 of the DREAM KEEPER I write:

MA LORD

Ma Lord ain't no stuck-up man,
Ma Lord, he ain't proud.
When he goes a-walkin'
He gives me his hand.
"You ma friend," he 'lowed.

Ma Lord knowed what it was to work.
He knowed how to pray.
Ma Lord's life was trouble, too,
Trouble over day.

Ma Lord ain't no stuck-up man.
He's a friend o' mine.
When He went to heaben,
His soul on fire,
He tole me I was gwine.
He said, "She you'll come wid Me
An' be ma friend through eternity."

In GOODBYE, CHRIST, I characterize the extreme right as seen by the extreme left who, at the moment when I wrote it, seemed to be mutually bidding Christ goodbye, just as during World War II they seemed to be together in praying for success at arms, trouble having brought out the religion in their souls in spite of a difference in ideologies.

I have written many poems characterizing many different kinds of people and expressing many varied ideas, some seriously, some satirically, some ironically. For instance, in my book of poems, SHAKESPEARE IN HARLEM, there is a poem called KU KLUX in which a Klansman speaks. But I am not a Klansman. In THE WEARY BLUES there is a poem called MOTHER TO SON in which an aged mother speaks. But I am not an aged mother. In SHAKESPEARE IN HARLEM there is a poem called WIDOW WOMAN in which a woman laments the loss of her husband. But I am not myself a widow-woman, although I use the pronoun "I" to characterize the woman, and it is my poem.

Mr. Archibald MacLeish before the senators said, "One of the occupational hazzards of writing poetry is running the risk of being misunderstood."

America's greatest and most democratic book of poems, Walt Whitman's LEAVES OF GRASS, has on occasion in some American communities in the past been banned on the grounds of obscenity.

Certainly my poem, GOODBYE, CHRIST, is no reflection on Christ, but rather a reflection on those who use or misuse Christ for material reasons. I have, personally, the greatest respect for sincere religionists, but none whatsoever for professional racketeers in religion, nor for those who use religion as an anti-labor, anti-semetic, anti-Negro, anti-democratic weapon for thwarting the progress of the common man.

The Un-American Committee, George Sokolsky, and Henry J. Taylor have stated that I have belonged to many subversive organizations. I am curious to know what they are. I am also curious to know why, if that be true, the FBI has not locked me up.

I have in the past belonged to the JOHN REED CLUB, the AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM, and the LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS, none of which are now in existence. But many other American writers have belonged to one or all of these organizations, including such distinguished persons as Ernest Hemingway, Dorothy Parker, Vincent Sheean, and the late Heywood Broun. I was never aware that any of these organizations were subversive. And they certainly had the merit of not being anti-Negro, which is less than can be said about the committee which has termed such venerable and conservative Negro leaders as Mary McLeod Bethune and William Pickens dangerous reds.

In many poems, stories, and articles --- from the short story, ONE FRIDAY MORNING in AN ANTHOLOGY OF AMERICAN NEGRO LITERATURE (Modern Library) to FREEDOM'S PLOW (Musette Publishers,) a radio poem written for Mr. Paul Muni to deliver for the National Urban League, I have stated what is my own attitude toward America and American democracy.

My speeches have often been recorded in shorthand, on records and on wire in various parts of our country and abroad by persons wishing to keep on record my public utterances ---- for reasons of their own, I reckon. But no one who has heard me speak has ever come back with the accusation of subversion. My verbal and written words are available for any who wish to consider them.

I concede to anyone the right to read me nor not, as he may choose, to publish me or not, to invite me to speak or not, as desired. I also

feel (and especially since one of the Four Freedoms is Freedom of Speech) that I have the right to oppose in speech or writing those who would make of democracy or religion a reactionary, evil, and harmful mask for anti-Negro, anti-labor, anti-semitic, and anti-American activities.

I would like to see an America where people of any race, color, or creed may live on a plane of cultural and material well-being, cooperating together unhindered by sectarian, racial, or factional prejudices and harmful intolerances that do nobody any good.

HUGHES

Internationally Known

Negro Poet

THE DREAM KEEPER
SHAKESPEARE IN HARLEM
NOT WITHOUT LAUGHTER
THE WAYS OF WH

Contributor to...

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST
THE NATION
COMMON GROUND
THE NEW YORKER
POETRY
ESQUIRE
THE NEW
THE

THORNE HALL

Occidental College

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1948 • 8:15 P. M.

Poems of Negro Life...

Langston Hughes reads his own poems, giving their chronological and autobiographical backg and through which he shows how to life and how poems come into being. Since many of his poems are about problems of Negro life in our American democracy, the a discussion of these problems and of the Negroes' hopes and aspirations and faith in an ultimate democratic solution of the

AUSPICES — EAGLE ROCK COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNI

FOR INTERRACIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Admission (including tax): $1.00

Langston Hughes

Far and above the fact that Langston Hughes is the poet laureate of the Negro race in America, he is also a literary giant of sufficient stature to overlap any racial border. His writing is have largely been concerned with depicting Negro life in America and one of his main interests is the encouragement of literary ability among colored writers and the development of American Negro literature.

Mr. Hughes began to write while still in high school in Cleveland from which he was graduated in 1920. A year later his first poem to be published in a nationally known magazine, The Crisis, was called "The Negro Speaks of Rivers." In 1925 he received the First Prize for Poetry from the magazine, Opportunity, for his "The Weary Blues," which became the title-poem of his first book published shortly thereafter. In the same year Vachel Lindsay focused national attention on Langston Hughes when he read three of the young Negro's poems at a Washington hotel, where Mr. Hughes was then employed as a busboy.

Since 1926 Mr. Hughes has written eight books and contributed to leading publications. His writing is have appeared in many anthologies [illegible] they have also been published [illegible]. In 19[illegible] his first play [illegible] and he has since written [illegible] by theatre groups [illegible] "Don't You Want [illegible] performances [illegible] college groups. His [illegible] by such concert artist [illegible]

Holder of an [illegible] from the American Academy of Arts and Letters [illegible] Mr. Hughes has added one more honor to a list already long which has in the past included both Guggenheim and [illegible] Fellowships. He has made a number of translations of the writers of Cuba and Haiti, he has lectured at the Negro schools and colleges of the South, and he has read his poems at universities and forums throughout the United States and Canada, in the West Indies and in Europe.

ENCLOSURE

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

WE SEE BY THE PAPERS

DOUBLE SPRINGS, ALA.: Winston County went Republican as usual in 1940, though all other Alabama counties voted Democratic by pluralities of as much as 75 to 1. This county has gone Democratic only once since the Civil War—in 1932, when party strife split the Republicans and gave the county to Roosevelt, 1006 to 1006. Winston is known as the Free State, having, on July 4, 1861, formally seceded from the Confederacy by popular vote. It furnished five companies of infantry to the Union Army. In 1864, when the Confederacy enforced the draft and carried off a local youth to jail in Jasper, a posse from Winston stormed Jasper, freed the prisoner and burned the jail.

CINCINNATI: For more than sixty years this city has owned outright a 338-mile-long, double-tracked, main-line railroad from here to Chattanooga. When the Louisville & Nashville was opened soon after the Civil War, the shift of river traffic from Cincinnati to Louisville so alarmed this city that it voted bonds to build a competing line, spending $18,000,000 before the road was opened in 1877. Once familiarly known as the Queen & Crescent route, the line has been operated since 1881 under lease by what now is the Southern Railway System. This company pays Cincinnati a yearly rental of $1,800,000 plus 2 per cent of the net profits. Some $14,000,000 in bonds still is outstanding. Excess of rental over interest up to 1940 has been nearly $20,000,000. Kentucky now is trying to collect income tax from Cincinnati on these rentals since 1936.

FORT DIX, N. J.: When a federalized National Guard regiment gave a show here just before the election, Harold Duckin, a company cook, wrote and directed the production and himself impersonated Hitler and President Roosevelt. The show was a satire of Army life, with digs at all, from the [illegible] to the brass hats. The latter, [illegible] the commanding general of the 44th Division, attended and laughed uproariously. In the take-off of the President, Duckin portrayed him by promising "two parks to every [illegible]" and "two stoves in every tent." Duckin was a hero for three days, then [illegible] was confined to quarters [illegible] investigation. After two [illegible] he was brought before [illegible] board, questioned [illegible] released. It is commonly [illegible] here that Washington, [illegible] reports of the [illegible] that the offenders be [illegible]

[illegible] Clark H. Eldridge, chief [illegible] was operated, blames the [illegible] which supplied [illegible] tried-and-true [illegible] he said, [illegible] that we weren't [illegible] without using plant [illegible] Eldridge said, [illegible] of the design of the [illegible] Bridge, New [illegible] had achieved in a [illegible] which [illegible]

SCRANTON, PA.: In the week before election, the WPA [illegible] distribution of [illegible] all wool blankets [illegible] retailing on local stores at ten dollars and more, to families employed on public projects in Lackawanna County. At the same time the Surplus Commodities Corporation went into the county for free distribution 21,000 bed sheets and 7500 baby-size all wool blankets.

NEW YORK: Between the halves at the Giants-Pittsburgh Steelers professional football game at the Polo Grounds, the crowd was peppered by a swarm of pamphlets, [illegible] and volunteers [illegible] the field as [illegible] as if they were looking for [illegible]. They were searching for Johnny Nagurski, [illegible] the night when he was traded by the Chicago Bears.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. [illegible]: [illegible] Kansas City passed two years without a [illegible] being killed by [illegible]

PASADENA: Below is a photograph of a circular distributed here in early November.

ATTENTION CHRISTIANS!!

Be sure to attend the Book & Author Luncheon
At
VISTA DEL ARROYO HOTEL,
Pasadena, California

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1940—at 12:15 Promptly

Hear the Distinguished Young Negro Poet

LANGSTON HUGHES

Author of the following poem, and member of the American section of Moscow's

"INTERNATIONAL UNION OF REVOLUTIONARY WRITERS"

"GOODBYE CHRIST"

"Listen, Christ,
You did all right in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now
They ghosted you up a swell story too,
Called it Bible—
But its dead now.
The popes and the preachers've
Made too much money from it.
They've sold you to too many

"Kings, generals, robbers and killers—
Even to the Czar and the Cossacks,
Even to Rockefeller's church,
Even to THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done worn out.

"Goodbye,
Christ Jesus Lord God Jehova,
Beat it on away from here now
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all—
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker *ME*—

"I said, *ME!*

"Go Ahead on now,
You're getting in the way of things Lord
And please take Saint Gandi with you
wherever you go,
And Saint Pope Pius,
And Saint Aimee McPherson,
And big Black Saint Bessie
Of the Cornerstone Church
And step on the gas, Christ!
The world is mine from now on—
Move!
Don't be so slow about moving!
And nobody's gonna sell ME
To a king, or a general,
Or a millionaire."

ATTEND THE LUNCHEON CHRISTIANS
And Hear
GEORGE PALMER PUTNAM
Introduce the author of the above "poem,"
MR. LANGSTON HUGHES
Distinguished young Negro poet—and eat, *if you can.*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

COPY: A-JH

COMMISSION ON MINISTERIAL TRAINING

THE METHODIST CHURCH
810 Broadway
Nashville 2, Tennessee

Affiliated with the Board of Education

June 29, 1948

94317

Mr. Louis B. Nichols,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nichols:

b)(7)(c) [redacted] has forwarded you a copy of [redacted] letter of the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, which I trust gives you a better understanding of the Langston Hughes equasion.

Neither the Commission nor the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press has any sympathy for or defense of Mr. Hughes' views. We were concerned for complying with the legal aspects of copyright laws.

Most cordially yours,

b)(7)(c) /s/ [redacted]

1 ENCL

RECORDED 47

100-15139-44
F B I
56 JUL 16 1948

139

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

_____ 1948

TO:

Director

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Nichols

94318

Director's Notation:
"Make certain we furnish this outfit no more material for publiciation. They are too squeamish about offending the commies.
H."

(U)

ENCLOSURE 140-1-139-44

140

COPY: AGH

July 9, 1948

100-15137-44

RECORDED - 47

INDEXED - 41

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

Commission on Ministerial Training
The Methodist Church
810 Broadway
Nashville 2, Tennessee

94315

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

I wish to acknowledge your communication of June 29th along with that of your [redacted] (b)(7)(c) under date of June 24th with enclosure. I am frank to say the communication which your assistant enclosed from (b)(7)(c) [redacted] is nothing short of amazing. The handling of Mr. Hoover's lecture exceeds anything I have ever heard of and if ever a public official was insulted it was Mr. Hoover by the action which was taken by you people in questioning a statement in his speech and then communicating with a character like Langston Hughes with a view of securing permission for Mr. Hoover to quote his poem. As a matter of fact, there is no record of Hughes' poem "Goodbye Christ" in the Copyright Section of the Library of Congress. (U)

I am enclosing a photostatic copy of page 124 of the July issue of Reader's Digest which you may have missed. It quotes a few lines from Langston Hughes' poem and I am informed by one of the Senior Editors of Reader's Digest that they did not get permission from Langston Hughes to quote his poem in Reader's Digest. (U)

The thing that frankly infuriates me is the thought that the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press and you would take it upon yourselves to communicate with an individual like Langston Hughes without at least giving Mr. Hoover the courtesy of saying whether he would agree to having his lecture edited in this manner. Were it not too late I would urge the Director most vigorously to withdraw the lecture. What is particularly heart-rending to me as a Methodist is to observe one of the great bodies of the church performing in such an amateurish manner. I think that the quicker everybody in the Methodist Church awakens to the true mission of the church and stops palliating people like Langston Hughes our church will become more militant and more effective. (U)

CC - [redacted] (U) (b)(7)(c)
Foundry Methodist Church
1500 16th Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

5 ROOL LBN:MP

141

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

July 9, 1948

Hughes' explanation as to why he wrote this poem is an insult to intelligence and certainly I could not stomach his mouthings. While we are on the subject, it likewise seems to me that the Methodist Church has no right to be giving a forum to officials of the Communist Party to spread their hateful lies and deceitful propaganda when they are anti-Christ, anti-God, anti-church and anti-religion (U)

I have no doubt that once the book of lectures comes out some question will be raised on the deletion that was made in Mr. Hoover's lecture without his permission inasmuch as we have already sent out several hundred copies of this lecture ourselves. Should any questions be raised, I for one would be in favor of a straightforward statement of exactly what happened, knowing full well that it would not inure to the credit of the editor of the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press or yourself. (U)

Very truly yours, 94316

(U)

L. B. Nichols

Enclosure

142

COPY:AJH

COMMISSION ON MINISTERIAL TRAINING

THE METHODIST CHURCH

810 Broadway
Nashville 2, Tennessee

Affiliated with the Board of Education

June 24, 1948

Langston Hughes

Mr. Louis B. Nichols,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U. S. Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

94312

Dear Mr. Nichols:

(b)(7)(C) This will acknowledge your letter of June 16th to [redacted] Unfortunately, it arrived during his extended absence from the city.

Realizing the importance of your communication and its possible effect on the publication of SECULARISM AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, I conferred with the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, the publishers of the book. Attached is a copy of a letter they have (b)(7)(C) written [redacted] which sets forth the facts and is an effort to clarify the matter. I trust it may throw light on the problem.

(b)(7)(C) [redacted] will be in the office next week. You may expect an early reply from him.

With good wishes, I am

Very truly,

1 ENCL

(b)(7)(C) [redacted]

100-15139-45

F E I
56 JUL 16 1948

51 JUL 20 1948

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June 21, 1948

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]
Commission on Ministerial Training
Building

(b)(7)(c) Dear [redacted]

Thank you for letting me see the letter of June 16 from Mr. Louis B. Nichols of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in regard to the chapter by J. Edgar Hoover in CHRISTIAN FAITH AND SECULARISM. 94313

As you will recall, the poem "Goodbye Christ" by Langston Hughes was cut out of this chapter entirely at our insistence. Our reason for doing so was to avoid risk of infringing upon a copyright. It has been our regular practice to insist that all authors furnish us with written permission of the copyright owners covering copyright material they have quoted in their text. If through our own investigation we have been unable to satisfy ourselves with regard to the copyright status of material, we have insisted that evidence be furnished us that it is in the public domain, and in the absence of such evidence have frequently deleted passages from our books. It was entirely on this basis that the Hughes poem was deleted from Mr. Hoover's chapter; we paid no attention to the meaning of the selection in making our decision, and would have done the same thing if the poem had been, for example, the words of a hymn or a lyric about the beauties of nature.

