



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**HIGHLANDER FOLK  
SCHOOL**

**PART 2 OF 7**

**FILE NUMBER: 61-7511**

Highlander Folk  
School

Section 2 of 11 Sections

61-7511

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **100-1878**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BALTIMORE, MARYLAND</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7-29-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/21/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[redacted] b7c</b>	GN
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Names **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** checked through the indexes of Baltimore office with negative results.

HUC

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent **[redacted]** dated June 1, 1941 at Knoxville, Tennessee.

**DETAILS:**

The names of **[redacted]** and **[redacted]** as set out for the Baltimore Field Division in reference report were checked through the indexes of this office with negative results.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

TO THE

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

REC'D DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
AUG 1 1941  
SEC. 2 & 7B 6M 41

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245502

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- 2 - Baltimore

CH-22

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENN.**

FILE NO. **100-1288** JFD:bt

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW ORLEANS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6-9-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-28-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>lfc</i>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** [REDACTED] Highlander Folk School known to be Communist Party members.

**BUC**

**REFERENCE:** Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, 6-1-41.

**DETAILS:** As a result of a check of the files of the New Orleans field office it was determined that the three persons listed in the reference report [REDACTED] Highlander Folk School were Communist Party members. These individuals are [REDACTED] New Orleans, [REDACTED], listed in reference report as [REDACTED] Louisiana Farmers Union, [REDACTED] New Orleans, and [REDACTED], New Orleans. [REDACTED] at the present time is in Mobile, Ala.

[REDACTED] whose address is given as [REDACTED] New Orleans, is not believed to be a party member but is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from the Highlander Folk School - [REDACTED] Products Credit Corporation, New Orleans; [REDACTED], New Orleans; [REDACTED]; AND [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], are not listed in the indices of the New Orleans field office and the files fail to reflect any information concerning Communist or subversive activities on their part.

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SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 1 New Orleans	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">61-7511-39</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8 BTJ/aw 245512</p>

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENN.**

FILE NO. **100-323**

REPORT MADE AT <b>ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8-12-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8-6-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <i>[Signature]</i> <b>JCC</b>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Northwest Organizer former official organ of General Drivers Union 544 and Teamsters Joint Council 32 of International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Warehousemen of America.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

- - RUC - -

DATE 2/30/84 BY SP8 BTG/k

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent *[Redacted]*, Knoxville, Tennessee, dated 6-1-41.

**DETAILS:**

The Northwest Organizer is a newspaper published weekly by the A. F. of L., Local #544, General Drivers Union, an affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Warehousemen of America. The Northwest Organizer was the official organ of that local and also of the Teamsters Joint Council Local #32, which is also an affiliate of said International and which is composed of various members of the teaming craft.

Since about June 15, 1941, the Northwest Organizer has changed its name to the Industrial Organizer, which is now the official organ of the Local #544, C.I.O., United Construction Workers Organization Committee, Allied Motor and Transport Workers of

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>S.W. Harley</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	INDEXED RECORDED
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100-323

America. The leaders of Local #544 A. F. of L. bolted to Local #544 C.I.O. and when they did so they took their official organ, the Northwest Organizer. The A. F. of L., through court action, restrained the Local #544 C.I.O. officials from seizing the paper, and the Northwest Organizer is now out of existence and a new paper of Local #544 A. F. of L. has been established. The name of this paper is the Minnesota Teamster. When the Northwest Organizer was functioning as already stated, it was the official organ of the Local #544 A. F. of L., which union was at that time that is, prior to July 15th, very radical because of its leadership. Its Executive Board were all members of the Socialist Workers Party, all of whom are presently under Federal indictment for seditious conspiracy.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1  
 CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **61-34**

PORT MADE AT <b>MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8-17-41</b> <i>(3)</i>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-15, 16/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <i>br</i> [REDACTED] (A) <b>ROC</b>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY- C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Copy of charter of Incorporation of Highlander Folk School in State of Tennessee obtained, but no correspondence of consequence in files in office of Secretary of State. Present officials at State American Legion headquarters unable to locate information compiled by [REDACTED]

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at Knoxville, Tennessee April 10, 1941.

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at Knoxville, Tennessee June 1, 1941.

**DETAILS:**

**AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

[REDACTED] Tennessee State American Legion headquarters informed the writer that on numerous occasions in the past, thorough searches had been made in the headquarters office for the files containing the information compiled by [REDACTED] relative to the Highlander Folk School.

[REDACTED] stated that he recalled having had in his possession a copy of the report, which he believed was compiled by a member of the Tennessee State Highway Patrol, but had delivered it to [REDACTED], Memphis, Tennessee and that [REDACTED] had

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ - Bureau 3 - Knoxville 3 - Memphis <b>CH-23</b> 153 161		61-17511-41 <b>AUG 20 1941</b> FIVE
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APPROVED  
 10 23 1941



b7c  
never returned it. During the course of the interview, ██████████ contacted ██████████ Tennessee Highway Patrol who advised that he had no knowledge of the present whereabouts of the file, and could not recall the name of the officer who made the investigation and gave the information to ██████████

b7c  
██████████ employed in the office of ██████████ Secretary of State of Tennessee made available for examination by the Agent, her entire file relative to the charter of Incorporation which has been granted to the Highlander Folk School. There was only one letter in this file which was a communication about the GRUNDY COUNTY CRUSADERS, Tracy City, Tennessee and signed by Mr. ██████████ as chairman requesting a certified copy of the charter of Incorporation of the Highlander Folk School. This letter was dated November 29, 1940.

b7c  
X ██████████ also furnished the Agent with a copy of the charter of Incorporation of the Highlander Folk School, which indicated that on the 20th day of October, 1934 the Corporation was formed by MYLES HORTON, ELIZABETH HAWES, JAMES DOMBROWSKI, RUPERT HAMPTON and MALCOLM CHISHOLM.

ENCLOSURE TO BUREAU:

Photostat of a copy of the Charter of Incorporation of the Highlander Folk School in the State of Tennessee issued October 20, 1934.

ENCLOSURE TO THE KNOXVILLE FIELD DIVISION.

Copy of charter of Incorporation of the Highlander Folk School, State of Tennessee issued October 20, 1934.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE MEMPHIS FIELD DIVISION.

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

*b7c*

Will contact [redacted] Memphis, Tennessee or his secretary, [redacted] in an effort to obtain the information contained in the files formerly in the office of the State Headquarters of the American Legion.

- PENDING -

STATE OF TENNESSEE

*Charter of Incorporation*

*Be it Known,* That Kyles Horton, Elizabeth Haws, James Dombrowski,  
Rupert Hampton and Malcolm Chisholm are hereby created a body politic  
and corporate by the name and style of

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

under Sub-Section (4) of the Code of Tennessee 1932 which provides  
for the support of any literary or scientific undertaking, as a college  
or university, with powers to confer degrees, an academy, a debating  
society, lyceum, the establishment of a library; the support of a  
historical society; the organization and support of battlefield  
associations, the promoting of painting, music, or the fine arts;  
the support of boards of trade or chambers of commerce or other  
objects of like nature.

