

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

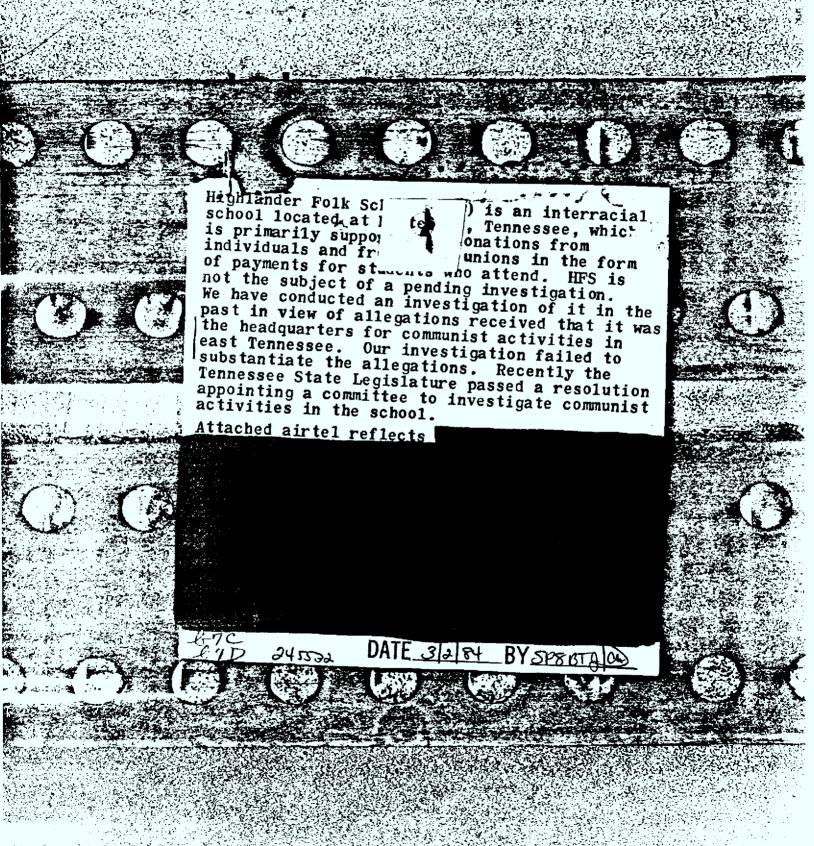
HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

PART 6 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 61-7511

Highlander Folk School

Section 6 of 11 Sections
61-7511



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Office M 2/18/50 DATE: Director, FBI (61-7511) SAC, Enoxville (61-12) SUBJECT: Fighlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee Bourlet 12/31/56 and Enoxville letter 1/21/57, captioned as above (intereffice). As you are aware, the Bureau has instructed no investigation of the Highlander Folk School is to be conducted and that it is not to be discussed with any person, pre er cen. **REC- 28** 61-7511- 244 HLEHNY SELA FEB 20 1959 ALL-INFORMATION CONTAINED SE RECEI SHEY BY SPECIAL

hee Menwoundum • United States Government

Director, FBI (61-7511)

SAC, Memphis (61-34)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL SM - C

press release made that date by DONALD DAVIDSON, Chairman, Tennessee Federation for Constitutional Government, entitled "Joint Statement of State Officers and Organization Leaders of the Tennessee Federation for Constitutional Government."
This statement sets out the fact that these men support the proposal that a committee of the Tennessee State Legislature investigate the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee and set forth the basis for their stand.

Enclosed for the Bureau and Knoxville are autostat copies of this statement.

2- Bureau (61-7511) (encl.-4)

1- Knoxville (encl.-2) RM

2- Memphis (1-105-148) (TFCG)

(1-61-34).

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7 FEB 27 1959

FOR RELEASE
Donald Davidson, Chairman

JOINT STATEMENT OF STATE OFFICERS AND ORGANIZATION LEADERS OF THE TENNESSEE FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

In view of the past record of Highlander Folk School, it is no surprise whatever that the Legislature should have in view a thorough investigation of the institution. We heartily commend and support their action.

What is surprising is that any informed citizens of Tennessee would object to a action so obviously demanded in the interest of the public welfare and already too long delayed. In this connection we refer particularly to a group of faculty members of the University of the South who in a public letter have attacked the good faith and impugned the motives of the duly elected members of our present General Assembly. We deplore this display of academic gullibility and folly. This group and a few other critics have been so illadvised as to accuse the Legislature of "McCarthyism" and "Witch hunting." We resent this insult offered to the Legislature and the people of Tennessee.

The record of Highlander Folk School as a seat of agitation and subversion is already well-documented up to 1954, through the Esarings and Reports of Congressional Committees. That record needs by any sught up to date by careful inquiry, undertaken with special reference to activities of the school in Tennessee. An historic opportunity presents itself to the members of the Tennessee Legislature. They, and perhaps only they, with their intimate knowledge of Tennessee affairs, can finally get to the root of the trouble at Highlander Polk School.