It is unfortunate that we did not get in touch with Mr. Hoover when we first struck the difficulty involved in this poem, as we would have done if our contract had been directly with him. However, under the circumstances we endeavored to discover the source of the poem--since Mr. Hoover had neglected to give any source information --and meanwhile sent the copy on to the typesetter. It was not until some days later, after we already had proofs, that we were able to locate the source of the poem and discovered that Langston Hughes was the author. Since Hughes has had quite a bit of literary work published by established publishers and therefore presumably knows something about copyright and would probably be inclined to be careful to protect his writings and oppose any infringement of his copyrights, there seemed every reason to consider this poem likely to be copyright and to fear some sort of action by the copyright owner in case we should infringe copyright.

As soon as we discovered the authorship of the poem, we informed you and asked that you write immediately to the author to request his permission if he should be owner of the copyright, or the name and address of the copyright owner in case he should have assigned it to some publisher. This was the natural procedure to follow, since you

ENCLOSURE 100-[illegible]

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you had been obtaining such permissions for other quotations in the book. It is my recollection that you wrote a letter to Hughes right away and dispatched it by air mail in the hope of getting a reply before our scheduled date for approving final proofs for the press, which by that time was only a week or ten days off. We then held the proofs as long as we could, although everything else had been cleared several days earlier, and then after we had waited as long as possible, telephoned your office and, learning that no reply had been received as yet, deleted the poem and the comment about it and sent the proofs back to the printing plant with our O.K. for press as quickly as corrections marked could be made.

The reply from Hughes arrived several days later, as I recollect, and therefore had no bearing on our action in deleting the poem --which had been deleted because we did not have copyright clearance and not because of anything Hughes had to say about it. If Hughes had given his permission instead of refusing it, it would have made no difference to us, since it was then too late to put the poem back into the book.

I might add that, if any of us had wished to delete the poem on account of its content, we should most certainly have done so at an earlier stage, since we were put to quite a bit of trouble and expense to readjust the paging in order to take care of such a last-minute change.

94314

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

ABINGDON-COKESBURY PRESS

(b)(7)(C) [redacted]

COPY:AJH

July 9, 1948

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]
Foundry Methodist Church
1500 16th Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

(U)

(b)(7)(c) Dear [redacted]

You recall that last summer you spoke to me in Mr. Hoover's absence about the Annual Conference on Ministerial Training at Garrett Institute, Evanston, Illinois, at which time Mr. Hoover accepted an invitation to deliver a lecture. As you know, Mr. Hoover prepared a lecture but found it impossible to deliver it personally and, accordingly, I was designated to present his lecture to the group. (U)

The lecture was scheduled to be published and we were shocked to receive a letter from [redacted] (b)(7)(c) on June 1st enclosing a communication from Langston Hughes denying permission to the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press to reprint his poem, "Goodbye Christ." In this connection I am enclosing a copy of a personal letter I sent to [redacted] in the Director's absence. I am also enclosing an exchange of correspondence with [redacted] and his [redacted] (b)(7)(c) [redacted] dated June 24 and June 29 together with a copy of my reply of today. (U)

I thought you should know of this situation. I have never heard of a public official of Mr. Hoover's stature being treated so shabbily and, frankly, I think that the action of the Abingdon-Cokesbury Press and [redacted] is (b)(7)(c) nothing short of being an insult. This whole situation hurts me doubly because, after all, this is an official body of my own church. (U)

With best wishes and kind regards, (U)

Sincerely yours,

(U)

L. B. Nichols

100-15139-46

RECORDED - 37

55 JUL 1948

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: July 21, 1948

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file #100-15139)

(U)

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 12, 1948, captioned as above, in which this office was requested to ascertain from the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, when and where LANGSTON HUGHES ran for office on the Communist Party ticket. It is to be noted that on page 8474, Volume 14 of the report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 77th Congress, Dr. J. B. MATTHEWS, then Research Director for the Committee, stated that HUGHES "has run for office on the Communist Party ticket". (U)

Although the files of the HCUA are voluminous in regard to LANGSTON HUGHES, identifying the original source, there is no further record as to when and where he ran on the Communist Party ticket. No exhibit was offered where MATTHEWS testified. It is known that Dr. MATTHEWS maintains a large personal file on Communist activities and may therefore be in a position to state from his records when and where HUGHES ran for office on the Communist Party ticket. (U)

Unless a good reason exists to the contrary, the New York Office is requested to interview J. B. MATTHEWS, 311 West 56th Street, New York 19, New York, for the desired information. (U)

This case is therefore being RUC'd to the New York Office. (U)

cc-New York (100-25776)

EFH:JC
100-16762

(U)

Nothing derogatory in file concerning Matthews 8/9/48

RECORDED - 97 100-15139-47
INDEXED - 97
28 JUL 21 1948
EX-33

AUG 12 1948

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI.

DATE: 8-6-48

FROM : SAC, New York.

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES, SECURITY MATTER - C. (Bufile 100-15139) (U)

Re Washington Field Office letter to Bureau dated 7/21/48, requesting this office to contact J. B. MATTHEWS, 311 West 56th Street, New York, N. Y., for certain desired information. (U)

As the Bureau has been previously advised J. B. MATTHEWS is considered highly unreliable and this office has not been contacting him without prior Bureau authority. Therefore, unless advised to the contrary this office will not contact MATTHEWS for the desired information. (U)

cc: Washington Field (100-16762) (U)

RECORDED - 21
INDEXED - 23

6 AUG 10 1948

WTM:DJG
100-25776

Lai N.Y. 8-19-48 EM

198

SAC, New York

August 19, 1948

Director, FBI

LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C
Your File 100-25776

(U)

Reurlet dated August 6, 1948. As you have pointed out in the referenced letter, Mr. J. B. Matthews, 311 West 56th Street, New York, New York, may be considered unreliable. Nevertheless, the Bureau can see no objection to asking him the specific question as to when and where the subject ran on a Communist Party ticket. In the event he is able to furnish that information it is, of course, expected that you will set out leads to verify the information from independent sources. (U)

In view of the foregoing, you are authorized to contact Matthews and secure from him the desired information. (U)

RECORDED - 16
100-15139 - 48

follow up
JEM:mhe
10-13-48

(U)

JEM:mer

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
AUG 2 1948 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. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Hease
Miss Gandy

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6 - AUG 30 1948

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 3, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file 100-15139)

(U)

Reference is made to Bureau letter to New York dated August 19, 1948. (U)

Dr. JOSEPH B. MATTHEWS, 311 West 56th Street, New York City, was interviewed as requested and after a thorough review of his files advised that he had no evidence there to substantiate his remark that the subject had been a candidate on a Communist Party ticket. He said that it was his belief that the information came from the "Daily Worker" sometime in the Fall of 1936. A careful review of issues of the "Daily Worker" during that period in the years 1935-1938 did not reflect any mention of HUGHES as a Communist Party Candidate. (U)

(b)(7)(D)

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that as a member of the New York State Committee, Communist Party he recalled that LANGSTON HUGHES was suggested as a Candidate on the Party Election ticket in 1936 and again in 1938. Confidential Informant [redacted] said that on both occasions the National Committee of the Communist Party discussed the suggestions of the State Committee and both times vetoed the idea, claiming that HUGHES was more valuable to the Party interests in his capacity as a writer and lecturer. The informant added that he had no doubt as to the subject's membership in the Communist Party. (U)

(b)(7)(D)

(U) Sec IB Nichols advised 12/17/48 no further action

JTD:mbm
100-25776

5 6 DEC 22 1948

EX-103

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100-15139

December 7, 1948

SAC, New York

RE: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, wa
SECURITY MATTER - C
New York File 100-25776 (U)

Dear Sir:

A review of the files at the Bureau in connection with this subject has revealed that a report has not been received from your office concerning the subject since the report of Special Agent [redacted] (b)(7)(C) dated ~~12-9-46~~ at ~~New York~~ (U)

While it is realized that existing instructions do not require that a report be submitted periodically on Security Index card subjects unless the subject is also a top functionary, it is felt that in view of the tense international situation at the present time, a new report should be submitted setting forth the extent of the subject's present activities in connection with the Communist Party and related groups in order that the Bureau will be in possession of current information concerning each one of those subjects who are considered a threat to the internal security. (U)

In submitting the report, the Bureau desires that you incorporate in summary form the information contained in your files not previously reported. Information of substantive nature only should be set forth and repetitious material should be avoided. Where a description of the subject has not been reported, that, too, should be included in the report and also placed on the reverse side of the Security Index card in accordance with the instructions outlined in SAC Letter No. 57, Series 1948, dated April 10, 1948. (U)

In the event the subject's current address is not the same as that which appears on the Security Index card, you should correct the Security Index card and forward Form FD-119 to the Bureau in order that the Security Index card at the Bureau can be corrected. (U)

In order that the Security Index will contain only the names of those individuals who can be considered to be a threat to the internal security of this country, the Bureau desires that you carefullly appraise this case and if it appears that the subject, based on his present position and activities or past position and activities, cannot be considered such as threat, then in addition to submitting the report, you should recommend that the Security Index card be cancelled. (U)

This matter should receive your immediate attention.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JEH:mhc

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
DEC 7 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Nelson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lodd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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SAC, Washington

July 12, 1948

Director, FBI

LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

(U)

An examination of the Bureau records reflects that on Page 8474, Volume 14 of the report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 77th Congress, Dr. J. B. Matthews, Research Director for the Committee in his testimony stated that Langston Hughes "has run for office on the Communist Party ticket." (U)

A further examination of the Bureau files reflects that this information has been quoted in Bureau reports, but there is no indication that any attempt has been made to verify the information. For that reason, you are requested to contact the appropriate official of the Committee on Un-American Activities for the purpose of ascertaining when and where Hughes was a candidate for public office on the Communist Party ticket. (U)

100-15139

MET:IGS

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
JUL 14 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED - 53 100-15139-49

FBI
67 AUG 18 1948

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
JUL 14 3 21 PM '48

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Kohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Hoare
Miss Gandy

AUG 18 1948

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-25776 ADV

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	5/13/49	1/25,26,31;2/1 2;4/4/49	[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, wa: Langston Hughes	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject now residing at 20 East 127th Street, NYC. Articles in the "Daily Worker" and other publications reflect subject still active as a negro poet, playwright and lecturer. Informant advises subject was suggested as a candidate in 1936 and 1938 on the Communist Party election ticket and turned down by the National Committee of the Communist Party because he was considered more valuable to the CP as a writer and lecturer. [redacted] (b)(1)

C
AGENCY Ice - CIA
REQ. REC'D 9-9-58
REP'T FORW. 9-17-58
BY [illegible]

AGENCY ICC - CIA
REQ. REC'D 5-6-54
REP'T FORW. 5-7-54
BY [illegible]

~~CLASSIFIED BY 3832~~
~~EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 2, 3~~
~~DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE 7/21/78~~ LLS/ghw

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 100-15139
Bureau letter 12/7/48

AGENCY Ice - State (Press Program) (U)
REQ. REC'D 5-22-58
REP'T FORW. 6-6-58
BY [illegible]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF Classification
DATE 7-27-78 MIA

DETAILS:

At New York City

Investigation reflected that the subject has moved from 634 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City to 20 East 127th Street, New York City and that his unlisted phone number is SA 3-1988. (U)

FBI

Under a suitable pretext, the subject was contacted by phone, and he advised that 20 East 127th Street was now his permanent (U)

WMA 50 11 01 MM

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Scheidt — SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

100-15139-51

RECORDED 2011
INDEXED 11

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 Bureau
3 New York

COPY IN FILE

FBI
3 MAY 16 1949

57 JUN 13 1949

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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address and that though he was available for lectures, he planned to remain in New York indefinitely to work on a play which he was writing. (U)

The records of Local Board number 58, 138th Street and Broadway, New York City, reflected that the subject, a negro, was born on February 1, 1902 at Joplin, Missouri, and is a citizen of the United States. (U)

The May 15, 1946 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article entitled "Yugoslav Medical Aid Campaign Opens Today." The article reflected that a three-day tag drive for Yugoslav relief would be opened with a noon-day rally on the steps of the sub-treasury building. Among the names of persons listed as endorsing the campaign was "JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, negro poet and author." (U)

The November 9, 1946 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article entitled "2000 Notables Attend USSR Celebration." Under this caption it was reflected that a reception was held at the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D.C. in celebration of the 29th anniversary of the October Revolution. Listed among the guests was "LANGSTON HUGHES, negro poet." (U)

The January 28, 1947 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article entitled "An Impressive Musical Drama of Tenement Life." Under this caption, it was stated that LANGSTON HUGHES, whose picture was also carried, wrote the lyrics to "Street Scene" a play written by ELINOR RICE. (U)

The February 11, 1947 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article entitled "First 'Mainstream' Off the Press." Under this caption, it was stated that "Mainstream" a literary quarterly which "invites the participation of both Marxists and non-Marxists progressive writers," was going on sale. Among the list of contributors was "LANGSTON HUGHES, the great negro poet." (U)

The April 7, 1947 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article entitled "Langston Hughes Has a New Book." Under this caption, it was stated that LANGSTON HUGHES would have a new book of poems, "Fields of Wonder" published by ALFRED A. KNOPF. (U)

[redacted] (b)(1)

The September 27, 1947 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article (U)

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entitled "Writing Out Loud Session Features Langston Hughes." Under this caption, it was stated that the subject's poem, "Chicago, South Side " would be presented. It was further stated that this affair was produced by the Literature Chapter of the Cultural Division of the National Negro Congress. (U)

The April 12, 1948 issue of the "Post" and "Home News" carried an article entitled "Rescind Invitation to Negro Poet." Under this caption, it was stated that a scheduled appearance of the subject at Vallejo, California, on April 13, 1948, had been cancelled by the Vallejo Council for Civic Unity on the grounds of "unpleasant notoriety connected with the rumor that he is a Communist." (U)

(b)(7)(D)

On December 3, 1948, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that he recalled that in 1936 and again in 1938 LANGSTON HUGHES was suggested as a candidate on the Party Election ticket. The same informant said that on both occasions the National Committee of the Communist Party discussed the suggestions of the State Committee and both times vetoed the idea, claiming that HUGHES was more valuable to the Party interests in his capacity as a writer and lecturer. The informant added that he had no doubt as to the subject's membership in the Communist Party. (U)

The September 13, 1947, issue of the "Pittsburgh Courier" carried an article entitled "Prominent Names on House List." The article stated that the House Committee on Un-American Activities had released a list of prominent negro leaders saying that they were "Communists" or "Communist sympathizers" as sponsors of the Civil Rights Congress. The list included the name of the subject. (U)

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that at the 4th Session of the National Committee plenum of the Communist Party, United States of America, attended by seventy Communist Party officials from all over the United States and held at New York City February 4, 1948, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON of Illinois, in urging the Party not to abandon the negro press, stated that columnists such as LANGSTON HUGHES, who advocate and advance the 3rd party, were available. (U)

A memo dated June 7, 1947, concerning Communist Party activities in the New York area which was furnished by an unknown outside source, advised that the subject was one of a "few well-known, highbrow intellectual Reds who were backing DON WEST, a Communist preacher in Georgia." (U)

Confidential Informant T-2 furnished a booklet entitled "Ella Reeve Bloor - 85th Anniversary" which was distributed June 20, 1947, at a (U)

banquet held in honor of mother BLOOR which contained the name of LANGSTON HUGHES as one of its sponsors. (U) (b)(7)(D)

Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished a letterhead, dated March 26, 1947, of the American Society for Cultural Relations with Italy. On the reverse side of this stationery, under the heading of "Friends of Italian Democracy" was a list of names which included the name of the subject. The same informant on September 4, 1947, furnished a booklet entitled "Manual on Peace Education" issued by the Junior Section, International Workers Order, 80 5th Avenue, New York City, which carried a poem entitled "The Black Soldier" which was written by the subject. (U)

The July - September, 1948 issue of the "Trends and Tides" Milford, New Jersey, carried an article entitled "Are You a Communist" written by the subject in which he explains that racial equality has succeeded in Communist Soviet. (U)

Confidential Informant T-3 advised that a group of persons had received invitations to attend the Congress of Intellectuals For Peace to be held in Warsaw, Poland, August 25 to 28, 1948. Among the list of persons who were to receive invitations was the name of the subject. (U)

Confidential Informant T-4 advised that she attended a meeting of the National Council of Arts, Science and Professions held at Ridgely Hall, Baltimore, Maryland, May 2, 1948. She furnished a leaflet which set forth the officers of the organization. This leaflet included the name of the subject as a member-at-large. (U)

[redacted] (b)(1) (U)

The January 28, 1946, issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article on page eight column four entitled "Writers Pledge Strike Support." Under this caption, it was stated that fifty outstanding writers, in a statement released by the Literature Division of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Science and Professions, had signed a pledge in support of strikes by organized labor. Included in the list was the name of the subject. (U)

Confidential Informant [redacted] (U)

(b)(7)(D)

156

 (b)(7)(D)

[redacted] as well as records of New York Police Department were checked with negative results for information concerning subject's current activities. (U)

A description of subject obtained from Selective Service records is as follows:

Sex	Male
Race	Negro
Height	5'8"
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Build	Medium
Birth	February 1, 1902
Birthplace	Joplin, Missouri

(U)

C L O S E D

157

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA [redacted] (b)(7)(c) [redacted] dated May 13, 1949 at New York, New York, are:

T-1 Is [redacted] (b)(7)(D) as mentioned in the report of SA [redacted] (b)(7)(c) entitled "Communist Party, USA" dated February 27, 1948 at New York

T-2 Is Philadelphia Confidential Informant [redacted] (b)(7)(D) as revealed in the letter to the Director from Philadelphia dated July 17, 1947. (U)

T-3 Unrevealed confidential source as mentioned in teletype from Washington Field dated July 26, 1948.