The particular purposes for which this charter is  
sought are the support of the Highlander Folk School, adult workers  
education, the training of rural and industrial leaders, and general

to seven, nine, eleven or fifteen

The Board of Directors may have the power to increase the number of Directors ~~from seven to fifteen~~, if they deem the interest of the corporation requires such increase. And the first or any subsequent Board of Directors may have the power to elect other members, who, on acceptance of membership, shall become corporators equally with the original corporators. The Board of Directors shall have the right to determine what amount of money paid into the treasury shall be a prerequisite for membership, or, if necessary, what amount shall be thus annually paid, and failure thus to pay shall, in the discretion of the Directors, justify the expulsion of said defaulting member. The term of all officers may be fixed by the by-laws, the said term not, however, to exceed three years. All officers held over until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

The general welfare of society, not individual profit, is the object for which this charter is granted, and hence the members are not stockholders in the legal sense of the term, and no dividends or profits shall be divided among the members. The members may at any time voluntarily dissolve the corporation by a conveyance of its assets and property to any other corporation holding a charter from the State for the purpose not of individual profit, but providing for ~~the same~~.

A violation of any of the provisions of this charter shall subject the corporation to dissolution at the instance of the State.

This charter is subject to modification or amendment; and in case said modification or amendment is accepted, corporate business is to cease, and the assets and property, after payment of debts, are to be conveyed, as aforesaid, to some other corporation holding a charter for purposes not connected with individual profit. Acquiescence in any modification thus declared shall be determined in a meeting specially called for that purpose, and only those voting in favor of the modification shall thereafter compose the corporation.

The means, assets, income or other property of the corporation shall not be employed directly or indirectly for any other purpose whatever than to accomplish the legitimate objects of its creation, and by no implication shall it possess the power to issue notes or currency, deal in currency, notes or coin, buy or sell products, or engage in any kind of trading operation, nor hold any more real estate than is necessary for legitimate ~~purpose~~ business.

Expulsion shall be the only remedy for the nonpayment of dues by the members, and there shall be no individual liability against the members for corporate debts, but the entire corporate property shall be liable for the

State of Tennessee  
Fentress County

Register's Office  
August 9, 1934

Delpha Wright Boles, Register of said  
County, do certify that the foregoing Deed and  
Certificate are registered in said office in Book  
No. "Misc. 4" page 141; that they were received  
Aut. 7, 1934 at 1:40 o'clock p.m. and entered in  
Note Book 4, page 141.

Delpha Wright Boles, Register

I, Ernest N. Haston, Secretary of State,  
do certify that this Charter, with certificate  
attached, the foregoing of which is a true copy,  
was this day recorded and certified to by me.

This 20th day of October, 1934.

Ernest N. Haston, Secretary of State

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

**KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. 100-804 **MCL**

REPORT MADE AT <b>ATLANTA, GEORGIA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8-19-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-24-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <i>[Signature]</i>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p><i>[Handwritten: 1056, etc.]</i></p> <p><b>[Redacted], [Redacted], and [Redacted]</b> are listed in the Atlanta files and are reported as being <b>Communitic</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/27/84 BY JPB/BTA/OK 245532</b></p> <p><b>REFERENCE:</b> Report of Special Agent <b>[Redacted]</b> Knoxville, Tennessee, dated 6-1-41.</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> <u>AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA</u></p> <p><b>[Redacted]</b> St. Petersburg, Florida, is listed in Atlanta file 100-357. <b>[Redacted]</b> is at the present time being investigated by the Miami Field Division. He has represented himself as being head of <b>[Redacted]</b> and is therefore believed to be a Communist.</p> <p><b>[Redacted]</b> located in the Atlanta National Bank Building, is listed in Atlanta file 100-286 entitled "Atlanta League of Women Shoppers." <b>[Redacted]</b> is reported as being a member of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. He is <b>[Redacted]</b>. He is regarded as being a Communist.</p> <p><b>[Redacted]</b>, Atlanta, Georgia, is listed in Atlanta file 65-102 entitled <b>[Redacted]</b> with aliases"</p>			
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Atla. 100-804

b7c  
b7E  
wherein [REDACTED] is reported to associate at times with [REDACTED] who is a well known Communist, of whom an extensive investigation has been made by this office. [REDACTED] is therefore regarded as a Communist.

[REDACTED] Highlander Folk School are not listed in the files of this office.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**Milwaukee**

FILE NO. **100-2461**

REPORT MADE AT <b>MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/8/41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/14/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>b7c</b> [REDACTED] / pkn
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Check of indices of Milwaukee Field indicate [REDACTED], well known Socialist leader [REDACTED] much disliked by Communist Party of Wisconsin. b7c

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] made at Knoxville, Tennessee 6/1/41.

**DETAILS:**

Pursuant to the lead set out in reference report for all offices receiving copies of that report [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] as set out by field offices six to twenty-one, this office checked the indices for information relative to [REDACTED]

A review of the files of the Milwaukee Field Office reveal numerous references to [REDACTED] which are set out as follows:

[REDACTED]

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

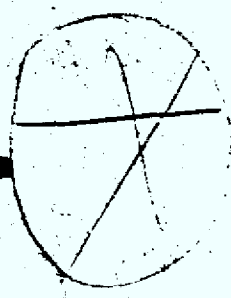
Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE**

FILE NO. 100-647 JA

REPORT MADE AT <b>BIRMINGHAM</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-18-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-8, 24</b> <b>8-10, 19-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Investigation reveals that <sup>\*</sup> [REDACTED] is owned and operated by [REDACTED] American Legionnaire, considered a loyal American. [REDACTED]

*b7c* [REDACTED] Informants advise that he associates with Communists only in business matters and shares none of their beliefs and no information developed to the contrary. Credit rating of [REDACTED] good and no Police Department or Sheriff's Office record, Birmingham.



**REFERENCE:** Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tennessee, dated June 1, 1941. *b7c*

**DETAILS:** AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA:

[REDACTED]

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENN.**

FILE NO. **61-185 FC**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BOSTON, MASS.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-29-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-29-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7c</b>
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TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY C</b>
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245522

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

The Institute for Labor Studies is an unincorporated scientific research organization affiliated with Smith College, Northampton, Mass. in the publication of Research Studies of Industrial and Labor problems. Some of the expense is paid through subscriptions to publications and some through private donations and Smith College funds. No evidence of Communistic views expressed therein.