In the Hearings of the U. S. Senate Sub-Committee on Internal

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Security of March 18, 19, and 20, 1954, Highlander Folk School is revealed through sworn testimony as having been a center of subversive activity since 1940 or earlier. At these hearings Paul Crouch, for seventeen years a communist leader, former Communist District Organizer for North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, testified as follows:

"Senator Eastland: 'What is the Highlander Folk School?'

"Mr. Crouch: 'The Highlander Folk School is a school operated at Monteagle, Tennessee ostensibly as an independent labor school but actually working in close co-operation with the Communist Party.'*

On March 19, 1954 Mr. Crouch testified that in 1940 as Communist Industry, he met with Myles Horton, James Dombrowski and Ed McCrea, the Nashville Organizer of the Communist Party and "later my successor as Tennessee Organizer," at Highlander Folk School. Mr. Crouch said in reference to this meeting that "The Communist Party was anxious to get the maximum results from Highlander Folk School without endangering Mr. Horton or anyone."

Crouch explained that ". . . if it were to become public knowledge that the Highlander Folk School was co-operating too closely with the Communist Party and carrying on too much open Communist propaganda it sould endanger its funds and its support . . ." (Pages 125-126)

On Page 135 of the official recorded Hearings of the Senate investigation Mr. Arens, Counsel for the Committee, asked Mr. Crouch the following question:

"You Arens: 'What conferences did you have there /Highlander Folk School?' What was the purpose of the conferences? What was accomplished in these conferences at the Highlander Folk School?'

"Mr. Crouch: 'The purpose of the conference was to work out a plan by which the Daily Worker (Official Communist Newspaper) would

be purchased by the school. They would be made accessible to the students, that everywhere possible the instructors would refer to the Daily Worker, to news that had come in it, to encourage the students to read it, and it was agreed that the Communist Party should have a student, a leader, sent there as a student whose job it would be to look around for prospective recruits, and Mildred White, now in Washington, D. C. was selected to attend the Highlander Folk School for the purpose of recruiting for the Communist Party and carrying the Communist Party line among the student body there.

"Mr. Arens: 'You said it was agreed? Who agreed?'

"Mr. Crouch: 'Mr. Horton and Mr. Dombrowski.

"Mr. Arens: 'Did you ever solicit Mr. Horton for membership in the Communist Party?'

"Mr. Crouch: 'I did.'

"Mr. Arens: 'Tell the circumstances of that solicitation and what transpired.'

"Mr. Crouch: 'At that meeting after we discussed the school I asked Mr. Horton to become a formal member of the Communist Party and his reply was, as near as I can recall his words, 'I'm doing you just as much good now as I would if I were a member of the Communist Party. I am often asked if I am a Communist Party member and I always say 'no'. I feel much safer in having no fear that evidence might be uncovered to have into the Communist Party, and therefore I prefer not to become a member of the Communist Party.'" (Pages 135-136)

Crouch also identified Rev. Don West and Myles Horton as "original founders" of the Highlander Folk School but said West had earlier left to engage in Socialist and Communist work in Georgia, North Carolina and Kentucky.

On Page 150 of the Senate Hearings Mr. Horton couldn't "remember" whether the above mentioned Mildred White was a student at Highlander Folk School but said if she was "she was sent by a union, not by the Communist Party. We accept no students from the Communist Party and never have."

Thereupon Mr. Horton, who now offers to be so co-operative with the Legislature of Tennessee, grew so obstreperous at Senator Eastland's questioning on Mildred White that the senator ordered the marshal to eject Horton from the room. (Page 151, Senate Hearings, March, 1954)

The above quotations are only a small portion of the evidence printed in Congressional records up to 1954.

The Tennessee Legislature has the right and the duty to inquire into more recent activities of Highlander Folk School, particularly into the widely publicized meeting of the summer of 1957. This meeting has not yet been investigated. It was attended by a number of well-known Communists, fellow-travelers, leftists, and well known agitators from points of friction in the South.

The Tennessee Legislature has the right and duty to inquire whether there is a connection between such Highlander meetings and the disorders and incitements to disorder occurring at Clinton, Nashville, Little Rock, Atlanta, Montgomery, and other places.

The Tennessee Legislature has the right and duty to inquire whether, by reason of, its activities and policies, Highlander Folk School is acting in violation of Tennessee laws or is conspiring to violate our laws.

When the facts have been duly determined by such inquiry as the Legislature, the sovereign governing body of Tennessee; may undertake, it can then be decided whether the school and its administrators are

subject to prosecution for creating a public nuisance and constituting a threat to the peace and tranquility of Tennessee.