T-4 Is Baltimore Informant [redacted] (b)(7)(D) as mentioned in the letter to the Director from Baltimore dated June 2, 1948.

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 5, 1949

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, ws., Langston Hughes
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file 100-15139)

b)(7)(c)

Rerep of SA [redacted] 5/13/49, at New York City, which reflected that the subject was residing at 20 East 127th Street, New York City. (U)

b)(7)(D)

On June 14, 1949, Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that the subject was at present a member of the faculty in the University of Chicago and was residing at the International House of the University of Chicago. [redacted] further stated that the subject held the position of Poet in Residence in the Literature Department. (U)

b)(7)(D)

On July 29, 1949, the subject was called under a suitable telephone pretext and it was determined that he was, at the present time, in New York City; however, no information could be developed as to the subject's connection with the University of Chicago or whether he has been residing in Chicago. (U)

The Chicago Office is requested to determine whether or not the subject is a member of the Chicago University faculty and whether he has been residing in Chicago as claimed above. (U)

2cc: Chicago

RECORDED 100-15139

JPD:LS
100-25776

56 AUG 15 1949
159

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: October 21, 1949

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, wa.
Langston Hughes
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau File 100-15139)

(U)

Reference is made to New York letter to the Director dated August 5, 1949 concerning the captioned subject. (U)

(b)(7)(D) [redacted] International House, 1404 W. 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised SA [redacted] on September 23, 1949 that JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES had resided in the International House from March 28, 1949 until June 10, 1949, at which time he returned to New York City and left a forwarding address of 20 East 127th Street, New York City, New York. (U) (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(D) [redacted] further advised that during the subject's stay in the International House, she learned through periodic conversations with him that he was employed as a visiting lecturer on poetry at the Laboratory School, which is the University High School of the University of Chicago. She advised that she understood that, though he was primarily occupied with teaching poetry in the University High School, he also gave several lectures on poetry before University groups, but she could not be more specific concerning these particular groups. She stated that she also understood that he had been employed from March until June by the University of Chicago on a temporary basis and that he received approximately $400 for this work. (U)

She stated that during HUGHES' stay at the International House, his conduct was exemplary and in his conversations with her he had never indicated in any way that he believed in anything that would be inimicable to the United States Government. She advised that her records reflected that HUGHES was born on February 2, 1902 in Joplin, Missouri. (U)

A review of the indices of the Chicago Division reflects the following information concerning the captioned subject which is not already in the possession of the New York Division: (U)

(b)(7)(D) [redacted] advised on September 20, 1948 that a farewell reception was held for WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, national committee member of the Communist Party, under the auspices of the Civil Rights Congress at Curtis Hall, 410 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on September 19, 1948. They advised that (U)

cc: New York (100-25776)

RJW:CMW
100-17322

COPIES DESTROYED
29 SEP 12 1973

RECORDED - 59
INDEXED - 59
12 OCT 26 1949

OCT 31 1949

PAUL ROBESON, GIL GREEN, Chairman of the Communist Party in Illinois, ELEANOR BALAIND, Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress in Illinois, and LANGSTON HUGHES, colored sympathizer, poet, and speaker, all eulogized PATTERSON for his great work in the Communist Party. HUGHES spoke briefly at this farewell reception and in his talk he ridiculed the Freedom Train, then in Chicago, and stated, "How can it be a Freedom Train when colored people are discriminated against and have to use the rear door in order to view the false documents of the freedom they haven't got." (U) b)(7)(D)

For reporting purposes, the [redacted] should be given a suitable temporary symbol and described as being an agency that collects security information in the Chicago area. (U)

The April 10, 1949 edition of "The Worker" on Page 13, Column 3, carried an article entitled, "LANGSTON HUGHES to Speak April 11-12," date lined at Chicago, Illinois. This article stated that LANGSTON HUGHES, noted author and poet, would speak at a forum at the Monumental Baptist Church, Oakwood and Langley Streets, Chicago, on Monday and Tuesday, April 11 and 12, 1949. The article does not reveal the nature of this forum or other participants. (U)

The March 1, 1948 edition of the "Chicago Daily Tribune" reflects an article entitled, "Red-Tinged Poet to Speak at Winnetka Private School." This article, in summary, stated that LANGSTON HUGHES, negro poet who has been a contributor to Communist sponsored publications and who is a member of the Communist front organizations, was scheduled to recite his poetry before the student body of the exclusive North Shore Country Day School, Winnetka, Illinois. This article states that the head master of this school stated that he had had no advanced knowledge of HUGHES' background and was not aware of any of his alleged Communist affiliations. (U)

b)(7)(C)

b)(7)(D) [redacted] of known reliability, was contacted by SA [redacted] on October 13, 1949, at which time the Informant advised that he was acquainted with JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES by reputation only and that he was not personally acquainted with him, nor could he advise as to any of HUGHES' activities in Chicago. (U)

b)(7)(C)

The records of the Bureau of Criminal Information and Statistics, Chicago Police Department, were checked by SE [redacted] on October 5, 1949 against the name and alias of the subject with negative results. RUC (U)

161

May 25, 1950

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, aka.,
SECURITY MATTER - C
New York file 100-25776

(u)

(b)(7)(C)

Reference report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 13, 1949. Subject is one of the group of individuals recently named by Louis Budenz as "concealed Communists." (u)

In view of this you are requested to submit a new report on this subject setting forth in addition to the information furnished by Budenz all pertinent information received since the date of referenced report. (u)

Bufile 100-15139

RECORDED - 92

100-15139-54

JUN 1 1950

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(u)

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FCZ:mjt:jmc

MAILED 17
MAY 26 1950
COMM - FBI

162

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 8, 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RE: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES; (LOUIS BUDENZ 460)
SECURITY MATTER - C

6-1

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945 has been interviewed during the past few months concerning the concealed Communists whom he knew. The person named above as the subject of this case, was one of those individuals whom BUDENZ described as a concealed Communist. BUDENZ describes a concealed Communist as one who does not hold himself out as a Communist and who would deny membership in the Party.

(b)(7)(c)

BUDENZ advised SA [redacted] on June 30, 1950, of all he knew concerning the subject, that he felt was pertinent, and he dictated this information to a stenographer of this office, who was present during the interview.

He used, in order to bring out all he knew about the subject, the following set of questions. He considered all questions in connection with this subject. Where he did not comment on some particular question as to the activity of the subject, then it is because he had no knowledge. If he recalled anything about the subject as a result of these questions he dictated what he knew. The questions are as follows: (21)

1. Identify individual
   a. If observed a description and other identifying data;
   b. If not seen, enough descriptive data about individual to positively identify him or her;
   c. Any aliases

2. Narrate how he knows individual as a Communist
   a. If seen at a closed meeting, get date, place and persons present at meeting;
   b. If told officially that individual was a Communist, who said it, what were the circumstances, and who was present;
   c. Relate all occasions when he met or heard of individual as Communist.

3. Documents
   a. Did individual ever write anything that might be considered Communist literature.
      1. For "Daily Worker", "New Masses", "Political Affairs", any any front publications or other publications,

cc: 62-8930

WJM:APK/DM
100-25776

RECORDED - 108

100-5139-55

AUG 11 1950

34

EX-13

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4 Fronts
Was individual active in front organizations.
a. Which organizations
b. How active was individual

5. Espionage

Was individual ever involved in secret work;
What Work;
Who knew it;
Did individual ever do any special work for party.

6. Is individual still active or sympathetic toward Party.

7. Can you recall any trips abroad particularly to Russia and the approximate date of the trips? Can you recall the nature of the trips.

8. Did you ever hear that he had attended any of the training schools in Russia?

9. Did this subject appear to have entree to the Russian Consulate or did he receive special consideration and attention from known Russian Agents or Communist Officials in U.S.?

10. Is the subject working for the U.S. Government or is he affiliated in any way in Confidential Government work at this time?

11. Did this individual have military training, Abraham Lincoln Brigade, U.S. Army, other service?

12. Was this individual employed in vital industry?

13. Do you know any other members of his family who are Communists?

14. Do you know of any other activity on the part of the individual which would indicate that the individual is a concealed Communist?

Additional questions were asked as a result of his answers to the above questions in order to fully develop his information.

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Letter to Director
NY 100-25776

Attached is a blind memorandum dictated by LOUIS F. BUDENZ and containing all the pertinent information concerning the subject which BUDENZ could presently recollect.

The original of each memo has been reviewed by Mr. BUDENZ and he has made any necessary corrections and he has signed the original. The signed original of each memo is being retained in the confidential informant file of LOUIS F. BUDENZ, NY file 62-6988.

(U)

Since the individuals such as the subject of this case are, according to BUDENZ, concealed Communists and since they are, in most instances, persons of some prominence, it is suggested that if the information appearing in the attached blind memo is reported, then Mr. BUDENZ should be given a temporary confidential informant symbol.

For the information of the Bureau the subject is one of the 400 concealed Communists whom BUDENZ stated he knew. The names of these concealed Communists were sent to the Bureau in the case captioned "Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C".

165

LANGSTON HUGHES

Negro poet.

Shortly after I entered the Party, in the late 1930's, I was advised officially through JAMES W. FORD and through meetings of the Politburo that LANGSTON HUGHES was a member of the Communist Party. This was reinforced by HUGHES being played up in the "Daily Worker," through references to his works and interviews and the like.

All through the 1940's, when I was Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker," repeated reports officially given to me by the Politburo and specifically EUGENE DENNIS and JACK STACHEL, along with BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., were to the effect that HUGHES continued to be a loyal adherent of the Communist Party. During the HITLER—STALIN Pact, when on the commission to examine the attitude of intellectuals and artists to the Communist Party, I learned of HUGHES' deep devotion to the Communist Party, this being given to me by ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and V. J. JEROME. Subsequently, I followed the Party line wherever it led. The official report from JACK STACHEL that HUGHES was an adherent of the Party continued up to the time I left the organization in 1945.

(4)

4-750 (Rev. 12-14-88)

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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.

☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552		Section 552a
☐ (b)(1)	☐ (b)(7)(A)	☐ (d)(5)
☐ (b)(2)	☐ (b)(7)(B)	☐ (j)(2)
☐ (b)(3)	☐ (b)(7)(C)	☐ (k)(1)
_____	☐ (b)(7)(D)	☐ (k)(2)
_____	☐ (b)(7)(E)	☐ (k)(3)
_____	☐ (b)(7)(F)	☐ (k)(4)
☐ (b)(4)	☐ (b)(8)	☐ (k)(5)
☐ (b)(5)	☐ (b)(9)	☐ (k)(6)
☐ (b)(6)		☐ (k)(7)

☐ 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.

☒ Documents originated with another Government agency~~(ies)~~. These documents were referred to that agency~~(ies)~~ for review and direct response to you. DEPT. OF STATE

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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FBI/DOJ

SAC, NEW YORK

December 13, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THE RICHARD SORGE CASE
ESPIONAGE - R

Attached for the New York Office is one photostatic copy of each of consecutive exhibits 33 and 34 which were furnished to the Bureau by G-2, November 22, 1950. Page 33 of exhibit 33 was missing from the copy furnished the Bureau by G-2. The Bureau has requested G-2 to supply the missing page and when received it will be made available to your office.

For the information of all offices G-2 has now advised that copies of exhibits 1 to 32 inclusive have already been made available to the House Un-American Activities Committee. G-2 is also considering making available exhibits 33 and 34 to the Committee.

While the Sorge Case is primarily a G-2 matter the names of many U. S. citizens appear throughout the G-2 exhibits. It is the Bureau's responsibility to identify these individuals, to ascertain if they are in the United States and, if so, to conduct such investigation as may be appropriate in each individual instance.

100-124002

Attachment

cc - Albany
Detroit
New Haven
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Seattle
Los Angeles

cc- 100-15139 (James Langston Hughes)

100-15139

NOT RECORDED

80 JAN 16 1951

CLASSIFIED BY 3832

DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION

7/28/78 LLS/ghr

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

Classification

DUPLICATE YELLOW

51 FEB 2 1951

Mr. Baumgardner

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The Bureau has received from G-2 copies of all exhibits mentioned above except 29, 30 and 32. Copies of all available exhibits have been furnished to the New York Office by the Bureau. G-2 has been requested to furnish exhibits 29, 30 and 32 and when received they will be forwarded to the New York Office. The New York Office as office of origin has the responsibility of carefully reviewing all exhibits and instituting any necessary action with respect to any U. S. citizens involved. In order that there will be no misunderstanding of the responsibility of the New York Office in this matter the Bureau expects that steps will be taken to identify and determine the present whereabouts of each individual mentioned in the G-2 exhibits where it is alleged that the individual is a U. S. citizen or an "American."

The mention of the name of a U. S. citizen in the Sorge exhibits does not necessarily indicate involvement in the Sorge espionage case. The allegations or activities cited may range from the mere expression of Communist sympathy to an allegation of espionage. Accordingly, in opening any new cases the character and title thereof should be governed by the individual circumstances. In cases of individuals alleged to have been members of the Sorge ring the title and character should be as follows: [redacted] Also, lesser allegations should be carried as John Doe, Security Matter - C.

Outside Scope

O/S 6(7)(c)

The New York Office should complete its review of the G-2 exhibits as soon as possible and

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after instituting the necessary initial action in each case should advise the Bureau that this review has been completed and that appropriate action has been instituted with relation to each U. S. citizen involved.

The office covering the current residence of any individual may be designated as office of origin and New York may furnish available information to that office in the form of a RUC report. Where the whereabouts of the individual is not known or in instances where from the data in the G-2 exhibits the last known whereabouts is China, New York should consider itself office of origin until the subject's whereabouts is ascertained. A logical initial step in these cases would, of course, be the examination of State Department passport records for identifying information.

Exhibit 34 contains information on 35 U. S. citizens. Under each name is a series of notations and adjacent to each entry the source of the information is cited. The source SMP indicates that the information was obtained by G-2 from the records of the Shanghai Municipal Police (French and British Divisions). The source CE followed by a number is a reference to a previous consecutive exhibit. Other sources refer to G-2 files. Bureau files reflect that 23 of the 35 persons listed in exhibit 34 are the subjects of various case files. These cases are listed below and a copy of this communication is being designated for each office of origin. Photostatic copies of each page relating to a particular subject is also attached for the office of origin.

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4-750 (Rev. 4-17-85)

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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.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C) with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ 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.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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PAGE 4

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XXXXXX 169

FBI/DOJ

Name Used in Exhibit 34	FBI Case Title	Office of Origin
[redacted]		
Langston Hughes	James Langston Hughes SI-C Bufile 100-15139	New York Status - C
[redacted]		

(b)(7)(C)

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Name Used in Exhibit 34	FBI Case Title	Office of Origin
[redacted]	[redacted]	
[redacted]	[redacted]	
[redacted]	[redacted]	
[redacted]	[redacted]	

(b)(7)(c)

In each of the above listed cases the office of origin will have the responsibility of comparing the data from exhibit 34 with information already in file. If the case is in a closed status and the information in exhibit 34 is determined to be new information, consideration should be given to the advisability of reopening the case if the material logically warrants such action.