**REFERENCE:** Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** dated 4-10-41, Knoxville, Tenn.

**DETAILS:**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**

**CH-3**

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	RECORDED INDEXED <b>[Signature]</b>



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

lnc  
LTD

4 booklets which have been published by Research Council and these are listed as follows:

- Vol. XI 3-4 Smith College Studies in History  
Directed by Katherine Dupree Lumpkin, PH. D.  
Field Work by Mabel C. Combs  
Title "Shut downs in the Connecticut Valley"
- Vol. XII 1-4 Smith College Studies in History  
Title "Economic History of a Factory Town."  
A study of Chicopee, Mass.  
By Vera Shlakman
- Vol. XIII 1-4 "A Chronicle of Industry of the Mill River"  
By Agnes Hanney
- Vol. XXXIII 1-4 "The Rise of Railroads in the Connecticut Valley."  
By Thelma N. Kistler

5395

b7D  
██████████ stated that he had read the last of these publications and found it to be quite interesting as a story of the building of Railroads throughout the Connecticut Valley. The subscription price for the Smith College Studies is \$2.00 annually which does not cover the actual cost of the publications but defrays a part of the expense.

b7D  
██████████ stated that he was positive that nothing of a Communist nature would be found in any of the publications put out as a part of the Smith College Studies.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Knoxville, Tennessee  
October 4, 1941

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

~~Personal and Confidential~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL  
Internal Security - C

Dear Sir:

67D

[redacted] that the last regular school session for this year for the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee ended September 26, 1941.

[redacted] another course will be opened at Memphis, Tennessee in the near future, possibly on October 12 or 13. This course at Memphis, Tennessee will be the regular six-weeks course usually given at Monteagle, Tennessee by the Highlander Folk School.

For the information of the Memphis Office, four of the students who attended the last six-weeks course that ended on September 26 were from Memphis, Tennessee. One of these four will be secretary of the school at Memphis, Tennessee. The identity of these four students from Memphis, Tennessee is not presently known, but efforts will be made to ascertain their identity, particularly the one who will be secretary of the school.

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2/28/84

Plans are also being laid to hold courses at Bessemer, Alabama and Detroit, Michigan. [redacted] that the main reason for YELVERTON COWHERD's coming to Highlander Folk School on September 24, 1941 was to help start a session of the Highlander Folk School at Bessemer, Alabama. The Birmingham Office advised this office by telephone of YELVERTON COWHERD's coming to Highlander Folk School, but due to lack of transportation and weather condition [redacted] at Highlander Folk School at which COWHERD spoke. The dates for the courses to be had at Bessemer, Alabama and Detroit, Michigan are not known as yet, and it is believed that plans for holding sessions at these places have not been fully developed.

RECORDED

61-7511-46

Apparently, MARY LAWRENCE of the faculty of the Highlander Folk School is at New Orleans at present conducting an educational program similar to that held at the Highlander Folk School. Five students from New Orleans attended the last session at Highlander Folk School.

INDEXED

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

It has recently come to the attention of this office [redacted] that MYLES HORTON, head of the Highlander Folk School, JAMES DOLBROWSKI, secretary of the Highlander Folk School, and [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 BTG/AL  
ON 2/27/84 245505

67D

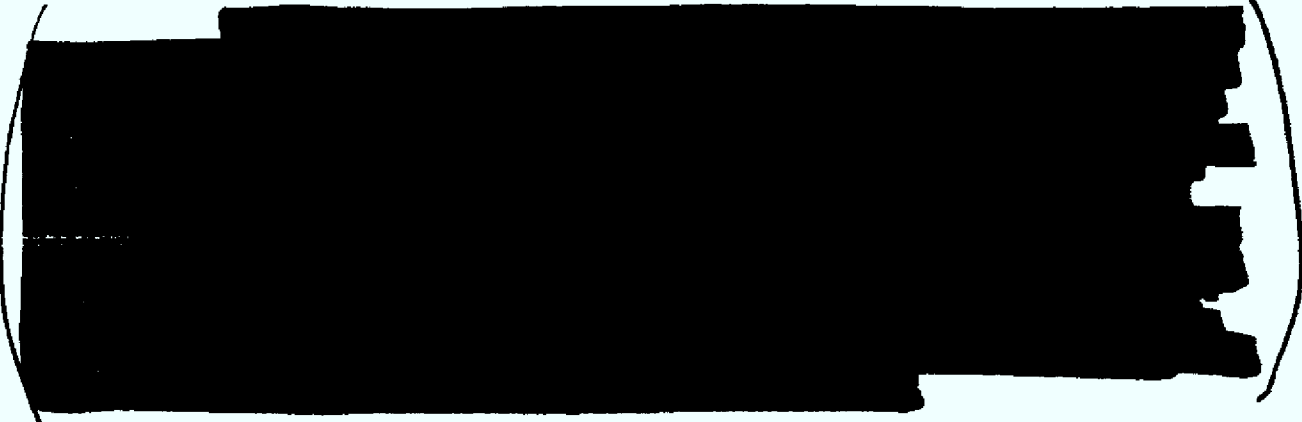
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7

FIVE  
107C

affiliated with the school voted for the Communist candidates in the 1936 election. This office is, therefore, extremely desirous that the activities of MYLES HORTON and the other members of the Highlander Folk School in conducting the school at Memphis be carefully checked at Memphis.

*b7D*  


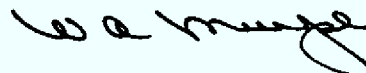
*b7D*  


*b7D*  


For the assistance of the Memphis Office, MYLES HORTON drives a 1941 Chevrolet 4-door sedan, 1941 New York license number 7W7463. His description is as follows:

NAME	MILES FOLK HORTON
Age	Born July 9, 1905 at Savannah, Tennessee
Height	5'11"
Weight	165 lbs.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Light
Race	White
Sex	Male
Peculiarities	Poor eyesight, wears glasses
Education	Attended Union Theological Seminary 1 yr., Univ. of Chicago 1 yr. and Cumberland Univ. 4 yrs.
Employment	Lists himself as Workers Educa- tion teacher
Marital status	Married. Wife is ZILPHIA HORTON

Very truly yours,



W. A. MURPHY  
Special Agent in Charge

*[Redacted]* /js

2 CC - Memphis  
Birmingham  
Detroit  
New Orleans

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Redacted]*

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **61-60**

REPORT MADE AT <b>RICHMOND, VIRGINIA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10-10-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10-7-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Investigation conducted relative to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] revealed that both individuals have engaged in labor activities. [REDACTED] formerly engaged as organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union at [REDACTED] and believed to be presently residing in [REDACTED] organizing the [REDACTED]. In 1939 [REDACTED] was stated to be the worst agitator in the strike called at the [REDACTED] presently employed at the [REDACTED]. Description set forth.

*b7c*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8 BTG/om  
245862

-P-

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated June 1, 1941 at Knoxville, Tennessee.