Signed:

Professor Donald Davidson, Vanderbilt University Chancelor Wayne Cox of Henry County Bob Murray, Mayor of Huntington District Attorney General Dave Murray of Jackson Dr. John M. Aden of Vanderbilt University Ben I. King, Former U. S. Marshal of Gibson County Bob Guinn, Contractor of Hardin County Roy Boyd, Clerk and Master of Tipton County Dick German, District Attorney General of Crockett John McNail, Gibson County Banker Ewing J. Harris, Former State Senator of Hardeman County A. S. Inghram, President, Tennessee Federation, Madison County Frank Daniels, Lion Oil Executive of Jackson Henry Vaughn, County Clerk of Tipton Rev. James E. Savor, Church of the Advent, Nashville W. E. Michaels, Attorney and Author of Sweetwater Dick Burrow, Jr., American Legion Anti-Subversive Committee C. C. Bradley, Insurance Executive of Nashville George Nolan, Manufacturer of Nashville Robert Hardee, Esq., Magistrate of Madison County John Sanford, County Attorney of Lauderdale Robert Thomas, Attorney of Lauderdale L. L. Dennis, Merchant of Tipton Robert E. Lee Galimore, Former State Senator of Weakley Dean Grooms, Former Speaker of the Sanate of Weakley W. M. Miles, Former State Senator of Obion Prentice Wynn, Lake County Land Owner E. T. Palmer, Mayer of Dyersburg Hugh Patten, Planter of Haywood Ted Cunliffe, Secretary, Tennessee Federation, Madison County Charles Stanfield, Contractor of Jackson · Rev. E. R. Warhurst of Jackson C. W. Miles, III, Attorney of Obion John W. Hart, Attorney of Obion R. D. Fry, Attorney of Obion W. M. Allison, Banker of Lake County Clay F. Wynn, Land Owner of Lake County Rev. Wallace R. Terry, Nashville unester Mason, Realtor of Nashville Leonard B. Cash, Businessman of Nashville Rev. Truman Rouse of Jackson Steve Carter, Planter of Madison County L. V. Dubose, Businessman of Nashville Dr. Hughes Chandler of Jackson Travis Pegues, Planter of Madison County Lloyd Harris, Ginner and Planter of Hardin Dr. John Morris, Fayette Virgil Luck, Ginner of Fayette R. C. Ferguson, Planter of Henderson Jack Kershaw, Vice Chairman, Tennessee Federation, Nashville

Highlander Probe Measure Signed

2 From Shelby Te Aid Investigation

By American Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Gov. Buford Ellington today signed a joint House-Senate resolution calling for an investigation of the Highlander Folk School in Grundy County.

Shortly afterward, Senate Speaker William D. Baird and House Speaker James L. Bomar announced the appointment of a five-man committee to conduct the probe.

Committee members are Sens. Barton Dement of Murfreesboro, Lawrence Hughes of Arlington and Reps. Alan Hanover of Memphis, Carter Patten of Chattanooga and Harry Lee Senter of Bristol, all Democrats.

"I want this investigation to reflect dignity on this body, as iI am sure it will." Bomar said. "It should be thoro and complete."

He directed the committee to report its findings at this session of the General Assembly: An appropriation of \$5000 was approved to pay expenses of the investigation.

The resolution alleged that subversive activities have been centered around the interracial school in past years.

Myles Horton, director of the school, has denied any Communist link and called for a full investigation. 61-34

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR MEMPHIS, TENMESSEE

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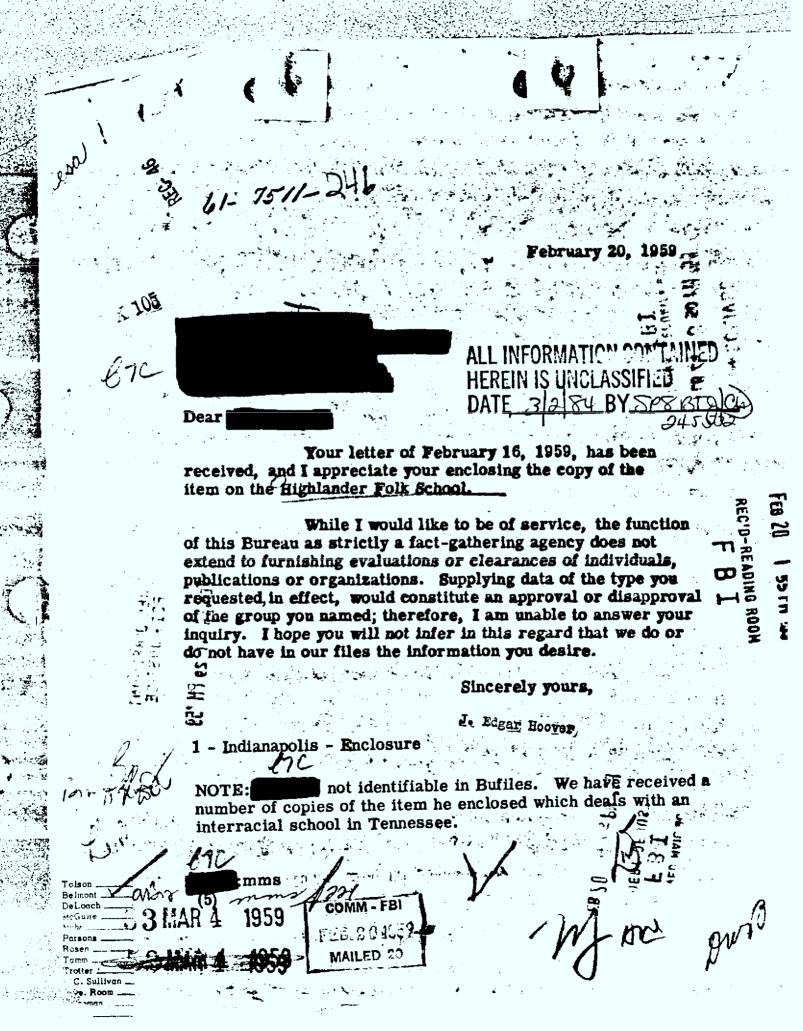