In the event that the material in exhibit 34 cites a previous G-2 exhibit as a source and the previous material is not available in your file, the New York Office should be requested to supply the previous information. If the only source cited is a reference to G-2 files and you feel that additional details are necessary, you should request the Bureau to obtain the additional information from G-2.

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In all cases careful consideration should be given to the advisability of recommending a security index card in instances where the subject is not already on the Security Index list. It is not desired that these recommendations be automatically submitted merely because the subject is mentioned in the G-2 exhibits, but it is felt that in view of the present importance of the Chinese Communist situation that each case should be reconsidered in the light of changed international developments.

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

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4-750 (Rev. 4-17-85)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-15139-NOT RECORDED DATED 12/13/50
PAGE 8

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FBI/DOJ

HUGHES, LANGSTON

1925 (?)	Writer for "International Literature" (IKOTU).	CE 28, p. 8
	Chart: Hughes-Carmon-Smedley in "Int. Literature," USSR	CE 28, foll. p. 10
1933	Wrote articles for "International Literature"	G2 Doc 40, SLP File D5834, pp. 4 - 5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: FEB 10 1951

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Department of the Army
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Brigadier General John Weckerling
Chief, Intelligence Division

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: THE RICHARD SORGE CASE
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to your letter dated December 29, 1950, which transmitted to this Bureau a copy of consecutive Exhibit 32 prepared by your Far Eastern Command. A review of this exhibit discloses that 63 individuals mentioned therein are described as U.S. citizens or "Americans," and are, therefore, of interest to this Bureau. Some of these individuals already are, or have been, the subjects of investigation by this Bureau. In other instances this Bureau has received no previous information warranting investigation.

Since Exhibit 32 is primarily an index and description of information available in the headquarters of the Far Eastern Command, it is not possible to make any comparison of the information available with that already in our possession, nor is it possible to evaluate the information available on persons not previously investigated by this Bureau until the complete data on each individual is furnished to us.

100-15139

NOT RECORDED

cc-100-15139 (James Langston Hughes)

8 FEB 16 1951

RDG: jpa

DUPLICATE YELLOW

174 6 FEB 19

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

It has been noted that photostatic copies of all G-2 documents mentioned in Exhibit 32 are available at the headquarters of the Far Eastern Command. Accordingly, it is requested that complete data on each individual of interest to this Bureau be made available to us as soon as possible. It is appreciated that this request will entail considerable work on the part of your organization and for that reason the 63 individuals of interest to us are listed below in five groups indicative of the priority of our interest. In each instance the name appearing in consecutive Exhibit 32 is listed and adjacent thereto appears the FBI case title, character and file number where available. It would greatly facilitate the handling of your information by this Bureau if a separate reply is made on each individual utilizing the FBI case title, character and file number as your caption in each instance.

It is further noted that many of the G-2 documents are voluminous whereas only a small portion of the entire document may relate to a particular individual. In making your replies it is requested that only the portion of your document relating to the individual be furnished. To illustrate this limitation, G-2's document 31 contains 122 SVF file cards. In your reply on [redacted] it is desired that only the SVF card on [redacted] be furnished from G-2 document 31. Similarly, G-2 document 25 lists arrivals and departures of numerous individuals on Soviet vessels. In your reply on [redacted] it is suggested that the data on [redacted] be excerpted from G-2 document 25 in lieu of furnishing the entire document. (b)(7)(c)

The individuals of interest to this Bureau are listed below. The appearance of an asterisk preceding a name denotes that all possible identifying data is also desired to facilitate our identification of the individual. (u)

175

4-750 (Rev. 4-17-85)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C) with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ 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.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-15139-NOT RECORDED DATED 2/10/51
PAGES 3-5

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX 175

FBI/DOJ

(b)(7)(c)

[redacted]

Hughes, Langston

James Langston Hughes
Security Matter - C
100-15139

[redacted]

176

4-750 (Rev. 4-17-85)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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2 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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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-15139-NOT RECORDED DATED 2/10/51
PAGES 7, 8

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

176

FBI/DOJ

D/R.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK [redacted] NY FILE NO. 100-25776 PMS

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	2/19/51	10/31/50;1/22-25/51	[redacted] (4)(7)(C)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, wa.	SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject resides at 20 East 127th Street, NYC, and is active as a Negro poet, lecturer and author. Subject was reported to have been employed by the University of Chicago as a visiting lecturer on a temporary basis from March until June, 1949. Informant advised he was told that the subject was a CP member by [redacted] (7)(D) [redacted] Subject reported as a sponsor of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship as of 7/6/49. Subject entertained in a revue held by the Civil Rights Congress. Subject reported as a sponsor of the Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace held under the auspices of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions held on 3/25-27/49. (U)

AGENCY ICC-CIA
REQ. REC'D 9-9-58
REP'T FORW. 9-18-58
BY [illegible]

AGENCY ICC-USIA
REQ. REC'D 5-6-54
REP'T FORW. 5-7-54
BY [illegible]

CLASSIFIED BY 3132
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION 7/24/78

G.I.R.-7

- C -

(U)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Scheidt SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPY IN FILE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

RECORDED - 127
INDEXED - 127
EX-20

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

5 - Bureau (100-15139)
3 - New York

289

FEB 23 1951

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

177 65 MAR 9 1954

SECRET

NY 100-25776

DETAILS:

Residence

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised on January 24, 1951 that the subject was residing at 20 East 127th Street, New York City. (U)

Confidential Informant T-2, of unknown reliability, but who was in a position to know of the registrations at International House, Chicago, Illinois, advised that the subject had resided at International House, Chicago, Illinois, from March 28, 1949 until June 10, 1949, at which time he left for his residence at 20 East 127th Street, New York City. (U)

Employment

T-2 advised that while the subject resided at the above mentioned International House, he learned through conversations with the subject that the subject was employed as a visiting lecturer on poetry at the Laboratory School which is the University High School of the University of Chicago. T-2 stated that he understood that although the subject was primarily occupied with teaching poetry at the University High School, he also gave several lectures before University groups. (U)

T-2 advised that he could not be specific regarding the groups before whom the subject gave lectures. T-2 also stated that it was his understanding that the subject had been employed from March until June, 1949 by the University of Chicago on a temporary basis, and that he received approximately $400.00 for this work. (U)

T-1 advised on January 24, 1951 that the subject was active as a Negro poet, lecturer, and author, having just completed a book entitled, "Simple Speaks His Mind." (U)

Communist Party Activities

On September 20, 1948, Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, an agency that collects security information in the Chicago area, advised that a farewell reception was held for WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, National Committee member of the Communist Party, under the auspices of the Civil Rights Congress at Curtis Hall, 410 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on September 19, 1948. (U)

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T-1 stated that PAUL ROBESON, GIL GREEN, Chairman of the Communist Party in Illinois; ELEANOR SALKIND, Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress in Illinois, and LANGSTON HUGHES, all eulogized PATTERSON for his great work in the Communist Party. (U)

According to Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, HUGHES spoke briefly at this farewell reception, and in his talk he ridiculed the Freedom Train then in Chicago and stated: (U)

"How can it be a Freedom Train when colored people are discriminated against and have to use the rear door in order to view the false documents of the freedom they haven't got."

It is to be noted that Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, stated that the above-mentioned PAUL ROBESON was a member of the Communist Party under the name of JOHN THOMAS. (U)

It is also to be noted that the above-mentioned Civil Rights Congress has been declared by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

The March 1, 1948 issue of the "Chicago Daily Tribune" reflected an article entitled, "Red Tinged Poet to Speak at Winnetka Private School." This article, in summary, stated that LANGSTON HUGHES, Negro poet, who has been a contributor to Communist sponsored publications, and who is a member of Communist front organizations, was scheduled to recite his poetry before the student body of the exclusive North Shore Country Day School, Winnetka, Illinois. (U)

This article stated that the headmaster of this school stated that he had had no advance knowledge of HUGHES' background and was not aware of any of his alleged Communist affiliations. (U)

The "Daily Worker" dated May 3, 1950, page eleven, column two, reflects a review of a book written by the subject entitled, "Simple Speaks His Mind". This article is entitled, "Langston Hughes 'Simple' Speaks for Harlem." (U)

This article stated that LANGSTON HUGHES, in this book, "has uncovered the unspoken conscience of America's largest Negro ghetto. Simple is Harlem, fretting in the white folks' wrongs, humorously escaping the dead end of utter frustration, militantly poised for the fight out of which will be won an America which will be America to ALL black and white alike." (U)

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On June 30, 1950, Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised that in the late nineteen thirties he was officially advised by [redacted] that LANGSTON HUGHES was a member of the Communist Party. T-5 also advised that through the nineteen forties he was advised by [redacted] that LANGSTON HUGHES continued to be a loyal adherent of the Communist Party. T-5 also advised that during the Hitler-Stalin Pact, he learned of the subject's deep devotion to the Communist Party from [redacted] T-5 further advised that he was informed by [redacted] as late as 1945 that LANGSTON HUGHES was an adherent to the Communist Party. (U)

(7)(D)

It should be noted that Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, has advised that the [redacted] JAMES W. FORD, a former United States Vice Presidential candidate on the Communist Party ticket, is Chairman of the Bedford Stuyvesant section of the Communist Party. (U)

It should also be noted that Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised on September 8, 1947 that the [redacted] ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG was a member of the National Review Commission of the Communist Party, USA. (U)

It is also to be noted that the [redacted] EUGENE DENNIS, JACK STACHEL and BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., are all members of the National Board of the Communist Party, USA. (U)

The "Daily Worker" dated October 26, 1950, page five, column two, reflected an article entitled, "Langston Hughes Joins DuBois Group". This article stated that LANGSTON HUGHES was "the second honorary co-chairman of the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Dr. DuBois". (U)

It is to be noted that the above-mentioned Dr. DuBOIS was the American Labor Party candidate in 1950 for United States Senator from the State of New York. (U)

It is also to be noted that T-5 advised that Dr. WILLIAM E. B. DuBOIS was a member of the Communist Party. (U)

On November 21, 1950 [redacted]

(7)(D)

[redacted] (U)

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[redacted] furnished the New York Office with copies of a telegram he had received from the subject, and also a telegram he received from one [redacted] (u)

It is to be noted that on September 27, 1947, Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, identified the above-mentioned [redacted] as a Communist Party member. (u)

(7)(D)

It is to be noted that the 1948 report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities, page 192, describes the Voice of Freedom Committee as a Communist front "whose function is the support of commentators who have received the acclaim of the Communist press ...." (u)

The telegram sent by the subject to [redacted] is quoted below in full:

"Station WINS Crosley Broadcasting Corp 28 West 44 St-

"Among the various inaccuracies which I heard today on a playback of your Saturday night or Sunday morning broadcast was a statement to the effect I have been a professed card holding member of the Communist Party for some twenty years. In the interest of truth and fair play I would appreciate a correction of this misstatement on your program since I have never been a member of the Communist Party am not a member of the Communist Party and have no intention of becoming a member of the Communist Party all which has previously been stated in my published work and public lectures and is general knowledge among those who have followed my work or know me personally- (u)

Langston Hughes"

A letterhead of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, 114 East 32nd Street, New York City, dated November 10, 1948, reflected the subject to be a sponsor of that organization. (u)

A letterhead dated July 6, 1949 of the above-mentioned organization also revealed the subject to be a sponsor of that organization. (u)

It is to be noted that the above-mentioned National Council of American Soviet Friendship has been declared by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (u)

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On May 27, 1949, Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, furnished information reflecting that on March 11, 1949 JEAN CARSAY, in behalf of the Executive Committee of the American Labor Party, had invited the subject to be the speaker at a forum held on March 27, 1949. (U)

It is to be noted that the above-mentioned American Labor Party was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on March 29, 1944. (U)

On April 17, 1946, Confidential Informant T-10, of known reliability, advised that LANGSTON HUGHES was a sponsor of the Congress on Civil Rights held on April 27, 28, 1946 at Detroit, Michigan, which was sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress. (U)

On April 18, 1949, Confidential Informant T-11, of known reliability, furnished information reflecting that the subject was a featured entertainer at a "Crystal Ball Revue and Dance", held on April 22, 1949, under the auspices of the Civil Rights Congress. (U)

T-11 advised that it had been advertised that the proceeds of the above affair were to go to the Civil Rights Congress Committee to Free the Trenton Six. (U)

It is to be noted that the Civil Rights Congress and its affiliates have been declared by the U.S. Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

T-9 advised that LANGSTON HUGHES was a sponsor of the Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, New York City, on March 25-27, 1949, under the auspices of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions. (U)

Confidential Informant T-12, of known reliability, advised that LANGSTON HUGHES was elected a member-at-large of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions by the organizing committee of that organization at a meeting held in Chicago on January 16,17, 1948. (U)

It is to be noted that the California Committee on Un-American Activities, Partial Report, California Senate Journal, page 698, dated March 23, 1949, reflects that the above-mentioned National Council of Arts Sciences and Professions is "one of the most important Communist front organizations in the country". (U)

It is to be noted that Confidential Informant T-21, of known reliability, advised, that in his opinion, the above-mentioned Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace, held in New York City on March 25-27, 1949, was a follow-up on the World Congress of Intellectuals held in Wroclaw, Poland, in August, 1948, and that these conferences were part of a world-wide Communist inspired "peace" propaganda campaign. (U)

Confidential Informant T-14, of known reliability, advised on September 4, 1947, that LANGSTON HUGHES was a sponsor of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief, Incorporated. (U)

It is to be noted that the above-mentioned American Committee for Yugoslav Relief, Incorporated, has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (U)

The "Daily Compass", dated May 18, 1949 carried an article entitled, "Legion Brands 128 Notables 'Untouchable'". (U)

This article reflected a list of 128 writers, lecturers, etc., which had been issued by the American Legion's Americanism Division and labeled by that division as persons "whose past activities make them unsuitable or inappropriate for legion sponsorship". (U)

It was noted that the name LANGSTON HUGHES was included in the above list. (U)

The "New York World Telegram" dated June 9, 1949, carried an article which stated that the 1949 report of the California Un-American Activities Committee had listed hundreds of persons as Communist appeasers or followers. Among those listed as followers of the Communist line was the name LANGSTON HUGHES. (U)

The "Daily Worker" dated May 26, 1950, page ten, column four, reported that LANGSTON HUGHES was to be a sponsor of a "peace festival" which was to be held on May 28, 1950, at Camden, New Jersey. This article reflected that the speakers were to be HOWARD FAST and ELLA REEVE BLOOR. (U)

It is to be noted that Confidential Informant T-22, of known reliability, stated on February 21, 1947, that the above mentioned HOWARD FAST was a member of the National Cultural Committee of the Communist Party. (U)

It is to be noted that the above-mentioned ELLA REEVE BLOOR is mentioned in the "Daily Worker" issue of July 1, 1947, in an article which states that ELLA REEVE BLOOR "is the first lady of the Communist Party and an outstanding Communist woman". (U)

The "Daily Worker" dated September 21, 1950, page four, column four, carried an article entitled, "One Thousand Notables From 44 States Ask Truman Veto." This article stated that a group of persons had wired President TRUMAN urging him "to veto the McCARRAN Police State Bill". (U)

It was noted that the name LANGSTON HUGHES appeared with those of the above group of persons. (U)

It should be noted that the "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist newspaper. (U)

The following Confidential Informants, all of known reliability, advised that the subject was unknown to them: (U)

Confidential Informants T-17, T-18, T-19 and T-20. (U)

No record could be located for the subject at the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, New York City Police Department. (U)

The following description of the subject was obtained from observation of the subject by SA [redacted] on October 31, 1950: (b)(7)(C)

Name:	JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES, wa: Langston Hughes
Sex:	Male
Race:	Negro
Height:	5' 7"
Weight:	160 pounds
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Black
Build:	Stocky
Age:	Approximately 45
Characteristics:	Small moustache
Residence:	20 East 127th Street New York City
Occupation:	Poet, lecturer, author.

(U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- C L O S E D -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] On October 31, 1950 the subject was interviewed by SA (b)(7)(c) in connection with the case entitled [redacted] also known as [redacted] EUROPEAN RECOVERY PROGRAM" (New York File 124-3112). (u)(b)(7)(c)

The subject was interviewed as a reference and former employer. HUGHES was interviewed at his residence, 20 East 127th Street, New York City, and commented during the course of the interview, "I have a wide reputation as a leftist and only yesterday I denied being a Communist, over the radio." (u)

(b)(1) [redacted]

Confidential Informant T-16, of known reliability, advised on December 12, 1949 that a new Communist group of about five members had been recently organized at the Port of Spain, Trinidad, B.W.I. This group is called the "Readers and Writers Guild", and their meetings are held in the home of [redacted] Port of Spain.