**DETAILS:**

Investigation of [REDACTED] was predicated upon a letter dated December 10, 1939 from Special Agent in Charge H. B. FLETCHER enclosing a card in triplicate which read as follows:

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28 APR 24 1961

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INDEXED  
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AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>11-3511-48</b>		RECORDED
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>CH-11</b>	<b>1941</b>		INDEXED

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Knoxville, Tennessee  
October 12, 1941

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease

~~Personal and Confidential~~

Air Mail Special Delivery

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
[Redacted]

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Special Agent [redacted] of this office has been conducting investigation in the above entitled matter at Monteagle, Tennessee, during the past month. He has been making intensive inquiry in the immediate vicinity of this school, from October 5, 1941, to October 11, 1941. His principal endeavor has been to interview those persons who have either attended the Highlander Folk School, in an effort to secure information from them concerning the doctrines and principles advanced at this institution, or persons in the locality who have either visited the premises or been informed by enrollees concerning any Communistic or subversive activities thereat.

No direct interviews were conducted by Agent [redacted] with any officials or faculty members of the institution. It is contemplated that such interviews will be conducted upon the completion of the preliminary inquiries in this matter.

On Friday, October 10, 1941, Agent [redacted] was conducting investigation to ascertain the validity of a Young Communist League membership book, Number R 305, now in the possession of this office. [redacted] identified the card as being one of three which she had previously seen in her house, the other two being issued to her sons [redacted] and [redacted], when interviewed by Agent [redacted], denied affiliation with the YCL and spoke favorably concerning the personnel of the Highlander Folk School. [redacted] persisted that her son [redacted] had been affiliated with the YCL and so stated in his presence. The latter then left the home as Agent [redacted] conducted his interview with the mother.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)  
DATE 2/27/84

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ON 2/27/84

61-7511-50  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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DATE 2/22/84 BY SP8 BTG/OW  
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b7c  
[redacted] subsequently returned to the house and informed Agent [redacted] a note had been left for him by a member of the faculty of the Highlander Folk School.

b7c  
Agent [redacted] upon entering his car, observed the note on the seat of his car stating, "We have been hearing quite a bit of your interest in the Highlander Folk School. Why don't you pay us a visit and get your dope first hand. Come about 6:00 and you'll get a good supper. Resp. yours, for Highlander, Leon Wilson."

The original of this note is being retained in the Knoxville file.

b7c  
Agent [redacted] did not acknowledge receipt of this note, nor did he communicate in any way with the Highlander Folk School.

Upon returning to his hotel room, at 10:30 p.m., the same evening, Agent [redacted] had delivered to him in his room at the Mont-eagle Hotel, by a hotel employee, a letter on Highlander Folk School stationery, stating as follows:

"Knowing how much time you have spent talking us over with our neighbors, we are, frankly, disappointed that you haven't been to look at us first hand.

"Some very good friends of the school are members of your organization, and to date our relations with the F.B.I. have been of the pleasantest.

"Our cook was disappointed you were unable to accept my hasty invitation to supper and she insists that I deliver the accompanying slice of home-baked applesauce cake. Cordially yours, for HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL, Leon Wilson."

This communication was not acknowledged by Agent [redacted]

b7c  
On October 11, 1941, at about 1:00 p.m., Agent [redacted] upon returning to the Hotel Mont-eagle, found MILES HORTON, Director, and LEON WILSON, Librarian of the Highlander Folk School, waiting for him. Mr. HORTON made inquiry concerning the purpose and the result of the Bureau's investigation, but was informed that Agent [redacted]

"had no comment to make". Mr. HORTON then alleged that he had been informed by Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, "The FBI had investigated the Highlander Folk School, and had given it a clean slate."

*lrc*  
Mr. HORTON alleged that the records of the school had been made available two years ago to a Government representative whom he believed to be a Bureau agent named [REDACTED]. The file of this office fails to reflect that any such examination of the records of that institution has ever been made by a Bureau representative.

*lrc*  
MILES HORTON indicated to Agent [REDACTED] he contemplated discussing the situation with the writer at Knoxville. Mr. HORTON has not communicated with the writer. In the event he does communicate with this office, he will be advised that the writer has no comment whatever to make with respect to any matter under investigation. If, however, he should desire, in writing, to make the records of this school available to this office, such an offer would be accepted, if an occasion arose where such an examination would be considered desirable.

*lrc*  
Special Agent [REDACTED] is preparing an extensive report revealing the result of investigation conducted in this matter, which will be submitted in the immediate future.

Very truly yours,

*W. A. Murphy*  
W. A. MURPHY  
Special Agent in Charge

WAM:MLG  
61-12



United States Department of Justice

Knoxville, Tennessee

October 14, 1941

*(Handwritten mark: a large 'X' inside a circle)*

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: <sup>0</sup> HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

The Knoxville Field Division, during July, 1941

[redacted] of those individuals to whom copies of the "Highlander Fling", the official publication of the above school, were being sent. This list, dated July 11, 1941, was composed of about 2,485 names covering 49 field offices. At the present time the Knoxville Field Division does not deem it practicable to set forth [redacted] in an investigative report. The names have been indexed and [redacted]

[redacted] is being retained as an exhibit in the Knoxville file. Should the Bureau deem it desirable to furnish the respective field divisions with the names of those persons therein who appear on this [redacted] the Knoxville Field Division will make such information available by personal and confidential letter. In the absence of any definite instructions in this regard, no further action will be taken with respect to this [redacted]

Very truly yours,

*(Handwritten signature)*  
W. A. MURPHY  
Special Agent in Charge

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
4 OCT 17 1941  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

No. 1  
 CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENN.**

FILE NO. 100-856

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10-13-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/6/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*b7c*  
 [REDACTED] reported as Communist member or sympathizer by Confidential Informant [REDACTED] of the Dallas Field Division, [REDACTED] San Antonio, Texas reported to be a close friend of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

*b7D*  
  
*b7c*

-RUC-  
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 2/22/84 BY SP8 [REDACTED] 2455 [REDACTED]

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], Knoxville, Tenn. dated 6/1/41.

**DETAILS:**

A review of the files of the San Antonio Field Division relative to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] developed the following information:

*b7c*  
*b7c*

[REDACTED] Texas has been reported to the office as being a member or sympathizer of the Communist Party. This information was received from the Dallas Field Division and was furnished to them by their Confidential Informant [REDACTED]

*b7D*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - BUREAU 2 - KNOXVILLE 2 - SAN ANTONIO COPIES DESTROYED 78 APR 24 1961	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 61-7511-52 OCT 1 1941 LEGAL SEC EX-40 INTERNAL
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1  
CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

SF FILE NO. **100-4848**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10-16-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-10;10-9-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7c</b> <span style="float: right;">ob</span>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Names of persons within this field division checked against the files of this office; reveal Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] were reported to this office as individuals with possible radical tendencies. Contact made with confidential informants and sources of information available to San Francisco Office with negative results.