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Special Agent in Charge

PROBE OF SCHOOL OPENS SATURDAY

isit to Tracy City Is First Order of Business for Highlander Study

From Chattanoops Times Bureau

NASHVILLE — The Legislature's select committee to investigate the Highland Folk School decided Thursday to make a visit to Tracy City early Saturday to begin its inquiry.

The committee decided against a visit to the adult educational institution at Monteagle, and the plan was reported to involve discussions with several Grundy County residents who claim to have information about the school.

This first major step in the committee's inquiry came after Dist. Atty, Gen. J. M. McCartt of Wartburg agreed to serve as general counsel without compensation.

McCartt, a Republican, was retained by the committee, which is composed of five Democrats.

Hopton to Assist

In another development, W. E. (Bud) Hopton, director of the Tennessee Bureau of Criminal Identification, agreed to supply agents to assist in the inquiry.

Hopton's agents are expected to visit Monteagle and other points in that vicinity over the weekend and draw up a list of prospective witnesses for the committee to question in its first public hearings here next week.

The agents will submit names, and the committee will issue orders for the witnesses to report.

The committee met briefly during the morning for a discussion of materials already in its hands but McCartt failed to arrive in time for this session.

So another meeting was held later in the day for a further review of this material, which consisted largely of pamphlets, newspaper clippings and transcripts of testimony from federal agencies and congressional committees which had had a look at the racially integrated school in times gone by.

The committee has obtained a certified copy of the school's charter, which was issued by the secretary of state in 1934. It autherizes operation of a non-profit corporation for "adult worker education, training of rural and industrial leaders and general academic education."

Listed as incorporators are Myles Horton, the school's mader and still its director;

Elizabeth Hawes, James Dombrowski, Rupert Hampton and Malcolm Chisolm.

Chisolm was described by committee member as a former Chattanooga resident who died visit to Tracy City Is First fighting for the loyalists in the Spanish civil war in 1935-36.

The visit to Tracy City was proposed as an informal preceding during which exploratory operations will be conducted.

CHAT. TIMES

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DATE 3/2/84 BY 5/8/8/1002

61- 7511-247

ENCLOSURE

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

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Fifteen professors at Sewanee have been under fire locally for supporting the Highlander Folk School during an investigation by a legislative committee of the State of Tennessee. The Charleston News and Courier has written numerous editorials attacking Highlander and the professors for stating their belief that the school is not communist. The editorials have been most abusive in the criticism of the professors, and I feel that the newspaper editor woulk like to have these professors disassociate themselves from the Highlander investigation or be removed from their positions at Sewanee.

You no doubt handle thousands of requests like this one, but I feel that in defence of a cherished institution, the University of the South, I should seek your advice. I would find it very helpful if anything could be made available to me that has been or could be made public concerning the status of Highlander Folk School so far as the Federal Bureau of Investigation is concerned. I have long heard that Highlander has been investigated by your great agency of our government. I have also heard that the State Department routes visitors to the Tennessee area there.

1-81 (Ene) 67

With best wishes, I am,

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DATE 3/2/84 BYSER BILL

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REU- 27

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1959

REC- 27 CONFIDENTIAL arch 12, 1959 Kyc-Your letter dated March 5, 1959, has been received and your interest and concern in this matter are indeed appreciated. While I would like to be of service, I must advise that information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to be of assistance to you. I am sure you will understand the necessity. for this policy and will not infer because of my inability to be of assistance that we do or do no have in our files the information you desire. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED Sincerely yours, HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED J. Edgar Hoover BY SPERTALCH 245602 John Edgar Heeve: Director MAILED 20 (Enclosure)=(See note, page 2.) I - Savannah 7 - Knoxville (Enclosure) (See note, page 2.) See note on yellow, page 3.