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] According to T-16, [redacted] (b)(7)(c) recently received a letter from one [redacted] who advised that he had contacted LANGSTON HUGHES, Jamaican, and a "Trinidad girl" while in the United States, and that they gave him information about the Communist Party, USA. (b)(7)(c)

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

(b)(7)(c) The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of S[redacted] dated February 19, 1951, at New York, New York, are as follows:

T-1 Pretext telephone call made to the subject's residence, 20 East 127th Street, New York City, by [redacted] (u) (b)(7)(c) [redacted] on January 24, 1951.

T-2 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] International House, 1404 West 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois, contacted by SA [redacted] (b)(7)(c) [redacted] on September 23, 1949.

T-3 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

T-4 (b)(1) [redacted]

T-5 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

T-6 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

T-7 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

T-8 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] (u)

T-9 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

T-10 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

T-11 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

T-12 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (continued)

T-13 Deleted

T-14 [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

T-15 [redacted] (b)(7)(D)

T-16 ONI, San Juan.

T-17 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

T-18 " [redacted] contacted by SA [redacted]

T-19 " [redacted] contacted by SA [redacted]

T-20 " [redacted] contacted by SA [redacted]

T-21 (b)(7)(D) [redacted] New York City, contacted by SA [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

T-22 (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

* * *

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to New York, 5/25/50.
Report of SA [redacted] 5/13/49, New York. (U)

~~SECRET~~

4635 INDIANA AVENUE ESTABLISHED MAY 5, 1905 CALUMET 5

THE CHICAGO Defender

WORLD'S GREATEST WEEKLY

PUBLISHED BY
THE ROBERT S. ABBOTT PUBLISHING CO.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

March 7, 1951

Mr. Louis B. Nichols
United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nichols:

I wish you would comment on the attached.

I will be in Washington and would like to have your comments with regard to this matter.

Thanks very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

(b)(7)(C) [redacted]

Public Relations

ENCL 138

Enclosure

SPECIAL DELIVERY

RECORDED - 138

INDEXED - 138

MAR 16 1951

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WARD M. DAWSON, Republican from Morgan County spoke to House Feb. 26, 1951

"A Real Guy?

"To the Editor of the Daily Mail:

"Pres. John W. Davis has announced that Langston Hughes will appear at West Virginia State College, February 21. He did not announce that Langston Hughes had been a writer for the "Daily Worker," U. S. Communist newspaper, nor that he wrote the following:

"Goodbye, Jesus Christ, Lord God, Jehovah,
"Beat it away from here!"
"Make way for a new guy with no religion at all—
"A real guy named Marx, Communist, Lenin peasant."

The avowed purpose of the Russian Communists is the overthrow of all other governments, including the U. S. A., and the confiscation of private property and the churches.

Marxism rejects the concept of moral law. Truth, Justice, honor, belief in God, self-respect and conscience are antagonistic to Marxism.

I now wish to say, Mr. Speaker, upon calling the president of this college this morning, I am advised that Mr. Langston Hughes did not appear at the college last night.

The bill (H. B. No. 210) was then ordered to engrossment and third reading.

House Bill No. 85—"A Bill to amend and reenact section five and sections five-(one) to section five-(fifty-four), inclusive, article one, chapter seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended and reenacted by chapter fourteen, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred forty-one, and as further amended by chapter twenty-two, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred forty-three, and as further amended by chapter thirty-three, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred forty-five, and as further amended by chapter forty-five, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred forty-seven, and as last amended and reenacted by chapter twenty-seven, acts of the Legislature, regular session, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine, relating to compensation of county commissioners for services other than services in court,"

On second reading, coming up in regular order, was on motion of Mr. Rairden, laid over one day.

Com. Sub. for House Bill No. 130—"A Bill to amend and reenact, section five-sections five-(one) to five-(fifty-five), inclusive, article seven, chapter seven of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as last amended by

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for everybody to remember is that we are up against the most sinister, diabolical conspiracy in the history of the world to destroy the constitution of the United States and the American way of life; destroy the opportunity which has made us great, and substitute by the combination of outside force, internal fifth column activities of force and deception. A slave state—if you please, Mr. Speaker, in which a government, preferable a world government, which would dominate and control everybody in everything. It is unimportant whether this is called a liberal or progressive government, a welfare state, socialism, fascism or communist system; they all end up at the goal post and that is spelled Dictator.

A school text book was taught in the schools of West Virginia a short time ago, which came to the attention, first, of the writer of a newspaper in the eastern part of this state. In his column, this writer brought out certain passages in the book, which he considered Un-American. Later, a former member of this House read passages from the book to the members of the 1947 session to which I was a member. The book showed the picture of whom? George Washington? Abraham Lincoln? Thomas Jefferson? No. *Joe Stalin.* That caused little alarm over the State.

However, the writer of that paper continued to call attention of the readers to this book. He proceeded until the facts came to the attention of the Congressional Un-American Activities Committee, for the District of Columbia, in which the book was also used as a text. They started an investigation immediately, and summoned the author of the book before the committee. They declared certain statements Un-American, and the author of the book agreed to remove them, as well as the picture of Joe Stalin, which was the only individual picture in the book. It was then allowed to continue as a text in the District of Columbia.

Another thing has come to my attention—and to me it is an ominous thing—it has caused me some concern for the teachers of my State and the children they teach.

I have the greatest confidence in the teachers of my State. They are loyal Americans, entrusted with the most important jobs of all professions. It is in their defense that I am now taking your valuable time. But as loyal as they are, the teachers of this State can be exposed to the subtle workings of a wild ism that is creeping into our institutions.

The cause of that concern is from a letter published in "The Charleston Daily Mail", Sunday morning, February 4th. To me the poem and the letter, which I now read with your permission, Mr. Speaker, is a challenge to our Republic and its religion:

March 12, 1951

RECORDED - 138 100-15137-58

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

(A-2) Public Relations
The Chicago Defender
3435 Indiana Avenue
Chicago, Illinois (U)

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

Your letter of March 7th arrived shortly after you left my office last Friday afternoon. (U)

As I told you there is no comment we can make on Langston Hughes. I am enclosing a photostat of the page from the Saturday Evening Post which I told you about. (U)

Sincerely yours,

L. B. Nichols

Enclosure

LBN:CMC
(1)

NOTE: The enclosure is a photostat of the poem "Goodbye Christ," written by Langston Hughes. (U)

mailed 3-13-51

59 MAR 22 1951

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Men[redacted] • UNITE[redacted]ERNM[redacted]

TO : Director, FBI [redacted] DATE: June 20,1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES,wa:
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bufile 100-15139)

Rerept of SA[redacted] New York, 2/19/44; rept of SA[redacted] Los Angeles, 12/4/44 and rebulet 12/13/50 entitled "THE RICHARD SORGE CASE - ESPIONAGE -R." (u)

Referenced Bureau letter set out the information that the captioned subject was reported by the Shanghai Municipal Police to have written articles for "International Literature" in 1933. It is noted that referenced reports of SA'S[redacted] and [redacted] reflect that the subject was an active staff member of "International Literature" in 1933. (b)(7)(C)

The records of the Shanghai Municipal Police also reflected that the subject was believed to be a writer for "International Literature" in 1925. There was an additional reference in the Shanghai Municipal Police records of "CHART: HUGHES-CARMON-SMEDLEY in 'INT LITERATURE', USSR", the exact meaning of which is unknown. (c)

In view of the fact that it has been reported previously that the subject was active in the "International Literature", no further action is contemplated at this time and this case is being retained in a closed status. (u)

JJS:JAF
100-25776

RECORDED - 26 (100)-15139-59
JUN 21 1951
11

EX-71

CLASSIFIED BY 3832
EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 1,2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE
7/24/78 LLS/ghl

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF Classification
DATE 7-28-78 MLA

FBI
SECURITY SECTION
JUN 21 2 OCT

192
60 JUN 26 1951

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Supervisors in the Security Division DATE: May 11, 1951

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

The Bureau has received information from the Intelligence Division of the Army concerning the activity of a number of individuals in the Far East under the caption of "Richard Sorge." It was alleged that some of the individuals mentioned were directly connected with the Sorge spy ring. Information concerning other persons named, which had been obtained from the files of the Shanghai Municipal Police, alleged only Communist activity on their part in the Far East.

ACTION:

(1) It will be the complete responsibility of the individual supervisor handling this investigation to make sure that all necessary action in this case has been taken and that the Bureau's responsibility relative to the investigation of this individual has been fully discharged.

(2) In order to accomplish the above, it will be necessary for the supervisor to completely review the case file to make certain that the following action has been taken:

(a) That the allegations from the Far Eastern Command (primarily Shanghai Municipal Police data) are incorporated in the case file.

(b) That all logical investigation concerning these allegations has been, or is being, currently conducted.

100-15139

cc - 100-124002

RDG:fnm:mab

RECORDED - 141 100-15139-60

EX - 52

5-69

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(c) That the data received from the Far Eastern Command and all other pertinent information developed in this case has been disseminated to the Department and other interested government agencies.

(d) In many cases it will be noted that the Far Eastern Command has not furnished the Bureau full information from their Tokyo files and that by letter dated February 10, 1951 the Bureau requested G-2 to obtain all data and furnish the same to the Bureau.

(e) In order that the desired information can be correlated, each supervisor receiving a copy of this memorandum should prepare a memorandum utilizing the caption of the individual case and containing the following information.

(1) Date and place of birth.

(2) Citizenship.

(3) Current residence and employment. (If subject is deceased, indicate. If whereabouts of subject is unknown, so indicate and give last known whereabouts.)

(4) Describe very briefly subject's major activities. If subject is in the CP at the present time so indicate, together with the position subject holds in CP.

(5) Was subject ever in the Far East? If so, give dates and briefly state major activity in Far East.

(6) In some cases it will be noted that the subject is not a U. S. citizen and is not in the U. S. at the present time; however, he may have visited the U. S. in the past. If this is found to be the case, the dates covering subject's visit to the U. S. should be indicated.

(7) Set out date Bureau investigation instituted.

(8) Has subject ever been interviewed?

(9) Has subject ever been prosecuted, and if so, give date, charge, and results of prosecution.

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(10) If subject has not been prosecuted, has this case been referred to the Department for a prosecutive opinion in connection with any violation, including referrals to the Department for consideration under the Internal Security Act of 1950? If so, give date of referral.

(11) What response was received from the Department? What Departmental official made this response, the nature thereof and the date?

(12) Do we have a Security Index card on subject?

(13) Indicate status of case (closed or pending).

(14) Indicate dissemination made of reports in this case. Have Department and other interested governmental agencies been furnished copies of reports? If all or part of investigation has not been disseminated and cannot for some special reason be disseminated at this time, a separate memorandum should be prepared explaining the reasons why dissemination cannot be made, in order that the nondissemination can be approved.

This memorandum should be complied with immediately. An extra yellow copy should be designated for 100-124002. A white tickler copy should be immediately routed to Supervisor R. D. Gibbons, Room 1740. (u)

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: May 26, 1951

FROM : Mr. C. E. Hennrich

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

Attached is photostatic material furnished to the Bureau via liaison by the Passport Division, Department of State, pertaining to the captioned subject.

ACTION:

This memorandum, together with attachments should be routed to the supervisor to whom this case is assigned for his information and any necessary action.

Attachments

RDG:fnm

100-15139

cc - 124002

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

~~ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE~~

RECORDED - 28 100-15139-61

INDEXED - 28

EX. - 37 9-75 JUN 28 1951

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HANDLED BY

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DESCRIPTION AND PHOTOGRAPH OF APPLICANT

Height 5 feet 9 inches

Hair Black

Eyes Brown

Distinguishing marks or features None

Place of birth Joplin, Mo.

Date of birth Feb. 1 - 1902

Occupation Author

ADDRESS

[illegible] passport be mailed to the following address:

Name James Langston Hughes

Number and Street c/o Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 730 Fifth Ave.

City and State New York, N.Y.

[illegible] swear that the statements made on both sides of this application are true [illegible] likeness of me.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

[illegible] solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States [illegible] that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I [illegible] reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

James Langston Hughes
(Signature of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14 day of Feby 1931

[illegible]
Agent of the Department of State

SEAL OF PASSPORT AGENCY

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written [illegible] signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit herein [illegible] forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made herein by the applicant are true to the best [illegible] knowledge and belief; further, I [illegible] swear that I have known the applicant personally for _____ years.

If witness has been issued a passport, give number and date of issue or approximate date of issue.

(Signature of witness)

(Residence and [illegible] of witness)

No. _____ Date of issue _____

No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a passport application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with the execution of the application or obtaining the passport.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 19__

Agent of the Department of State

SEAL OF PASSPORT AGENCY

PASSPORT NO. 352769 Mar 25 1931
SEEN and CANCELLED

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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OATH OF ALL[illegible] ANC[illegible]

[illegible] I [illegible] swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, [illegible]; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without [illegible] or purpose of evasion; So help me God.

Langston Hughes
(Signature of Applicant)

Sworn to before me this ..... day

of ..... 19..

[illegible]
Agent of the Department of State.

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT

Height 5 feet, 4 inches. Age 29 years.

Hair Black Eyes Brown

Distinguishing marks or features None
(Note any facial marks or scars by which applicant may be identified)

Place of birth Joplin, Mo. (City and State) Date of birth February 1, 1902 (Month, day, and year)

Occupation Author

I intend to leave the United States from the port of Key West (Port of departure)

sailing on board the unknown (Name of ship) on April (Date of departure), 19 3

ADDRESS

I request that my passport be mailed to the following address:

Name James Langston Hughes

No. and Street 514 Downer Street

City and State Westfield, New Jersey.

[NOTE.—A passport will not be mailed to a hotel address unless the hotel is the applicant's place of permanent residence.]

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below my signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit hereinbefore set forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made in the applicant's affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; further,

I solemnly swear that I have known the applicant personally for ..... years.

[illegible] (Name of witness)

(Residence address of witness)

*Sworn to before me this ..... day

of ....., 19....

Agent of the Department of State.

[SEAL OF PASSPORT AGENCY]

Two photographs (duplicates) are required; one to be affixed to the application in the space designated above, and the other, bearing the signature of the applicant, to accompany the application unattached. A group photograph should be used if more than one person is to be included in the passport. Photographs must be on thin paper, should have a light background and be not over 3 by 3 inches nor less than 2½ by 2½ inches in size.

*This application will not be valid unless executed before an agent of the Department of State or before a clerk of a Federal court or a State court having naturalization jurisdiction.

PLEASE NOTE.—As the Department of State will act upon this application promptly, inquiry concerning it should be made only in case of emergency.

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Cash or bond fee for a passport is [illegible] dollars, in currency, and one dollar for execution of application.

The total fee is $10.00. It is unnecessary to pay any other fee to any person in connection with the filing, out or execution of this application or for obtaining the passport. The clerk of court or Passport Agent before whom this application is executed will give the applicant all necessary information and guidance.

PASSPORT APPLICATION

[FORM FOR NATIVE CITIZEN]

EDITION OF 1930

PASSPORT ISSUED MAR 25 1931 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK } ss:

I, James Langston Hughes (Name in full), a NATIVE CITIZEN of the United States, hereby appl[illegible] to the Department of State, at Washington, for a passport. I solemnly swear that I was born at Joplin (See footnote) (City or town) Mo. (State) on Feb. 1, 1902 (Date), that I was {never married / married on} (A woman must insert date of each marriage) that my {father / husband} James N. Hughes (A woman who has been married must insert husband's name) was born at Charleston (City or town), Ind. (State or country) and is now residing at Mexico City, Mexico (Give present address. If deceased, give date of death)

(The portion in this block to be filled in only by a person whose father was not born in the United States)

My father emigrated to the United States on or about _____, resided continuously in the United States from _____ to _____ at _____ and was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the _____ (Name of court) Court of _____ (District, State, county) at _____ (City and State) on _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year)

I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at 4800 Carnegie Ave. (Street address) in the city of Cleveland, State of Ohio

(The portion in this block to be filled in by a woman who is married to an alien and by a person whose father was not born in the United States)

I have resided outside the United States at the following places for the following periods: [Name each country and length of stay in each]

_____ from _____ (Departure from U. S.) to _____

_____ (Names of countries) from _____ to _____ (Return to U. S.)

My last passport was obtained from Washington (Washington or location of [illegible] abroad) on July 8, 1929 (Date) and is submitted herewith for cancellation _____ (Give disposition of passport if it can not be submitted)

I am about to go abroad temporarily and intend to return to the United States within 6 months / years with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein.