- R U C - b7c

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 6-1-41 at Knoxville, Tennessee.

**DETAILS:**

**AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

The names of persons within the San Francisco Field Division were checked against the files of this office for any Communistic or subversive activities on the part of such persons. It was revealed that in San Francisco file 100-0-1088, Volume 7, Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] had been reported to this office as individuals with possible radical tendencies.

Confidential Informants and sources of information available to this office were contacted for the purpose of obtaining information relative to the activities of any of the persons listed for this office in reference report. No further information was

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obtained and accordingly this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

**KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **61-84-100**

REPORT MADE AT <b>MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10-17-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9-24, 25; 10-16-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[Redacted]</b>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*b7D*  
*b7C*

[Redacted] Memphis, Tennessee, states he returned the data collected by [Redacted] relating to the Highlander Folk School to the State American Legion Headquarters. [Redacted] Memphis, believes [Redacted] material may have been turned over to the Governor of Tennessee. Suggests contacting [Redacted] in Athens, Tenn. No further investigation developed on present location of files and records compiled by [Redacted] Information received indicating one of original founders of School has daughter presently employed by some Governmental agency in Washington, D. C.

**REFERENCE:**

Report of SA [Redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee 6-1-41  
Report of SA [Redacted], Memphis, Tennessee 8-17-41  
Letter from Knoxville Division dated 7-23-40, entitled  
**GENERAL INTELLIGENCE MATTERS, MEMPHIS FIELD DIVISION,  
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES.**

**DETAILS:**

**AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

*b7D*  
*b7C*

[Redacted] Memphis, Tennessee, was contacted and he advised that about two or three years ago he had obtained the data which had been collected by [Redacted] relating to the Highlander Folk School from the American Legion Headquarters in [Redacted]

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3 - Memphis

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DATE *2/27/84* BY *SP8 BTG/05*  
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Washville, Tennessee and after it had served its purpose and he had read it through, he had returned it to the headquarters. He stated that at a later date, [redacted] of the American Legion had written him and stated that he had checked it out again and he would like it returned; however, [redacted] advised that he had had that report only on one occasion and that it had been returned to Washville; that he had wanted the report to show [redacted] a DR. LILLIAN JOHNSON, who is one of the sponsors of the Highlander Folk School.

[redacted] advised that DR. JOHNSON had formerly owned the land on which the Highlander Folk School is now situated; that she had her home on that property and that she had become interested in the idea through association with MILES HORTON; that she had formerly been a professor at Oberlin College in Ohio and had a reputation of being very socialistically minded. [redacted] did not know how HORTON had met her but stated he had impressed DR. JOHNSON very favorably; that DR. JOHNSON is in no way associated with the Communist party as far as he knows; that her ideas do not lean directly toward Communism but more toward Socialism but she is very interested in educating the ignorant. He stated that she has been completely deceived by HORTON.

[redacted] advised that he had done everything possible to discourage DR. JOHNSON in the Highlander Folk School and that was the reason for his obtaining the American Legion report. He stated that he had shown her that report and had read her pertinent parts of it, but she was still very much interested in the school and had complete confidence in HORTON.

[redacted] also stated that the reports which the American Legion had, contained the same information that had been set out in seven articles written for a Nashville, Tennessee paper.

A review of the file in this case reflects that interested offices have copies of those articles. A review also reflected that reference letter dated July 23, 1940 contains a result of an interview with [redacted] in Athens, Tennessee which [redacted] had returned over the data he had to [redacted] and that [redacted] is presently located in Memphis, Tennessee.

[redacted] was then contacted at his office located [redacted], Memphis. He advised that report containing informa-

tion collected by [REDACTED] had never been turned over to him [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that there had been a lapse of one year between the time when [REDACTED] left that office and he undertook its obligations. He stated he believed the information was turned over to the Governor of Tennessee; that if that information were not in the files of the American Legion of Nashville, his only guess was it had been turned over to the Governor and that the Governor had never returned it.

He suggested contacting [REDACTED] as he would probably remember the information. A lead is being set out for the Knoxville Office to consider recontacting [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] also advised that he understood IR. LILLIAN JOHNSON, a sponsor of the Highlander Folk School of Monteagle, had returned to that institution after having severed her connections for a short time approximately two years ago. He advised that he did not believe she was Communistically inclined, but was a woman who had been completely deceived by MILES HORTON and other directors of that school.

On October 10, 1941 the Memphis Field Division was advised by letter from the Knoxville Field Division as follows:

"On September 24, 1941 the Knoxville Field Division was advised by telephone by the Birmingham office that JOSEPH KELLY STOCKTON, of Allardt, Tennessee, had been reported as one of the founders of the Highlander Folk School and that his wife was an avowed Communist. It was further alleged that the STOCKTON'S daughter, first name unknown, was recently graduated from the National Law School at Washington, D. C., was admitted to the District Bar, and is now working for some Government agency in Washington.

Since Allardt is within the territory covered by the Memphis office and there is a possibility that the daughter may be involved in a violation of the Hatch Act, it is suggested that inquiry be conducted at Allardt in this regard. Consideration will be given to MR. STOCKTON'S affiliation with the Highlander Folk School during the course of investigation in connection with the latter institution."

b7c  
In reference to the above letter it should be noted that in report of Special Agent(A) [REDACTED] at Memphis, Tennessee, dated August 17, 1941, a copy of the original chart of the Highlander Folk School issued by the Secretary of the State of Tennessee was obtained, and the original applicants for this charter were: MYLES HORTON; ELIZABETH HAWES; JAMES DOMBROWSKI; RUPERT HAMPTON and MALCOLM CHISHOLM. The list of applicants does not include the name of JOSEPH KELLY STOCKTON reported in the foregoing letter as one of the founders of the school.

P E N D I N G

**UNDEVELOPED LEADS**

**THE KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE FIELD DIVISION**

**AT ATHENS, TENNESSEE**

Will consider recontacting [REDACTED] *b7c*  
and obtaining from him the information which was contained in the  
report he had made to the American Legion relating to the Highlander  
Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee.

**THE MEMPHIS FIELD DIVISION**

**AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

Will contact the Governor of the State of Tennessee  
and see whether he recalls the Americanization Committee of the American  
Legion for the State of Tennessee having turned over to him a file rela-  
tive to Communistic Activities of the Highlander Folk School, of  
Monteagle, Tennessee. Will obtain any pertinent information in the e-  
vent the file is located.

**AT ALLARDT, TENNESSEE**

Will determine the identity and activities and  
general reputation of JOSEPH KELLEY STOCKTON reported in the above  
letter as one of the founders of the Highlander Folk School.