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ATTENTION: SACs, Savannah and Knozville

Enclosed is a copy of the correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

61C

For the information of the Savannah Office, the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee, reportedly is supported primarily by donations of individuals and labor unions in the form of payments for students attending its courses. It offers courses of instruction in labor organizations, social economics, and general field of labor education. It has had Communist Party members on its staff and has accepted communists as students. However, it has never offered courses of instruction in communism nor has the Communist, Party ever succeeded in gaining control of the school. Due to its interracial character, it has been the subject of numerous allegations that it represents the headquarters of communism These allegations have never been in East Tennessee. substantiated. The Bureau has in the past conducted an investigation of the school and its officials based upon complaints of communist activities at the school. of the subversive derogatory information concerning the school was later repudiated by the persons previously furnishing the information.

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The school in recent years has been severely criticized by the Georgia Commission on Education and the Commission has given wide circulation of a fourpage folder on the school relating to a Labor Day, 1957, meeting. The Commission refers to it as a communist training school. On January 28, 1959, the Dennessee State Legislature passed a resolution appointing a committee to investigate communist activities at the school.

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(61-7511)

The above is furnished for your information. The Savannah and Knoxville Officesaare cautioned to be most circumspect in the handling of inquiries concerning the Highlander Folk School and be certain the Bureau does not become involved in this controversy.

STE ON YELLOW:

He advises professors at this toersity are now under fire for supporting the Highlander lik School during an investigation by legislative committee of the State of Tennessee. Being concerned with the well-being and protection of the University of the South, he inquires whether the Bureau can furnish him information which can be made public concerning the status of the Highlander Folk School insofar as the FBI is concerned.

CONFIXENTIAL'

CONFICENTIAL

In view of the extremely controversial nature of the Highlander Folk School, the past attacks upon it by the Georgia Commission of Education and the most recent investigation by a committee of the Tennessee State Legislature, a files confidential reply will best serve the Bureau's interest in this matter.

COMPUTENTIAL

CONFICENTIAL

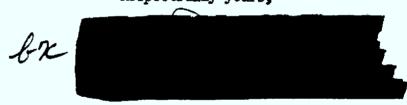
Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D.C.

Dear Sires

We understand that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has made an investigation of the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee. As an agency of the Knoxville Ministerial Association and concerned citizens of Tennessee, we are anxious to have all pertinent information which you are able to give us relative to this school.

There have been widespread accusations of disloyalty directed against the Highlander School. We feel that if these accusations are founded in fact, we as citizens and leaders of our churches need to know it; and if they are not founded in fact, we wish to be in a position to present to the public the true picture.

Respectfully yours.



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED REC- 23 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/2 84 BY SPREID OF

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REC-23 61-7511-249 C1C

March 23, 1959

EK-132

Dear

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3 2 84 BY 5 8 BT 102

Your letter dated March 14, 1959, has been received and the motive which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Furthermore, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request for information.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

MAR 2 3 1959

COMM-THE

Sincerely yours,

John Regar Hoover 785

T - Knoxville (Enclosure) SEE NOTE, PAGE 1501 102111 & EBI

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DIC

ATTENTION: SAC, Knoxuille

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's letter.

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent and no derogatory information

Former Assistant to the Director L. B. Nichols spoke before this Association in 1937. (94-1-2139)

The Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee, is well known to your office.

The above data is furnished for your information only.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

The Highlander Folk School has been the subject of numerous allegations that it is a communist school and the headquarters of communism in east Tennessee, due primarily to its interracial character. These allegations have never been substantiated. It has been given wide publicity by the Georgia Commission on Education which issued a pamphlet charging it is a communist training school. On January 28, 1959, the Tennessee State Legislature passed a resolution appointing a committee to investigate the school. (61-7511)

In view of the extremely controversial nature of this school, the past attacks upon it by the Georgia Commission on Education and the pending inquiry by the Tennessee State Legislature, the above reply is believed with best serve the purposes of the Bureau.

Director, FBI was in Washington he talked with Assistant Director C. D. Deloach and indicated that he was interested in the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee. It is desired that you contact on a highly confidential basis and advise him that this school has been the subject of a great deal of controversy. You may tell that the school offers courses of instruction in social economics, labor organization and labor galacation. Furthermore, it has had Communist Farty members on its staff and has accepted communists as students. It should be pointed out, however, that the Communist Party has never succeeded in gaining control of the school nor does the school offer courses of instruction in communism. Mediciew of its interracial character, there have been many allegations that it represents the headquarters of communism, in eastern Tennessee. This allegation has never been substantiated. It should be pointed out to 1 mat in recent years, the school has been severely criticized by the Georgia Commission on Education, and the Commission has given wide circulation of a fourpage folder relating to a Labor Day meeting in 1957. Attached are Photostats of some items which you may make They include the following: (1) a Photostat of a clipping from The Chattanooga Times, February 20, 1959; (2) a Photostat of the above-mentioned paper put out by the Georgia Commission on Education, and (3) a Photostat of an article from The Chattanooga Times for February 11, 1959. You should advise the Bureau of the results of your contact with A7C T DF IUS APR 29 1959

OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DATE: 4-2-59 Director, FBI (61-7511) TO \leq AC, Memphis (61-34) SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL IS - C Knoxville Origin Transmitted herewith is a letterhead memorandum containing information obtained on a confidential basis ALL COPIES REGISTERED MAIL 2- Bureau (61-7511) (encl.-5) 1- New Haven(info)(encl.-1) 1- New York(info) (encl.-1)
1- Norfolk(info) (encl.-1) 2- Knoxville(61-12) (encl.-2) 1- Atlanta(info)(encl.-1) 1- Philadetphia (info) (encl.-1) 1- Boston(info) (encl.-1) 1~ Chicago (info) (encl.-1) 1- San Francisco(info)(encl.-1) 1- St. Louis(info)(encl.-1) 1- Dallas(info) (encl.-1) Jacksonville(info) (encl.-1)
1- Little Rock(info) (encl.-1)
1- Los Angeles(info) (encl.-1) 1 - Memphis (61-34) FJ 1- Louisville(info) (encl.-1) 1- Mobile(info) (encl.-1)

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REC-16

THE PARTY



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

<u>6</u> _	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) & 7C; & 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 yo
<u>.</u>	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 FBL.
	Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
[]	For your information:
	Tot you. Monacion.
	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Post Office Box 948
Savannah, Georgia
June 8, 1959

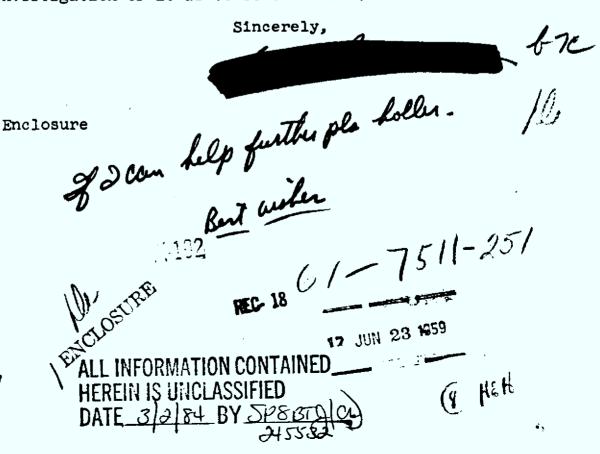


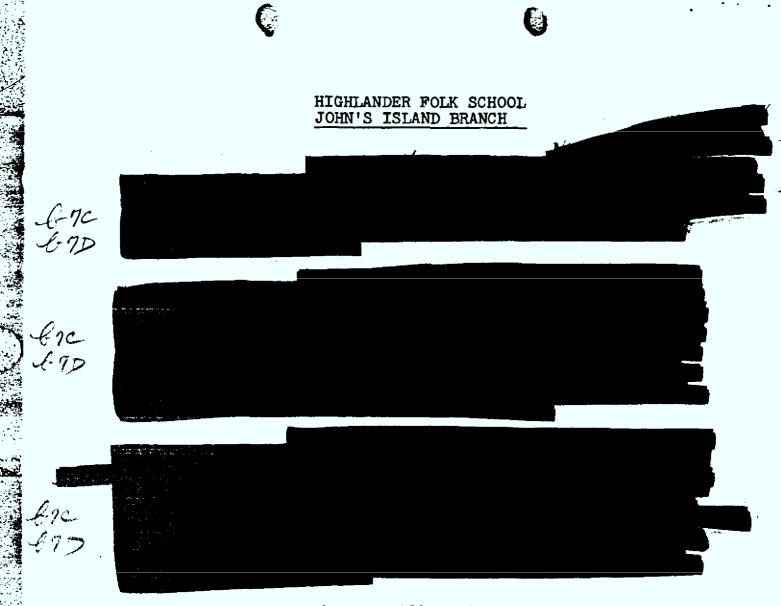
Mr. Cartha D. DeLoach Assistant Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C.

Dear Deke:

I have had our files checked on the John's Island branch of the Highlander Folk School, and I hope that the attached information will be of help.

As you know, the Bureau has instructed that we are not to get involved in any controversy relating to the Highlander Folk School, and no investigation of it is to be conducted.





The Knoxville Office, by letter dated January 21, 1957, advised that the files of that office pertaining to the Highlander Folk School disclosed no information received from any volunteer sources regarding any "experimenting" on John's Island on the part of the Highlander Folk School. The file did disclose that various sources had volunteered information that the school holds sessions of study during the summers which are called "work shops". It was reported that persons from various sections of the country had been in attendance at such sessions. Among the topics listed for discussions at the work shop held in 1956 were "Positive Resistance, Registering and

 61-7511-95/ ENCLOSURE, Voting, Joint Committee Activity, Transportation, Housing, Parks and Action Through Churches". It was not known whether the "experiments" on John's Island had any relation to these work shops.