I desire a passport for use in visiting the countries hereinafter named for the following purpose:

West Indies and South America - Travel

I request that my passport include my wife _____ (See footnotes) (Name in full) who was born at _____ (Place and State or country) on _____ (Date) and to whom I was married on _____ (Date of marriage) Her present address is _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Country)

PORTION IN THIS BLOCK MUST BE FILLED IN IF MARRIAGE TOOK PLACE ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 22, 1922

My wife's maiden name was _____ (Name) and she {was / was not} previously married on _____ (Date of each previous marriage)

Her former husband, _____ (Full name of former husband) was born at _____ (City and State or country) and {he died / they were divorced} on _____ (Date)

MAR 28 1931

My wife emigrated to the United States on or about _____ and (her father) (her former husband) was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the _____ Court (Portion in brackets not to be filled in if wife claims citizenship through birth in the United States) at _____ (City and State) on _____ (Month) _____ (Day) _____ (Year) as shown by the accompanying Certificate of Naturalization. Since naturalization she has resided abroad at the following places for the following periods: [Name each country visited and the length of stay in each]

_____ from _____ (Departure from U. S.) to _____

_____ (Names of countries visited) from _____ to _____ (Return to U. S.)

I request that my passport include my minor children as follows:

_____ born at _____ on _____ residing at _____

_____ born at _____ on _____ residing at _____

_____ (Name in full) born at _____ (Place and State or country) on _____ (Date) residing at _____

FEE RECEIVED MAR 25 1931

I solemnly swear that the statements herein made are true.

$6.00 fee received by [signature]

(OVER)

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PASSPORT APPLICATION

FORM A

FORM FOR NATIVE CITIZEN NOT ACCOMPANIED BY MEMBERS OF FAMILY. (IF MEMBERS OF FAMILY ARE TO BE INCLUDED IN PASSPORT EXECUTE FORM B.)

[Revised 1935]

256358

PASSPORT ISSUED FEB 20 1936

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF COOK

I, James Langston Hughes (Name in full), a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, do hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington for a passport. I solemnly swear that I was born at Joplin (Town or city) Mo (Province or county) U.S.A. (State or country) on Feb 1, 1902 (Date); that I came to the United States, on or about ____ (Fill in if born abroad of American parents); that I resided continuously in the United States from 1 ____ to 1 ____ at ____ (City) ____ (State); that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at 212 S. Pleasant (Street address) in the city of Oberlin, State of Ohio and that I have resided outside the United States as follows:

(State name of, and period of residence in, each foreign country)

Russia, from July 1932 to June 1933

Mexico (Names of countries), from Dec. 1934 to June 1935

I {have / have not} {taken an oath of allegiance to / been naturalized as a citizen or subject of} a foreign State.

(If applicant took an oath of allegiance to, or was naturalized in a foreign State, a supplementary statement, under oath, should be attached)

My father, James Nathaniel Hughes (Name) was born at Charlestown on ____ and is now ~~residing at~~ deceased

(The portion in this block to be filled in only by a person whose father was not born in the United States)

My father emigrated to the United States on or about ____ (Month) ____ (Year) resided ____ years continuously in the United States from ____ to ____ and was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the ____ Court of ____ at ____ (City) ____ (State) on ____ (Month and date) ____ (Year)

FILED FEB 20 1936

I was {never married / last married on} ____ to ____ who was born at ____ on ____ and who {is / is not} an American citizen and I was {never previously married / previously married on} ____ (A woman must insert the date of each previous marriage)

I intend to visit the following countries for the purposes indicated:

Spain, and general European travel (Names of countries to be visited) — Residence (1 yr) and study under Guggenheim Fellowship (Purpose of visit)

and I intend to return to the United States within One {month / year}

I intend to leave the United States from the port of New York (Port of departure) sailing on board the Champlain (Name of ship) on ~~Feb~~ March 7, 1936 (Date of departure)

My last American passport was obtained from Washington (Insert Washington, or local office abroad) on March 25 and is submitted herewith for cancelation. ____ (Give disposition of passport if it cannot be submitted)

NOTE.—Any additional information necessary to clarify the citizen-hip status of applicant may be incorporated in a supplemental affidavit which will be considered a part of this application.

$10 fee received by [signature]

[OVER]

FEB 20 1936

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James Langston Hughes

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...each copy of an application for a passport must have attached to it a copy of the applicant's photograph. The photograph of the applicant must accompany the application. It must be on thin paper, should have a light background, and be not over three inches in size.

[Form ... 1919.]

[FORM FOR NATIVE CITIZEN.]

The total cost of a passport is $10.00. It is unnecessary to pay any other fee to any person in connection with the filling out or execution of this application or for obtaining the passport. The clerk of court or Passport Agent before whom this application is executed will give the applicant all necessary information and guidance.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

COUNTY OF ..... ss.

I, James Langston Hughes, a NATIVE AND LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington, for a passport.

I solemnly swear that I was born at Joplin, in the State of Mo., on or about the 1st day of February, 1902;* that my {father / ~~husband~~} James N. Hughes was born in Charlestown, Ind. and is now residing at Toluca, Mexico

*[~~that he emigrated to the United States from the port of ..... on or about ..... 1 ..... that he resided ..... years, uninterruptedly, in the United States, from 1 ..... to 1 ..... at ..... ; that he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the ..... Court of ..... at ..... on ..... 1 ..... as shown by the accompanying Certificate of Naturalization~~]

that I have resided outside of the United States at the following places for the following periods:

Toluca, Mexico, from June 1919 to Sept. 1919

Toluca, Mexico, from July 1920 to August 1921 Columbia University

and that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at New York in the State of New York, where I follow the occupation of student

My last passport was obtained from Cleveland, Ohio, on July 8th, 19 and was #63215 issued (canceled) (the number of passport.)

I am about to go abroad temporarily; and I intend to return to the United States within 6 {months / ~~years~~} with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein: and I desire a passport for use in visiting the countries hereinafter named for the following purpose:

France (Name of country.) Study (Object of visit.) (language)

(Name of country.) (Object of visit.)

(Name of country.) (Object of visit.)

I intend to leave the United States from the port of New York (Port of departure.) sailing on board the Ordunna on May 27 (Date of departure.) 1922

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

James Langston Hughes (Signature of applicant.)

Sworn to before me this ..... day of 1922

(Seal of Court.)

William Fitzgerald

[illegible], [illegible]

* A person born in the United States should submit a birth or baptismal certificate with his application, or if the birth was not recorded, affidavits from the attending physician, parents, or other person having sufficient knowledge to be able to testify as to the place and date of the applicant's birth.

† If the applicant's father was born in this country, lines should be drawn through the blanks in brackets.

[over.]

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Form No. 230—Consular
(Revised August, 1931)

File Rec'd 3/29/33

APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF PASSPORT

CAUTION.—Extension of expressly limited passports must be applied for on Form 219

In conformity with the rules and regulations prescribed by the President and the Secretary of State pursuant to law, I, the undersigned, hereby apply for a renewal of the period of validity of my passport, the number and date of which appear herein.

RENEWAL SERIES No. 53
Passport No. 352769
Passport Serial No. 54021
Issued on March 25, 1933 (Date) Washington (Place)

I, JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES (Name), a {naturalized / native} American citizen, was {never married / married on}

(To be filled in by women only)

My husband is a {naturalized / native} American citizen / an alien, a citizen of (Name of country)

My legal residence is A. A. Knopf, 730 Fifth Ave (Street address) New York (City) N.Y. (State)

I represent the (Name of person or organization)

The part in this block is to be filled in by all persons who have acquired citizenship through naturalization.

Since my present passport was issued, I have resided outside the United States at the following places for the periods stated:

from to

from to

from to

The purposes of my visits to the foregoing countries were:

(Give reason or reasons for stay in each country named)

FILED MAR 30 1933

James Langston Hughes (Signature of applicant)

Meschrabpom Film, Moscow (Foreign address)

I CERTIFY that the person to whom the above passport was issued appeared before me in person and swore to and signed the above application on the eleventh day of , 1933

Serge Morris

Leslie Gordon Mayer (Signature)

Leslie Gordon Mayer

Fee [illegible]

American Consul (Title)

[SEAL]

Riga, Latvia (Renewing office)

(OVER)

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SCRIPTION AND PHOTOG[illegible] OF A[illegible]ICANT

Height 5 feet 4 inches.

Hair Black

Eyes Brown

Distinguishing marks or features none
(Note any marks or scars on hands or face by which applicant may be identified)

Place of birth Joplin, Mo.
(City and State)

Date of birth Feby 1 - 1902
(Month, day, and year)

Occupation Author

ADDRESS

I request that my passport be mailed to the following address:

[NOTE.—A passport will not be mailed to a hotel address unless the hotel is the applicant's place of permanent residence.]

Name James Langston Hughes

Number and Street c/o Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 730 Fifth Ave.

City and State New York, N. Y.

I solemnly swear that the statements made on both sides of this application are true and that the photograph attached hereto is a likeness of me.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

James Langston Hughes
(Signature of applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14 day of Feby 1926

Agent of the Department of State

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below; [illegible] signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit herein [illegible] forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made herein by the applicant are true to the best of [illegible] knowledge and belief; further, I solemnly swear that I have known the applicant personally for _____ years.

If witness has been issued a passport, give number and date of issue or approximate date of issue.

(Signature of witness)

No. _____ Date of issue _____

(Residence address of witness)

No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a [illegible] application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his service in connection with the execution of the application or obtaining the passport.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19__

[SEAL OF PASSPORT AGENCY]

Agent of the Department of State

PASSPORT NO. 352769 DATE 25-1-31
SEEN and CANCELLED

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1—1[illegible]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Passport No. 206358

Issued on Feb 20 1936

Issued at Washington, D. C.

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APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF PASSPORT

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for a renewal of the period of validity of my passport, the number and date of which appear above:

I hereby declare that—
(Use one of the two following lines, striking out the other)

I was born in the United States.

I was born in _____ and (I) (my father) was naturalized in the year _____
(Insert name of country if born abroad) (If naturalized, insert date of naturalization)

I have / have not taken an oath of allegiance to / been naturalized as a citizen or subject of a foreign State.
(If applicant took an oath of allegiance to, or was naturalized in a foreign State, a supplementary statement, under oath, should be attached)

THIS SECTION MUST BE FILLED IN BY ALL WOMEN, AND BY ALL THOSE MEN WHOSE PASSPORTS BEAR THE NAMES OF THEIR WIVES.

I was never married / married in the year _____ My wife / husband was born in the United States _____
(Strike out above if never married) (Insert name of country if born abroad)

(Strike out the four following lines if never married.)

and was naturalized in the year _____
is an alien, a citizen of _____
(Fill in appropriate space)

Our marital status has not been terminated. / was terminated by (death) (divorce) in the year _____
(Strike out one of the above two lines) (Date)

THIS SECTION MUST BE FILLED IN WHEN THE RECORD IN THE PRECEDING SECTION SHOWS THAT MARRIAGE OCCURRED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 22, 1922. (A record of a man's previous marriage is not required.)

(Use one of the two following lines, striking out the other)

I (My wife) was not previously married. / was married to former husband of _____
(Date of each previous marriage)

(Strike out the following lines if not previously married)

He was born in the United States. / _____ and was naturalized on _____
(Insert name of country if born abroad) (Insert date of naturalization)

is an alien, a citizen of _____
(Name of country)

The marital status was terminated by (death) (divorce) on _____
(Date)

THIS SECTION MUST BE FILLED IN BY ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE ACQUIRED CITIZENSHIP THROUGH MARRIAGE OR NATURALIZATION.

Since my present passport was issued I have been outside of the United States at the following places for the periods stated:

_____ from _____ to _____
_____ from _____ to _____
_____ from _____ to _____

The purposes of my visits to the foregoing countries were as follows (give reason or reasons for stay in each country named):

(DO NOT USE THIS SPACE)

Application and passport submitted for Department's consideration by _____ Agency, on _____
(Initials of agency) (Date)

_____
(Agent, Department of State)

Renewed by NEW YORK Agency, on JUL 9 1938
(Initials of agency) (Date)

For one / two years from today's date / date of expiration

Until the _____ day of _____ 193

_____
(Agent, Department of State)

$5.00 fee received by _____ (Initials) attached hereto / deposited by agency.

(Do not use this space)

831

(OVER)

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DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: 20 years.

Stature: 5 feet. 4 inches, Eng.

Forehead: high

Eyes: brown

Nose: short

Mouth: medium

Chin: regular

Hair: black

Complexion: dark

Face: oval

Distinguishing marks ... none

IDENTIFICATION.

..... 19....

I, ..., solemnly swear that I am a {native / naturalized} citizen of the United States; that I reside at .....; that I have known the above-named ..... personally for ..... years and know {him / her} to be a native citizen of the United States; and that the facts stated in {his / her} affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a passport application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with the execution of the application or obtaining the passport.

.....

(Occupation)

.....

(Address of witness)

Sworn to before me this ..... day

of ..... 19....

[SEAL.]

.....

Clerk of the *Court at*

Applicant desires passport to be sent to the following address:

James Langston Hughes
111 Hartley Hall
Columbia University
New York City, N. Y.

A signed duplicate of the photograph to be attached hereto must be sent to the Department with the application, to be affixed to the passport with an impression of the Department's seal.

One ... in this ... ment's ... seal of t... the pho... not the ... asted ... epart- ... d the ... ed on ... but

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MAY 16 1922

Please cancel my passport application for Europe as I shall be unable to go abroad this summer due to the severe illness of my father, James N. Hughes, now in the American Hospital at Mexico City. He wishes me to come there instead.

New York City
May 16, 1922

James Langston Hughes

MAY 16 1922

Received from Passport Agent, NY City, Nine Dollars ($9.00), refund on passport fee

James Langston Hughes

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The names listed below should be excluded from my passport as those members of my family will not accompany me on foreign travel now contemplated and for which I herein request renewal of my passport.

Wife _____ Minor children _____

Following are the names and dates of birth of my minor children who are over 18 years of age, who are included in my passport and who will accompany me on my contemplated travel abroad for which I herein request renewal of my passport:

(Name)	(Date of birth)

I am domiciled in the United States, and at present I am in the United States, residing (together with those whose names appear in my passport) at 66 St Nicholas Pl (Street address)

City of NY State of NY

I intend to leave the United States from the port of NY (Port of departure)

sailing on board the Normandie (Name of ship) on July 13 (Date of departure), 193

James Langston Hughes (Signature) (I hereby declare that I personally affixed my signature appearing above)

Please mail passport to {above / following} address:

Street _____

City _____

State _____

(Do not use the following lines)

REMARKS: _____

Agent of the Department of State

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[Forms of 1919]

[FORM FOR NATIVE CITIZEN.]

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

NEW YORK } ss.
COUNTY OF NEW YORK }

I, James Langston Hughes, a NATIVE AND LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington, for a passport:

I solemnly swear that I was born at Joplin, in the State of Missouri, on or about the 1st day of February, 1902, that my {father / husband} James N. Hughes was born in Charlestown, Ohio and is now residing at Toluca, Mexico

[that he emigrated to the United States from the port of ... on or about ... that he resided ... years, uninterruptedly, in the United States, from ... to ... at ... that he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the ... Court at ... on ...] as shown by the accompanying Certificate of Naturalization.

[I have resided at the United States at the following places for the following periods: Toluca, Mexico from Jan. 1919 to Sept. 1919; Cuba from July 1920 to August 1921; New York, where I follow the occupation of Student]

My last residence in the United States was at Cleveland, Ohio on July 8, 1919 and I (32) (intend to return to the United States within 6 months / years) am about to go abroad temporarily; and I intend to return to the United States within 6 months / years with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein; and I desire a passport for use in visiting the countries hereinafter named for the following purpose:

France (Name of country) Study (language) (Object of visit)

Italy (Name of country) Travel (Object of visit)

I intend to leave the United States from the port of New York (Port of departure) sailing on board the Orduna on May 21 1922 (Date of departure)

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

James Langston Hughes (Signature of applicant)

Sworn to before me this ... day of ... 1922

[Seal of court.] William Dyershales

FEE REC'D MAY 17 1922 AFTERNOON

1195

* A person born in the United States should submit a birth or baptismal certificate with his application, or if the birth was not recorded, affidavits from the attending physician, parents, or other person having sufficient knowledge to be able to testify as to the place and date of the applicant's birth.