**P E N D I N G**



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

NY FILE NO. **100-9450** **MLD**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK CITY</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10/21/41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/29, 30, 31, 8/1/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <b>B7C</b>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Investigation conducted relative to persons sending funds to HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL but no information of Communist activities developed relative to them.

**KUC**

**REFERENCE:**

- Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tenn., dated April 10, 1941.
- Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, dated June 4, 1941. **B7C**
- Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tenn., dated June 1, 1941.

**DETAILS:**

A number of leads were set out in the reports of reference in the New York Field Division to determine the background of individuals and organizations which contributed funds to the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL.

Reference was made to the League of American Writers and inquiry made as to whether this organization could be considered Communistic. Files of the New York Field Division contain a considerable amount of information relative to the League of American Writers and information indicating that certain individual members of the League have Communistic tendencies. The League of American Writers is classified as a Communist front organization. It is not deemed advisable at this point to set out a lengthy statement of the membership and activities of this League. It is felt that

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">61-7511-57</div> <div style="font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED</div> <div style="font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED</div> <div style="font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">DATE <u>2/22/84</u> BY <u>SP8 BTG/00</u></div> <div style="font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">2453321</div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5</b> - Bureau</li> <li><b>3</b> - Knoxville, Tenn.</li> <li><b>3</b> - New York</li> </ul>		



100-9450

the report of reference merely desired information as to possible Communistic tendencies of the organization.

*b7c*  
[redacted] who resides at [redacted] was a contributor to the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL. Records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, Incorporated, disclosed that [redacted] is a member of the [redacted] family who are identified with the [redacted]. [redacted] is a woman of means and is listed in the New York Social Register. She maintains her residence at [redacted] and at the [redacted] New York City. Information contained in the report of reference of [redacted] indicates that [redacted] has participated in student strike movements and in student union activities, indicating her radical tendencies.

*b7D*  
No information was developed concerning the ROBERT MARSHALL FOUNDATION. According to the report of reference of [redacted] this Foundation [redacted] is presided over by GEORGE MARSHALL of 138 East 57th Street, New York City. Records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, Incorporated, 393 Seventh Avenue, failed to develop any information concerning this Foundation or its background and further disclosed no information concerning GEORGE MARSHALL. [redacted] also had no information concerning either this Foundation or GEORGE MARSHALL.

*b7D*  
According to the report of reference of [redacted] the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL maintained an account at the Amalgamated Bank of New York, which account was opened by JAMES DOMBROWSKI, who gave his address as 600 West 122nd Street, New York City. Observation at this address disclosed that it is the address of the Union Theological Seminary of New York.

*b7D*  
[redacted] address is given as [redacted] New York City. An examination of the directories failed to disclose any such street in Queens, Bronx, Manhattan or Brooklyn. In the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn, it was found that there were ten or more Brighton Streets but the address would have been Brighton First Street, Brighton Second Street, or some

100-9450

b7c  
such similar address. There is no such street as Brighton Street. The writer checked Brighton First Street, Brighton Second Street, and several others but no such number as [redacted] was found. No further efforts are being made to develop [redacted] present residence.

b7c  
The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, Incorporated [redacted] contain the name of only one [redacted]. He is listed as being [redacted]. It is, therefore, apparent that this is not the [redacted] who is connected with the Religion and Labor Foundation which is allegedly located at 351 West 122nd Street, New York City. Observation at 351 West 122nd Street developed that it is a 2-story dwelling located in the heart of the colored section of New York City. No name appears on the door and it was not deemed advisable to make inquiries in that neighborhood concerning [redacted] or the Religion and Labor Foundation. It is apparent that if this is the correct address of the Foundation, that it is not a very large organization. The New York files and the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, Incorporated, 373 Seventh Avenue, were examined but no information was secured relative to the Religion and Labor Foundation. [redacted] also had no information concerning the Religion and Labor Foundation.

b7D

The Cooperative Distributors, Incorporated, located at 30 Irving Place, New York City, is an organization with the aim and purpose of furnishing consumers with information about goods they buy. EMIL J. LEVER is President, Clinton S. GOLDEN is Vice President and HERBERT COLE is Secretary and Treasurer. LEVER is considered the guiding hand of the organization and has been mentioned as the Superintendent of Brockwood College at Katonah, New York; Director of the Philadelphia College of Labor; and Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of Consumers Research, Incorporated, Washington, New Jersey. The Directors of this organization include JUSTUS EBERT, HARRY A. LEFKER, JOSEPH A. KUCHER, COLSTON E. WARNE, POWERS HAPGOOD and JEROME COUNT. EBERT is editor of "Lithographers Journal". LEFKER is a C.P.A., KUCHER is Sales Manager of Kelvinator Sales Company, and HAPGOOD is a well-known educator. The Advisory Board of this organization consists of JEROME DAVIS, Yale Divinity School; ROGER BALDWIN, American Civil Liberty Union; WINIFRED L. CHAPPEL, Methodist Federation of Social Service; JOHN DEWEY, Columbia University;

100-9450

MARY FOX, League for Industrial Democracy; WILLIAM MUNN, Dana College; FRANK OLNSTEAD, Y.M.C.A., University of New York; WALTER E. PEEK, John Marshall College of Law; VIDA E. SCHUDDER, Wellesley College; P. A. and BEULAH WARING, Solebury Farmers Club of Solebury, Pa. This organization maintains no financial statements and is allegedly a non-profit organization. Its purpose is to test products on the market for the protection of consumers and to bring to the consumers materials of quality regardless of their advertising. The organization publishes a periodical called "Consumer Defender". OLGA L. HOURWICH, who, according to the report of reference, was General Manager of this concern, was formerly a buyer for R. H. Macy Company, located at Broadway and 34th Street. She is presently located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The 241 East 22nd Street Corporation, with offices at 31 Union Square West, is a real estate company serving as agents for several large apartment and office buildings in New York City. Its officers are WILLIAM KORN, CHARLES MAYER and ALBERT MAYER. They are all men of considerable means and the 241 East 22nd Street Corporation is considered to be a reputable organization.

It is apparent from the information above set out that among the contributors to the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL are many large and reputable New York organizations and several reputable people residing in the New York vicinity. No information of Communist activities on the part of these individuals has been determined except as hereinbefore set out. It is not deemed practical to institute extensive investigations relative to each of these people and relative to each organization at the present time merely because of their contributions to the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL. It is felt that if any further investigation relative to these individuals and organizations is desired by the office of origin, the New York Field Division will be so advised.

In the absence of such instructions from the Knoxville Field Division, this case is being

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE  
OF ORIGIN

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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) b7D 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.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
61-7511-57, p. 5

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Knoxville, Tennessee  
October 1, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attention: Technical Laboratory  
Re: HIGHLANDER FOLD SCHOOL  
Internal Security - C

Transmitted herewith are three packs of  
exposed "process" film.