ER ED

The following article captioned "Classes Whire Here Sponsored by Folk School", by OTIS PERKINS, appeared in the News and Courier, a daily newspaper published in Charleston, South Carolina, on March 11, 1959:

"Interracial Highland Folk School, which has been under investigation in Tennessee, has sponsored citizenship classes among Charleston County Negroes for the last two years.

"The latest of such classes was completed on John's Island last Thursday. Similar classes —all plugging registration and voting —also have been held on Edisto Island and Wadmalaw Island.

"Reports of the classes had been rumored here for sometime. Their operation was verified yesterday by the man who helped set them up.

"He is Esaw Jenkins, a soft-spoken, mild-mannered Negro leader of John's Island.

Jenkins, who missed formal education, says there's nothing secret or ulterior about his own brand of private education. He gives the impression, himself, of being educated, which grew from private tutoring as an adult.

"'We only want to make them better citizens,' he told this reporter on the island last night. 'The main thing is to teach them voting. We want them to understand how to vote intelligently. We teach them what they ought to know so that when they go down there to register there won't be any embarrassment.'

"The robust Negro leader spoke as he sat in the rear seat of an automobile in front of Wesley AME Church about nine miles northwest of Charleston on River Road.

"Strangely, not a single white person, including the county school superintendent or even officials of the Islands' Citizens Councils, had any direct knowledge the Negro adult classes were being held.

"Jenkins, an honor member of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, said he long had been interested in the Negro people of John's Island, where he grew up.

"He said he heard about the Highlander School and its operation sometime before the classes were set up.

"In 1955, two white girl students of the Tennessee school came to Charleston. They sat with Negroes to observe court procedure. They were admitted integrationists.

"Jenkins recalled they visited his John's Island home while here. He said also that Myles Horton, founder and director of Highlander Folk School, had visited in Charleston County. Horton last was here about a year ago, Jenkins said.

"Jenkins said he approached Highlander on setting up adult classes here.

"Highlander personnel, according to reports, came here and set up the school and then left them to local leadership. Jenkins said the

teacher at John's Island is Bernice W. Robinson, who is paid by the foundation through Highlander Folk School. He says the teachers at Wadmalaw and Edisto Islands also apparently work under the same arrangement.

30

"She declined to discuss details of the operation last night, saying such would have to come from Highlander. The arrangement by which teachers are paid and the number of students enrolled also are available only through Highlander records at the school's Monteagle, Tenn., headquarters, she said.

"The class sessions, which last about three months for each group of students, are held two hours nightly in a building formerly owned by the John's Island School District. The property was purchased by Jenkins, who also operates a grocery store in front of the structure housing the classroom.

"Subjects, besides voting, include reading, writing and sewing, Jenkins reported. He said several men and women students can neither read nor write. Some progress well, be added.

"Jenkins teaches the voting classes, which are held in conjunction with the Palmetto State Voters Assn. The association meets each Monday night. Its purpose, like that of the classes, is to promote Negro registration and voting.

"Students of the classes and persons attending the association meetings, are given sample South Carolina voter registration application blanks.

"The forms are explained point-bypoint and line by line. 'We also try to teach them the meaning of some of the words,' Jenkins said.

"The next classes will be held in December, Jenkins said. He explained that they are held for the period of December through February because no farming is being done during that period.

"Many of the people attending the classes, one John's Islander reported, are completely illiterate. They come in from remote sections. 'Some of them never have seen the city,' he explained. 'They have no idea what's going on outside their section.'

"Jenkins, in answer to a question, said he didn't believe Horton of the controversial Highlander school is a communist. Jenkins said Horton never did or said anything as far as he knew to indicate he was a Red.

"The school has been accused of harboring subversive elements and of being a breeding ground for agitators. It faces the loss of its charter as a privately operated institution as a result of the investigation by the Tennessee Legislature.

"'We don't believe in violence,'
Jenkins said of his association. 'We tell our
people to be respectful. This thing (integration)
can't be done over night. It's a revolution.
There's no use of us fighting over it.' He said
the Highlander school hadn't suggested the classes
as a tool of integration.

"Jenkins owns, besides the grocery, a restaurant in Charleston and some buses. He is a leader of the Wesley Church.

"He says he hopes to start a Negro housing project on the island -- to get Negroes out of shacks.

"Maybe that would serve as an example and they'd try to build better houses,' he commented. Jenkins says he believes in teaching by example. He has put three children through college, and has one child in high school and another in grammar school. He says he hopes other Negroes will do likewise."