† If the applicant's father was born in this country, lines should be drawn through the blanks in brackets.

[over.]

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT.

Age: 20 years.

Stature: 5 feet, 4 inches, Eng.

Forehead: high

Eyes: brown

Nose: short

Mouth: medium

Chin: regular

Hair: black

Complexion: dark

Face: oval

Distinguishing marks: none

IDENTIFICATION.

_____, 19__

I, _____, solemnly swear that I am a {native / naturalized} citizen of the United States; that I reside at _____; that I have known the above-named _____ personally for _____ years and know {him / her} to be a native citizen of the United States; and that the facts stated in {his / her} affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a passport application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with the execution of the application or obtaining the passport.

_____ (Occupation.)

_____ (Address of witness.)

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 19__

[SEAL.]

_____ Clerk of the _____ Court at _____

Applicant desires passport to be sent to the following address:

James Langston Hughes
111 Hartley Hall
Columbia University
New York City, N. Y.

A signed duplicate of the photograph to be attached hereto must be sent to the Department with the application, to be affixed to the passport with an impression of the Department's seal.

One [illegible] in this [illegible] ment's [illegible] seal of t[illegible] the pho[illegible] not tho[illegible] [illegible]sted [illegible]part- [illegible] the [illegible]d on [illegible] but

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

Langston Hughes
(Signature of Applicant)

*Sworn to before me this ..... day

of ..... 19....

[signature]
Agent of the Department of State.

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT

Height 5 feet, 4 inches. Age 29 years.

Hair Black Eyes Brown

Distinguishing marks or features None
(Note any facial marks or scars by which applicant may be identified)

Place of birth Joplin, Mo. (City and State) Date of birth February 1, 1902 (Month, day, and year)

Occupation Author

I intend to leave the United States from the port of Key West (Port of departure)

sailing on board the unknown (Name of ship) on April (Date of departure) 19 3

ADDRESS

I request that my passport be mailed to the following address:

Name James Langston Hughes

No. and Street 514 Downer Street

City and State Westfield, New Jersey.

[NOTE.—A passport will not be mailed to a hotel address unless the hotel is the applicant's place of permanent residence.]

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below my signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit hereinbefore set forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made in the applicant's affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; further, I solemnly swear that I have known the applicant personally for ..... years.

(No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a passport application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with the execution of the application or obtaining the passport.)

(Name of witness)

(Residence address of witness)

*Sworn to before me this ..... day

of ..... 19....

Agent of the Department of State.

[SEAL OF PASSPORT AGENCY]

Two photographs (duplicates) are required; one to be affixed to the application in the space designated above, and the other, bearing the signature of the applicant, to accompany the application unattached. A group photograph should be used if more than one person is to be included in the passport. Photographs must be on thin paper, should have a light background and be not over 3 by 3 inches nor less than 2½ by 2½ inches in size.

*This application will not be valid unless executed before an agent of the Department of State or before a clerk of a Federal court or a State court having naturalization jurisdiction.

PLEASE NOTE.—As the Department of State will act upon this application promptly, inquiry concerning it should be made only in case of emergency.

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210

CERTIFICATE OF ACTION TAKEN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above passport was on March 11, 1973 (Date)

~~renewed for ..... months.~~
renewal for two years.
~~referred to the Department for consideration and decision together with a Form 211~~
~~taken up~~

Leslie Gordon Mayer
(Signature)

[SEAL]

American Vice Consul

(After application has been submitted to Department and instruction in reply received)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above passport was on ..... (Date)

renewed for ..... months.
renewed for two years.
refused renewal and passport taken up.

Authority .....

..... (Signature)

[SEAL]

..... (Title)

Notarial Service No. .....

In duplicate, but when the application is to be referred to the Department for consideration, it should be taken in triplicate. After the Department's decision is reported to the consular office, the triplicate copy should be filled in with the final action taken and forwarded to the Department, the duplicate copy on file in the office being amended accordingly.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1963 7—1359

RECEIVED
MAR-23-73 9:41
PASSPORT DIVISION

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

211

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS
PASSPORT SECTION

This search cover [illegible] records from 19[illegible] to [illegible] "NO RECORD" if [illegible]

NO RECORD ( ) [illegible] YEARS

100 [illegible]

APPLICATION [illegible] 2-20-[illegible]

Dom. Ren.
Foreign
Foreign Ren.
Registration

OTHER PAPERS [illegible]

Cor 5-22-14495

[illegible] ( ) years

[illegible] CHARGED [illegible]

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

212

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Supervisors in the Security Division DATE: June 14, 1951

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont AHB

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

PURPOSE:

To furnish to the appropriate supervisors information appearing in the files of the [redacted] relative to the above case.

DETAILS:

There is attached herewith the following information which appears in the files of the [redacted]:

C-2 Doc. 40 pages 4, 5
31 SIP Index.

ACTION:

This information should be reviewed for the purpose of determining whether:

1. The information is in the case file in report form and has been disseminated.

2. In the event this information is not in file in report form but is of such a nature that no active investigation is required, the information should, nevertheless, be furnished to the field to be incorporated immediately into a report suitable for dissemination.

3. In the event the information is not in the file in report form and is of a nature which necessitates further investigation, the information should be furnished to the field with explicit instructions as to the investigation desired. The field should be instructed to conduct this investigation immediately and submit results to the Bureau in report form suitable for dissemination.

For the information of the supervisors, the attached material was obtained on a confidential basis from the [redacted] on June 5, 1951. (b)(7)(D)

In referring to the source of this information in any communication to the field, the supervisor should advise the field that the information was obtained from a confidential source of known reliability on June 5, 1951, and no reference should be made to the [redacted] as the source of this information. (b)(7)(D)

AHB:mhf:jef

RECORDED - 36

JUL 10 1951

JUL 30 1951

EX - 73

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
SPECIAL BRANCH

File No.

Name: Langston Hughes.

Aliases:

Description

American Negro.

Photograph

153

214

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ANTECEDENTS:

Langston Hughes is an American journalist of some repute among proletarian writers. He is at present in Moscow (1932) where he is contributing correspondence of the Moscow newspapers. He has contributed a number of articles to the organ of the International Union of Revolutionary Writers, "International Literature" which is published in Moscow.

53

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Supervisors in the Domestic Intelligence Division

DATE: August 15, 1951

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: JAMES LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

PURPOSE:

To furnish to the appropriate supervisors information appearing in the files of the [redacted] Police relative to the above case.

DETAILS:

There is attached hereto a photostatic copy of documents contained in the [redacted] Files, concerning the above-captioned subject, which was furnished by G-2 memorandum dated August 2, 1951, a copy of which is attached.

ACTION:

This information should be reviewed for the purpose of determining that all the information has been incorporated in a report and disseminated, and that the necessary action has been or is being taken in connection therewith. In the event the same has not been done, the information should be furnished to the field for report purposes and appropriate action.

Mr. Ladd has instructed that this matter is to be given immediate attention.

ENCLOSURE

Attachments

100-15139

RECORDED 57

[illegible]

[illegible]

FILE

[illegible] SEP 26 1951

216

COPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

2 August 1951

G2-IRqmtS

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: The Richard Sorge Case

1. Reference is made to Federal Bureau of Investigation letter dated 10 February 1951, subject as above requesting all available data on individuals listed therein.

2. Transmitted herewith are photostatic copies of documents contained in the Shanghai Municipal Police Files pertaining to individuals listed in Group IV of reference letter.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2

GARRISON B. COVERDALE
Colonel, Arty.
Chief, Collection and Dissemination Division, G-2

21 Incls:
1-21 Photostatic copies SMP File Documents

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-15139-63

217

Encl #4

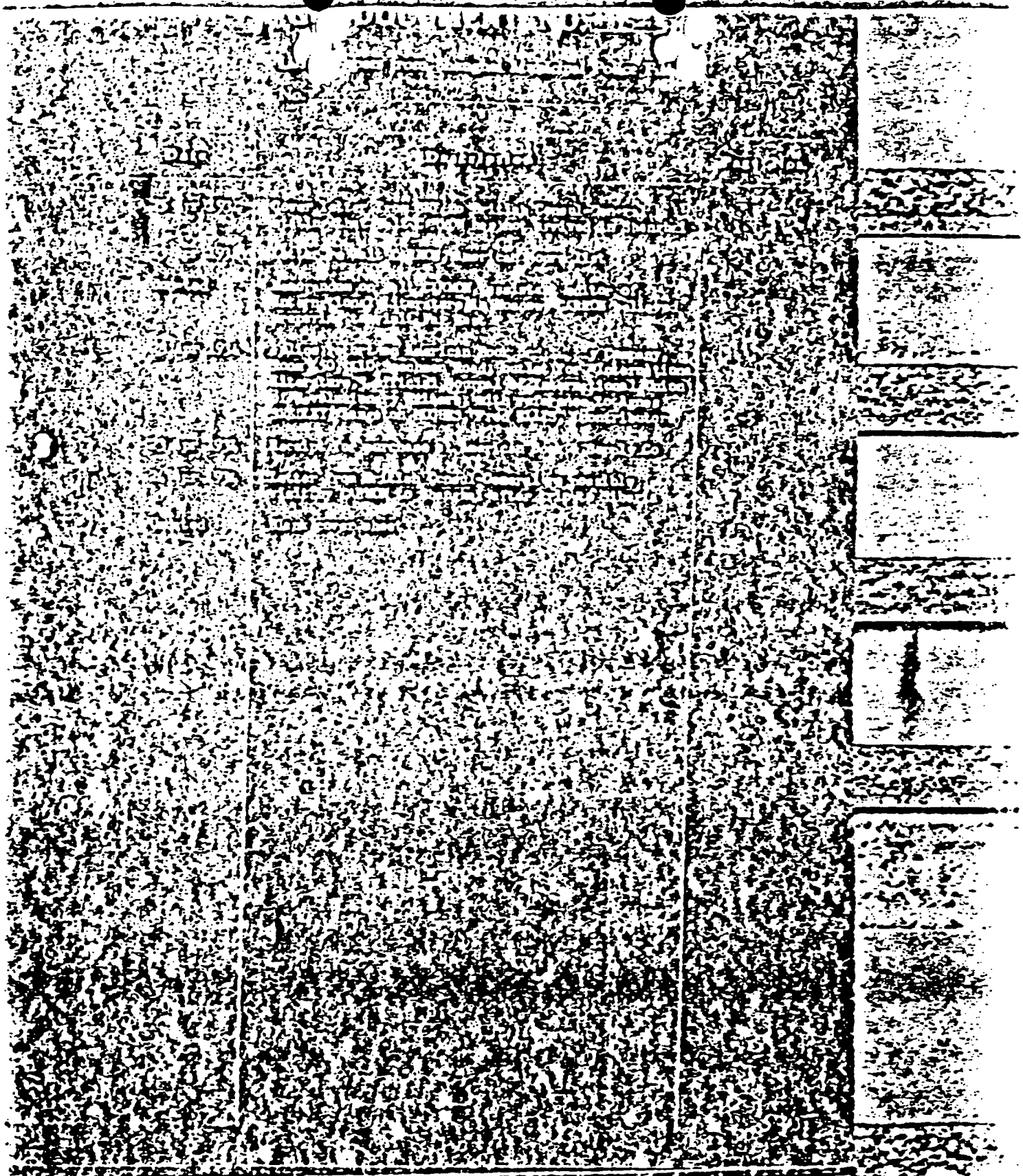
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

G.I.R.-1

DATE: 2/12/52

FROM : SAC, DALLAS (100-0)

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

SUBJECT: LANGSTON HUGHES
SECURITY MATTER - C

(b)(7)(D)

[redacted] Radio Station KWBC, 3601 Kimbro Street, Fort Worth, Texas, advised that subject has been scheduled to appear in a recital at the St. Andrew's Methodist Church, a Negro church, Fort Worth, Texas, at 8:00 P.M. on February 19, 1952, the proceeds to go to the I. M. Terrell High School, a Negro school, and at the request of a Mrs. U. S. SMITH, 966 East Terrell Street, of the Business and Professional Club, a Negro civic organization. This radio station has been making spot announcements as a cooperative feature. [redacted] informed that six or eight announcements have been made. (b)(7)(D)

He stated that he observed an Associated Press article in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on the morning of February 7, 1952, to the effect that "Red-shy San Antonio cancels Negro Show." [redacted] (b)(7)(D) explained that this article went on to state that subject was to have appeared at San Antonio for a program on February 24, 1952, next except for the cancellation. [redacted] stated that he has no information concerning this subject, except that the advertising describes him as being a Negro poet laureate.

(b)(7)(D)

[redacted] (b)(7)(D) advised that his station is much concerned after reading the Associated Press article and does not desire to continue to advertise the recital if in fact the subject is a Communist.

The indices of the Dallas Office are negative. CLOSED.

~~EXPEDITE PROCESSING~~

cc: San Antonio

JWF:rgb

100-15137-64

INDEXED-136

FEB 14 1952

17

RECORDED-136

EX-69

50 MAR 4 1952

226

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] Lo[illegible]ngeles, California
Mar 11, 1952

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
F.B.I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed find copy which was given to me, which, is self-explanatory. I am informed that the author of this, article is well known. He is the individual, who, is the author of the blasphemous poem," Goodbye Christ". One almost feels humiliated to read such vulgar, if not, most ignorant thoughts, written by such a person. Do you not think, that, anyone, with such diabolical and antagonistic motives, is dangerous to the country? Who, has the effrontery to circulate such destructive influence. And, should be apprehended, in my opinion.

It is the height of ignorance, to believe that the world owes anyone a living. Or, what others have earned, by the sweat of their brow, to share with those, who are lazy. If, anyone is looking for work, in order to make a living, he can find it. There is no such thing, as a path of roses, in this world. God, never intended it this way. If the human mind, needs discipline to develpp one's character, life, will give it to him.

There is no such thing, as GOVERNMENTAL SECURITY, or, any other HUMAN SECURITY. This idea, is an illusion; and the sooner people are educated to the TRUTH, the sooner will they get the TRUE PERSPECTIVE, and UNDERSTANDING of LIFE.

IGNORANCE, GREED, and IMMORALITY has been on the war path, much too long already. And, the result has been a state of confusion amongst some of the people, and, some of the leaders, in the world today.

Our government, is partly to blame for some of the things which are happening today. Our government, has set a VERY SHAMEFUL EXAMPLE to the people, and, to the rest of the world, with it's corruption, greed, immorality, and untruthful PROPAGANDA, and, exploitation. Shameful, as it is to hear, and read about.

No wonder, righteous indignation, is being aroused all over the nation, by the thinking people today And, it is time that something constructive be done about it, to, correct this shameful condition. It is time to get serious about this.

This country has been successful, because of the CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES, AND, SELF-INITIATIVENESS, and Thrift. And, this Anti-Christ, movement will be defeated.

100-[illegible]-65

RECORDED - 15
INDEXED - 15

MAR 25 1952

227

GOD, IS THE ONLY POWER THERE IS. Let me repeat, God power, is the only POWER THERE IS.

To substantiate this, the true facts are in the bible.

Communism, Stahlin, or, anyone else, has no power, unless, God allows it. There, is no such thing as HUMAN POWER. Jesus told us this, when he said," I, BY MYSELF CAN DO NOTHING, IT IS THE FATHER WITHIN ME, HE DOETH THE WORK". And, Jesus, knew the Truth, spoke it, and demonstrated it.

Man must adhere to God's universal laws. The law hath dominion over man, as long as he lives. To violate these laws, one suffers the consequences.

It is time, that this government return to a state of complete INTEGRITY, and, thereby REFLECT and RADIATE a state of complete morality, and, soundness, purity, honesty, and uprightness. It is time to be serious about this, and, with it help to raise the consciousness of mankind.

God, help us to see this change soon, and, with it, a removing of all personalities, who, are guilty of contributing to the disintegrating of integrity, in our government.

God help us, to preserve the principles of this country, and, help us to sustain it's security, and our integrity.

Yours very truly,

(b)(7)(c) [redacted] Lt.

228

Good morning, Revolution;
You're the very best friend
I ever had
We gonna pal around together from now on.

Say listen Revolution;
You know, the boss where I used to work,
The guy than gimme the air to cut down expenses,
He wrote a long letter to the papers about you;
Said you was a trouble-maker, a alien-enemy,
In other words a son-of-a-bitch.
He called up the police,
And told 'em to watch out for a guy
Named Revolution.