It is requested that these be developed and the  
negative and three prints of each exposure be returned  
to the Knoxville Field Division.

Very truly yours,

*W. A. Murphy*  
W. A. MURPHY  
Special Agent in Charge

*B7C* [redacted] IH  
61-12

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/22/84 BY SP8 BTJ/CA  
*241572*

RECORDED

61-7511-58  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
4 OCT 4 1941  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*ack 10/9/41*  
*Red*

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named in Rating  
(man)*

MECH. SECT.  
*Red*  
FIVE



RCH/NEO

RECORDED

61-7511-58

October 9, 1941

Special Agent in Charge  
Knoxville, Tennessee

Re: HIGHLANDER FOLD SCHOOL  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter to the Bureau dated October 1, 1941, with which you transmitted three film packs made in connection with the above captioned case.

Upon development, it was found that these films were underexposed which was possibly due to the fact that these exposures were made on Process films and given the same exposure time that should be given Super XX film.

It is suggested that these photographs be re-taken if possible.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/2/84 BY SP8 BTJ/ML  
245/STJ

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
F. A. Form \_\_\_\_\_  
Remarks \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ OCT 9 1941 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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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-7D 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.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Deleted under exemption(s) b-7 E with no segregable material available for release to you.
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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Memphis, Tennessee  
October 16, 1941

670

MLV  
61-54

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

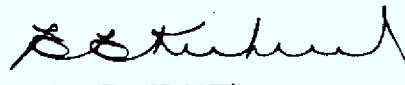
Re: <sup>①</sup> HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL  
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

Transmitted under separate cover is one  
roll of Mini Pan Film.

Attention is directed to the fact that the  
original letter written in this case requested two  
copies be made of each of these pictures and was  
enclosed with the film. It is respectfully requested  
that four eight by ten copies of these pictures be  
made and forwarded direct to this office.

Very truly yours,



E. E. KUHNEL  
Special Agent in Charge

cc: Technical Laboratory

cc: Knoxville

9

RECORDED 61-7511-62

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
6	OCT 18 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

ack 10/28/41

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8 BTG/cw  
245582

67c AVB

October 28, 1941

RECORDED

61-7511-62

Special Agent in Charge  
Memphis, Tennessee

RE: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL  
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the request contained in your letter of October 16, 1941, there are being forwarded to your office under separate registered cover, four enlarged photographic prints of each and the negatives of exposures made in connection with the above captioned case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8BJD/aj  
245528/2W

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg

61-7511-62

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
OCT 28 1941  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*[Handwritten signature and initials]*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT KNOXVILLE, TENN.

FILE NO. 100-383 PC

REPORT MADE AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 11/28/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/13; 10/9/41	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] <i>b7c</i>
TITLE O HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL		CHARACTER OF CASE <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del> INTERNAL SECURITY - C.	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <i>b7c</i> [Redacted] <i>b7D</i> unknown to Confidential National Defense Informants [Redacted] <i>c</i> [Redacted] with negative results. <i>b7E</i> [Redacted] with negative results. - RUC - <i>b1</i>			
REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [Redacted] dated 4/10/41 at Knoxville, Tenn. <i>b7c</i>			
DETAILS: <u>AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK</u> This report is the result of the joint investigation of Special Agent [Redacted] and the writer. <i>b7c</i> <i>b7D</i> Confidential National Defense Informants [Redacted] and [Redacted] advised that [Redacted] was unknown to them and they did not believe he was active in Communist circles in Buffalo at the present time.			
<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE. <i>b1</i></p> <p>APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF CLASSIFICATION DATE 2/28/84 <i>b7E</i></p> <p>[Redacted]</p>			
- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Km Ojger</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <i>CONFIDENTIAL</i> 61-7511-63 INDEXED <i>b7c</i>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Knoxville 2 - Buffalo		COPIES DESTROYED 73 APR 24 1961 DEC 2 1941 <i>Shm</i> FIVE Classified by <i>Shm</i> Declassify on: OADR 2/21/88 <i>2455a</i>	
<del>CONFIDENTIAL</del>			



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENN.**

FILE NO. **100-647 T.**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BIRMINGHAM, ALA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11-26-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/6,7,20,21/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] b7c</b>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C.</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Information received from [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] that [REDACTED], former Highlander Folk School student, is now in United States Army, stationed [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], interviewed re Highlander personnel and alleged Communists residing in Huntsville, he advising further data available through [REDACTED], resident of Tracy City, Tenn. [REDACTED] Birmingham, Ala., reports no file material on Highlander Folk School, but recalled having filled several printing jobs, including a school paper, in the spring of 1941. [REDACTED] checked against indices which reflect information on [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

*b7c*  
*b7D*  
*ONE*

R. U. C.

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], Knoxville, 6/1/41.  
Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], Birmingham, 9/18/41.

**DETAILS:**

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [REDACTED]:

[REDACTED] was contacted in an effort to locate [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] stated that during the school year 1940-41, [REDACTED] attended the college and took post-graduate work, also doing some part time teaching. She produced the school records, revealing his home address as [REDACTED], Ala., and added that it was her information that [REDACTED] was in the U. S. Army.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DATE <b>12/27/41</b> BY <b>SP8 BTG/K</b>	REC-245332
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 Knoxville 2 Baltimore 1 Birmingham	<b>DEC 2 1941</b>	
COPIES DESTROYED APR 24 1961	<b>JAN 27 1942</b>	

AT MUNTSVILLE, ALA.

b7c  
17D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] continued by stating that the name JAMES DOMBROWSKI was one familiar to her as being a school official. She also stated that she knew the school to have been criticized severely by newspapers and the general public, but that it was her own personal conviction that there was nothing subversive or Communistic about the teachings or activities of the institution - that is, the Folk School.

She concluded by stating that she was positive [REDACTED] would be only too happy to cooperate in any way possible with agents.

[REDACTED]

Alabama, was contacted toward the end of obtaining additional information pertaining to the names set out in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at Knoxville, Tenn. April 10, 1941. [REDACTED] expressed the opinion that he did not believe that he had anything really up to date to offer in the way of information. However, he offered to run over the list and make such comments as might be apropos with respect to those individuals with whom he had any personal recollection. The persons commented on, with [REDACTED] remarks, are listed below. (In those instances where the Birmingham Field Division indices reflect additional information the writer is adding certain supplementary and identifying remarks:

1. FRANZ DANIEL - Instructor at Highlander Folk School, and possibly living in a cottage located on the school grounds.

2. WALTER PEARSON - Resides at Cadaden, Ala., and is an agent for the Communist Party, and organizer for the C.I.O. He may also be an official in the Workers Alliance. He had worked with CLYDE WILLIAMS, but never distributed Communist literature. ([REDACTED])

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7c  
[REDACTED]

b7c  
[REDACTED]

3. J. WITHERSPOON DODGE, Residence Atlanta, Ga. He is an organizer for the C.I.O. and publicly professes belief in Communism. He was reportedly residing in Huntsville, Ala. as of July 2, 1940, his removal having been subsequent to that date.