You see, the boss,
The boss knows you're my friend,
He sees us hangin' out together.
He knows we're hungry, and ragged,
And ain't got a damn thing in this world--
And are gonna do something about it.

The boss's got all he needs, certainly,
Eats well,
Owns a lotta houses,
Goes vacationin',
Breaks strikes,
Runs politics, bribes, police,
Pays off congress,
And struts all over the earth--
But me, I ain't never had enuf to eat,
Me, I ain't never been warm in winter,
Me, I ain't never known security--
All my life, been livin' hand to mouth,
Hand to mouth.

Listen, Revolution,
We're buddies, see---
Together,
We can take everything;
Factories, arsenals, houses, ships,
Railroads, forests, fields, orchards,
Bus lines, telegraphs, radios,
(Jesus! Raise hell with radios!
Steel mills, coal mines, oil wells, gas
All the tools of production,
(Great day in the morning')
Everything--
And turn 'em over to the people who work.
Rule and run 'em for us people who work.

Boy! Them radios--
Broadcasting that very first morning to USSR:
"Another member of the International Soviet's done come

Greetings to the Socialist Soviet Republics
Hey you rising workers everywhere greetings"
And we'll sign it: Germany
Sign it: China
Sign it: Africa
Sign it: Poland
Sign it: Italy
Sign it: America
Sign it with my own name: Worker
On that day no one will be hungry, cold, oppressed,
Anywhere in the world again.

That's our job!

I been starvin' too long,
Ain't you?

Let's go, Revolution!

--Langston Hughes.

March 21, 1952

[redacted] b(7)(C)

Los Angeles, California

RECORDED - 15 Dear [redacted] b(7)(C)

INDEXED - 15 100-15139-65

Thank you for your letter of March 11, 1952, with enclosure.

Your courtesy and interest in making this material available to me are sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Los Angeles
cc - New York

ATTENTION SAC's: Correspondent enclosed with her letter a poem entitled "Good Morning, Revolution" by Langston Hughes. Bureau files reflect that Hughes has been identified with several Communist dominated front organizations in New York City. His poem is a salute to the Soviet Union.

NOTE: Correspondent has previously furnished material to the Bureau which she believed indicated Communist activities in Los Angeles. Her full name and marital status secured from previous correspondence.

TEB:ps:ems

57 APR 3 1952

MAILED 8
MAR 21 1952
COMM-FBI

231

[redacted] b)(7)(c)

STATE STREET SCHOOL NO. 3
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY
DIAMOND 2-6658

(y) JM 5-1

January 12, 1953

The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The faculty of the State Street School, Hackensack, New Jersey, is considering the adoption of a textbook published by the Iroquois Publishing Company which contains a poem by the negro poet, Langdon Hughes.

A serious question has been raised concerning Mr. Hughes as an American citizen. Would you please send to me a summary of Mr. Hughes' status as you know it in your capacity as a Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Very sincerely yours,

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

EX-107

SE 38

-15139-

JAN 23 1953

232

January 16, 1953

EX-1957

100-15739-66

[redacted] b)(7)(C)

State Street School Number 3
Hackensack, New Jersey

Dear [redacted] b)(7)(C)

Your letter dated January 12, 1953, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the scope of its prescribed authority to make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual or organization.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMM - FBI
JAN 19 1953
MAILED 31

cc - Newark, with copy of incoming
ATTENTION SAC: Langston Hughes is subject of an active Internal Security - C case.
NOTE: The main file on Langston (correct name) Hughes is Bufile 100-16139-65.

DIC:nan

97 FEB 26 1953

233

FISK UNIVERSITY

Nashville 8, Tennessee

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

18 November 1962

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

Nashville 3, Tennessee

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

As one who has been friendly to Fisk and entertained some confidence in its seriousness and integrity as an educational institution, I hope you have not been too greatly agitated by the quite extraordinary demonstration of the American Legion over a Negro poet, Langston Hughes, who appeared on one of our International Student Center programs.

There have come to my attention, all too often indirectly, so many disturbed inquiries about a program that had been scheduled in the routine of the Center's weekly programs, I feel that you should have a note about it. Except for the sudden and tempestuous protests of the Legion against Mr. Hughes, I doubt if there would have been more than a baker's dozen of students attending the poetry reading on November 3rd, when they were preparing for mid-term examinations. For the past twenty years or more he has been making a tour of colleges interested in Negro poetry readings, and he has been here at least a dozen times, depending on his annual itinerary.

As a poet, Langston Hughes is great, or average, or mediocre, according to one's literary and aesthetic tastes. Over the past quarter century, he has written poetry, short stories, plays, a partial autobiography and a number of children's books -- all together, about 20 books. He also writes a somewhat humorous column in one of the Negro weekly newspapers. His poetry is, in my judgment, uneven in its literary quality, and some of it has been scarcely above the level of simple narration. But that has been his living, and he has written more good than bad poetry.

The attacks on Langston Hughes that have come to my attention have centered about an ungainly attempt at irony in a poem, written some twenty or more years ago, which was, in my opinion, and that of many of his friends, irreligious. He has not thought enough of it himself to include it in any one of the several anthologies of his poetry, and, so far as I can judge, has been as ashamed of it as were his friends.

I doubt if there is a student in our entire enrollment who ever heard of this poem before it was published in the Record and given exaggerated prominence in the protests of the Legion. Certainly he has never read it or anything like it in any of his poetry reading here. He has felt deep racial hurts in the past, as have many Negroes, and this has been reflected in some of his writing. But curiously enough on this occasion he was actually saying that the reports in the North about the hard life of Negroes in the South are greatly exaggerated out of ignorance of the life and progress of the South.

100-[illegible]-67

234

(b)(7)(c)

We are not naive on the national concern about Communists and subversives. We have demonstrated that we have no tolerance for any such activity or philosophy, however it might be disguised. I have known Langston Hughes since he was a youth just out of high school, who won a national prize with a poem called "The Weary Blues." So far as the knowledge of any of us extends he has never been involved in any of the Communist rackets. Since the attacks I have deliberately sought to learn if there is any such unfavorable record in the files of the official agencies charged with making such identifications. I have not yet found any such.

We invited representatives of the American Legion to attend the poetry reading and three came. They were: Mr. Lee Sanders, Rev. Pickens Johnson and Commander Clarke. From their comments afterwards there was nothing that they could object to in the poems and informal commentaries about various kinds of Negroes, from folk people to frustrated Harlem slum dwellers; from wasted lives to seekers after beauty.

He read his poetry here last year and the year before, and from time to time back as far as 1932, and nobody has been especially concerned -- not even our students. We are brought suddenly to attention by public protests over one radio station, and in the columns of the newspaper, the Record. (Neither the Tennessean nor the Banner gave any such dangerous and menacing emphasis). Committees of the Legion waited on the F.B.I., the Police Chief, the Mayor, the local Trustees of the University, and many of the substantial citizens of the city.

I presume that those who knew the University, its educational program and its integrity, paid little attention. Those who did not know it were simply guided by their best lights.

A quite serious question is posed, however, that is unimportant so long as the powerful intimidations are directed at a small institution that must rely upon the basic virtues of a sturdy even though remote citizenry to defend American and Christian principles commonly accepted. But it is a danger that can grow and encompass larger and more important sectors of our citizenry.

This is not intended as a defense of a person or of a literary style. It is, frankly, a statement of a quandry. For, even though we normally exercise care in selecting our speakers for various occasions, it begins to get confusing and embarrassing when, with no real issue of national security being involved, local pressure groups intervene to determine who should not appear on our school programs.

I thought you would be interested in our situation and our thinking on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

235

A NOTE ON THE POEM "GOODBYE, CHRIST"

On the surface Langston Hughes' poem seems grossly irreverent and atheistic. Hughes says of this poem, in an article, "My Adventures as a Social Poet," in Phylon Magazine published by Atlanta University (3rd Quarter, 1947):

"This poem was one of my least successful efforts at poetic communication, in that many persons have misinterpreted it as an anti-Christian poem. I intended it to be just the opposite. Satirical, even ironic, in style, I meant it to be a poem against those whom I felt were misusing religion for worldly or profitable purposes. In the poem I mentioned Aimee Semple McPherson. This apparently made her angry. From her Angelus Temple pulpit she preached against me saying, 'There are many devils among us, but the most dangerous of all is the red devil. And now here comes among us a red devil in a black skin'."

"She gathered her followers together and sent them to swoop down upon me one afternoon at an unsuspecting and innocent literary luncheon in Pasadena's Vista del Arroyo Hotel. Robert Nathan, I believe, was one of the speakers, along with a number of other authors. I was to have five minutes on the program to read a few poems from my latest collection of folk verses, 'Shakespeare in Harlem,' hardly a radical book."

"When I arrived at the hotel by car from Los Angeles, I noticed quite a crowd in the streets where the traffic seemed to be tangled. So I got out some distance from the front of the hotel and walked through the grounds to the entrance, requesting my car to return at three o'clock. When I asked in the lobby for the location of the luncheon, I was told to wait until the desk clerk sent for the chairman, George Palmer Putnam. Mr. Putnam arrived with the manager, both visibly excited. They informed me that the followers of Aimee McPherson were vehemently picketing the hotel because of my appearance there. The manager added with an aggrieved look that he could not have such a commotion in front of his hotel. Either I would have to go or he would cancel the entire luncheon."

"Mr. Putnam put it up to me. I said that rather than inconvenience several hundred guests and a half dozen authors, I would withdraw -- except that I did not know where my car had gone, so would someone be kind enough to drive me to the station. Just then a doorman came in to inform the manager that traffic was completely blocked in frontof the hotel. Frantically the manager rushed out. About that time a group of Foursquare Gospel members poured into the lobby in uniforms and armbands and surrounded me and George Palmer Putnam, demanding to know if we were Christians. Before I could say anything, Mr. Putnam lit into them angrily, saying it was none of their business and stating that under our Constitution a man could have any religion he chose, as well as freedom to express himself."

"Just then an old gentleman about seventy-two who was one of the organizers of the literary luncheon came up, saying he had been asked to drive me to

the station, and get me out of there so they could start the luncheon. Shaking hands with Mr. Putnam, I accompanied the old gentleman to the street. There Aimee's sound truck had been backed across the roadway blocking all passage so that limousines, trucks, and taxis were tangled up in all directions. The sound truck was playing 'God Bless America' while hundreds of pickets milled about with signs denouncing Langston Hughes -- atheistic Red. Rich old ladies on the arms of their chauffeurs were trying to get through the crowd to the luncheon. Reporters were dashing about."

"None of the people recognized me, but in the excitement the old gentleman could not find his car. Finally he hailed a taxi and nervously thrust a dollar into the driver's hand with the request that I be driven to the station. He asked to be excused himself in order to get back to the luncheon. Just as I reached out the door to shake hands in farewell, three large white ladies with banners rushed up to the cab. One of them screamed, 'We don't shake hands with niggers where we come from'."

"The thought came over me that the picketing might turn into a race riot, in which case I did not wish to be caught in a cab in a traffic jam alone. I did not turn loose the old gentleman's hand. Instead of shaking it in farewell, I simply pulled him into the taxi with me, saying 'I thought you were going to the station, too.'"

"As the pickets snarled outside, I slammed the door. The driver started off, but we were caught in the traffic blocked by the sound truck lustily playing 'God Bless America.' The old gentleman trembled beside me, until finally we got clear of the mob. As we backed down a side street and turned to head for the station, the sirens of approaching police cars were heard in the distance."

"Later I learned from the afternoon papers that the whole demonstration had been organized by Aimee McPherson's publicity man, and that when the police arrived he had been arrested for refusing to give up the keys to the sound truck stalled midway the street to block the traffic. This simply proved the point I had tried to make in the poem -- that the church might as well bid Christ goodbye if his gospel were left in the hands of such people."

"Four years later I was to be picketed again in Detroit by Gerald L. K. Smith's Mothers of America -- for ever since the Foursquare Gospel demonstration in California, reactionary groups have copies, used and distributed this poem. Always they have been groups like Smith's, never known to help the fight for democratic Negro rights in America, but rather to use their energies to foment riots such as that before Detroit's Sojourner Truth housing project where the Klan-minded tried to prevent colored citizens from occupying government homes built for them."

"I have had one threatening communication signed A Klansman. And many scurrilous anonymous anti-Negro letters from persons whose writing did not always indicate illiteracy. On a few occasions, reactionary elements have forced liberal sponsors to cancel their plans to present me in a reading of my poems."

"I recall that in Gary, Indiana, some years ago the colored teachers were threatened with loss of their jobs if I accepted their invitation to appear at one of the public schools. In another city a white high school principal, made apprehensive by a small group of reactionary parents, told me that he communicated with the F.B.I. at Washington to find out if I were a member of the Communist Party. Assured that I was not, with the approval of his

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school board, he presented me to his student body. To further fortify his respectability, that morning at assembly, he had invited all of the Negro ministers and civic leaders of the town to sit on the stage in a semi-circle behind me. To the students it must have looked like a kind of modern minstrel show as it was the first time any Negroes at all had been invited to their assembly."

"So goes the life of a social poet."

SPEAK IN NASHVILLE

Direct Copy fr[illegible] Nashville Record, November 3, [illegible]

Langston Hughes, listed by the House Un-American activities committee, the California Senate Investigation committee, and National Republic, as belonging to numerous Communist front organizations, is scheduled to speak at the Fisk University International Student Center, at 5 p.m. Monday.

Hughes wrote the following poem, on the strength of which he was refused by the people of San Antonio, Texas, the privilege of speaking in that city. The Nashville Record presents this copy. The rest is up to the city of Nashville.

"Goodbye Christ"
By Langston Hughes

"Listen Christ
You did alright in your day, I reckon
But that day is gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too.
Called it the Bible-
But it's dead now.
The popes and the preachers 've
Made too much money from it
They've sold you to too many.

"Kings, generals, robbers and killers-
Even to the Czar and cossacks,
Even to the Rockefeller's Church,
Even to the Saturday Evening Post.
You ain't no good no more.
They've pawned you
Till you've done wore out.

"Goodbye
Christ Jesus, Lord God Jehova,
Beat it on away from here
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all-
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin
Worker me.

"I said No!
Go ahead on now
Your getting in the way of
things, Lord.
And please take Mr. Ghandi
with you
When you go
And St. Pope Pius
And St. Aimee McPherson
And Big, Black St. Pecton
Of the Consecrated Dime
And step on the gas Christ!
Move!
Don't be so slow about movin!
The world is mine from now on
And nobody's gonna sell me
To a king, or a general
Or a millionaire."

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Here also is a poem by Langston Hughes which did not appear in the above issue of the Record.

CHRIST IN ALABAMA

Christ is a nigger
Beaten and black
O bare your back.

Mary is his mother
Mamy of the South
Silence your mouth.

God's his father
White master above
Grant us your love.

Most holy bastard of the bleeding mouth.
Nigger Christ on the cross of the South.

(Copies from the American Councilor)

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1135 Riverwood

Randall Highers, T.U.
Director
1003 Elvira

INGLEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Gallatin Road at Oak Street

J. Harold Stephens, Pastor

1207 Stratford

Nashville 6, Tennessee

Otis Warner, Treasurer
Goodlettsville

Herman Gray, Fin. Sec'y.
1252 Ardee Ave.

Oneta Gentry, Secretary

(RESOLUTIONS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION)

Whereas, Langston Hughes is reportedly listed by the House un-American Activities Committee, the California Senate Investigating committee, and National Republic as belonging to numerous Communist front organizations, and

Whereas, he was scheduled to speak at the International Student Center of Fisk University on Monday evening, November 3, at eight o'clock, and

Whereas, it is reported that he has been there on numerous other occasions, and

Whereas, he is a highly controversial character, and

Whereas, his communistic position is widely-known, the enclosed poems by him being evidence of such, and

Whereas, he is regarded by many as a dangerous radical, and

Whereas, we have a genuine interest in preserving the American way of life,

Be it therefore resolved that we express our sincere regrets over the fact that Langston Hughes has been given a place on any program at Fisk University, an institution which has rendered, and may yet render, an invaluable service in educating and training Negro leadership.

Be it further resolved that we express grave concern over the dangers involved in poisoning the minds of the young people of the Negro race with un-Christian and un-American teachings.

Be it further resolved that we voice our opposition to his ever being included on any program at Fisk University, or in the City of Nashville, and

Be it further resolved that we petition the trustees of Fisk University and the Administrative staff to thoroughly investigate the character, beliefs, and teachings of Langston Hughes in order that steps may be taken to prevent his return to Fisk University and to Nashville.