HERBERT WILLIAMS resides at Huntsville, Ala., Lincoln Village. He is an organizer for the C.I.O. and has led in radical activities in the past.

DOM MCKEE resides somewhere in North Carolina. He is a C.I.O. Director for the State of North Carolina, so should be easily located.

R. H. BROZELL, Nashville, Tenn. He is a C.I.O. organizer and is Attorney for the same; It was through him that an attempt to violate the law occurred at the Marrisac Mills. He is very outspoken against the Capitalist Order.

JAMES DOMBROWSKI, Manager of the Highlander Folk School.

MILES HORTON - located at the school and is one of the Directors.

CLYDE WILLIAMS, residence Huntsville, Alabama, Dallas Village. Is a self-professed Communist, and has been active in distributing Communist literature. He attended school at Mena, Arkansas, in 1938. This school was closed by the Courts and allowed to pay court costs.

b7c  
[REDACTED] and who is reported in active collaboration with such well-known Communists in Birmingham as ROBERT F. HALL and JANE SPEED, who formerly operated the Jane Speed Book Store. A file memorandum

discloses

[REDACTED]

b7c

PAUL CHRISTOPHER resides in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is a patron and donor, and his name appears as an official Director at the school.

ROY LAWRENCE resides in Atlanta, Ga. He is a lecturer at the school.

JOHN DODD resides in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He has made speeches and in general is one of the school enthusiasts.

YEL CONHEED, resides either in Birmingham or in South Carolina. He is a C.I.O. organizer and holds some important job in it. (Note: The individual referred to, whose full name is YELVERTON CONHEED, is a practicing attorney in Birmingham, Ala., with offices in the Comer Building. He is prominently identified with the C.I.O. organizations in Alabama, and is at least sympathetic with the numerous so-called front organizations for the Communist Party. It has been noticed that he has been afforded considerable prominence and publicity by the Southern News Almanac, radical weekly publication which suspended operations due to financial causes some weeks previous to date of report).

PAUL SANDERS resides Huntsville, at 100 Dixie Street. Is very outspoken in leanings toward Communism, but has never attained any degree of prominence or influence.

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7D

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7D

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised Agent [REDACTED] that he had at one time accumulated considerable information pertaining to the Highlander Folk School and to the Communist situation in general, but that notes on the same were presently in the custody of [REDACTED] a resident of Tracy City, Tennessee. According to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] has been making an intensive study of the school and is believed to have such information that would be helpful should the Bureau deem it advisable to make the inquiry indicated.

[REDACTED] expressed the opinion that [REDACTED] would be only too happy to cooperate in every respect.

AT BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

The following investigation was conducted by the writers:

[REDACTED] Birmingham, was interviewed toward that end of obtaining such information as might be within his recollection or office files with respect to the Highlander Folk School. Mr. DuBose advised agent that an examination of his files disclosed that he had no personnel file material on the Highlander Folk School other than a letter written by one LEON WILSON, who appeared to be an officer of the school, the letter being in connection with certain printed supplies shipped to Highlander Folk School by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] added that he had first done printing work for the Highlander Folk School some two years ago when a man whose name he was unable to recall was in Birmingham recruiting students. He related that the gentleman referred to had been present at the Birmingham News luncheon and upon the unidentified individual's ascertaining that he, [REDACTED] was a publisher, he promptly placed an order for the printing of some stationery. [REDACTED] added that he has from time to time printed letterheads and envelopes for the Highlander Folk School, and recalls having printed a school paper some time during the spring of 1941. He expressed himself as unable to recall the nature of the publication and advised that he was not in the habit of keeping copies of such publications. He concluded by stating that he had no idea whatever as to the policies of activities

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of the Highlander Folk School, other than to say that he understood the student body to be small, and the students to be of very modest financial resources.

The names set out in the referenced report of Special Agent

67c  
[REDACTED] have been checked against the indices of the Birmingham Field Division. The check reveals the following: (In those instances where names have been determined to be identical with those set out in the referenced report of Special Agent [REDACTED] the writer is, in conformity with request set out in the undeveloped lead in this matter, making brief explanatory remarks).

[REDACTED] (See explanatory remarks and information set forth supra).

[REDACTED] - no record.

67d  
[REDACTED] - No record.

[REDACTED] - No record.

[REDACTED] - No record.

[REDACTED] - No record.

[REDACTED] - No record.

[REDACTED] - No record.



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**UNDEVELOPED LEADS:**

*b7c*  
BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION will at [REDACTED] interview [REDACTED], employed as a [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will be interrogated with respect to his attendance at Highlander Folk School during the three weeks' period of 1940. All pertinent information possible will be obtained with respect to the school's faculty, student activity program, student body, curriculum, etc.

*b7c*  
KNOXVILLE FIELD DIVISION at Tracy City, Tenn., will interview [REDACTED], who is in possession of certain files and information pertaining to the Highland Folk School.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **100-485**

REPORT MADE AT <b>DENVER, COLORADO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12-8-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10-23,31-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>b7c</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>MGM</b></span> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Indices of Denver Office checked which revealed that [REDACTED] Boulder, Colo., is member of American Civil Liberties Union and on one occasion sent postal card protesting the alleged illegal imprisonment of certain Communists. Inquiry at Boulder revealed [REDACTED] presently [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] and has good reputation there.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], dated at Knoxville, Tennessee, 6-1-41.

**DETAILS:**

The indices of the Denver Field Division were checked relative to [REDACTED] activities in this area and it was revealed [REDACTED]

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/27/81 BY SP-8 BTJ/ML**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 73 APR 24 1961 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 Knoxville 2 Denver <b>9 JAN 10 1942</b>	<b>61 - 7511 - 65</b>  <b>DEC 11 1941</b>
	RECORDED INDEXED

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **61-60**

REPORT MADE AT <b>RICHMOND, VIRGINIA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12-9-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12-1-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Investigation conducted relative to [REDACTED] reveals he has engaged in union activities; that his paper, [REDACTED] is said to carry reprints of material originally appearing in the Daily Worker. Labor leaders say [REDACTED] extreme in his labor activities.

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 6-1-41 at Knoxville, Tennessee.

**DETAILS:**

The following investigation is predicated upon the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated June 1, 1941 at Knoxville, Tennessee, [REDACTED]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/27/84 BY SP5 BJA/BJA

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>61-7511-46</b> <b>DEC 12 1941</b> <i>[Signature]</i>
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