REC- 18 Reurlet dated 6-8-59 to Mr. DeLoach, with enclosure. You should contact ind confidentially advise him of the data you furnished re captioned school. 1 - Mr. DeLoach has specifically requested information regarding John's Island Eranch of the Highlander Folk HEREIN IS UNGLASSIFIED MAILED 4 JUN2 2 1959

(61-12)Director, FBI

DATE:

8/11/59

(61-12)SAC, Knoxville

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL IS - C

Enclosed are two copies of newspaper clippings appearing in The Chattanooga Times, a daily publication, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on August 2, 1959, page 1, concerning this school.

> **ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED** HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

7511-252

- Bureau (Encls. 2) - Knoxville

REC- 43 25 AUG 13 1959



4 AT HIGHLANDER ARRESTED IN RAID

Padlock Petition Against School Being Prepared After Whisky Found

Special to The Chattanooga Times MONTEAGLE, Tenn.-Armed tion. with search warrants obtained late Friday night from a justice of the peace at his home, county and state officers led by Dist. Atty. Gen. A. F. Sloan raided the controversial Highlander Folk School near here and broke up a banquet attendand several white persons.

Sloan disclosed Saturday that he was preparing a padlock etition against the school, e presented in court "within ne next few days."

Mrs. Septima P. Clark, 61 who identified herself as director of education at the school, was placed under arrest after officers discovered quantities of whisky and gin on the property.

Three young men, who reportedly interfered with the officers in their efforts to take Mrs. Clark into custody, also were arrested and taken to the Grundy County jail in Alta-!

Released on Bond All were released early Saturday morning after posting cash bonds for appearance at a preliminary hearing next Thursday at 4 p.m. in Alta. mont, presumably before Squire John P. Wright, who issued the search warrants.

Mrs. Clark's bond was set at \$500 on the whisky possession charge. The men, released under bond of \$250 each on charges of drunkenness, interfering with efficers and resisting arrest, were identified as

Brent Eugene Barksdale. 22, of Los Angeles; Guy Hughes Carawan Jr. 32, also of Los Angeles, an entertainer with some renown as a folk singer and musician, and Perry Mac-Kay-Sturges, 84, Shelter Island Heights, N.Y. Lapper 1 1:25

The men, as well as others at the school, had been participating in one of the regular summer workshops conducted by the institution which has admitted its strong advocacy of racial integra-

Atty. Gen. Sloan said the padlock petition against the school would be presented to Circuit Judge C. C. Chattin, explaining that the school then would have five days to appear in court and answer the petition.

The attorney general said his ed by 30 or more Negro couples petition "in all likelihood". would

Se Page Eleven, Column One

ARRESTED IN RAID

From Page One

also include a request for an order that the charter of Highlander be revoked. If such an order were

committee earlier this year con-cluded its probe of the school for the institution's regular op-by urging action leading toward erations. by urging action leading toward revocation of the charter.

Sloan said he would charge in his padlock petition that the school is a "public nuisance" and is "engaging in law violations" by possessing and serving whisky and other intoxicating beverages in a dry county.

Mrs. Clark, an elderly Negro woman, was the only school official present when the raiding party arrived late Friday night. Myles Horton, director of the school, reportedly is abroad with his family. Mrs. Clark told officers she was in charge in Horton's absence.

oining Sloan in the raid were Elston Clay, Grundy County sheriff: Kenneth Shelton, Tennessee Bureau of Criminal Identification; county deputies and members of the highway patrol.

Highlander Folk School Tor many years has been operating leaders from throughout the nation, but especially in the South, and has pushed openly for speed-up in school integration in the Southern states. Most of the seminars and workshops at Highlander are operated on an integrated basis.

Charges that the school has Communistic leanings were explored rather thoroughly by the legislative committee, several members of which felt teat the ultra-liberal positions of Highlander officials place them in the class of "left-wingers." Horton and others on the staff have denied repeatedly any Communist connections and the inves tigators failed to turn up ar real proof to support the charge committee, however, ommend that the schools status as a tax-exempt institution be ended and its charter revoked.

Should Judge Chattin sustain the attorney general's plea for padlocking the school, the order would remain in effect until the October term of circuit court when another hearing would be scheduled on the question of making the order permanent.

Sloan said Saturday that he had no intention of denying be revoked. If such an order were issued, it would be directed to the secretary of state.

A legislative investigating would prohibit their continued is secretary of state.

The Chattanooga Times 8-2-59 Page 1 Chattanooga, Tennessee

Martin. S. Ochs, Editor

Knoxville Office

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3 2 84 BY SPER

61-7511-252

ENCLOSURE ,

14 ATHIGHLANDER ARRESTED IN RAI

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Should Judge Chattin sustain the attorney general's plea for padlocking the school, the order would remain in effect until the October term of circuit court; when another hearing would be scheduled on the question of making the order permanent.

Sloan said Saturday that he had no intention of denying residential use of the homes on the grounds of the school, but that his petition, if granted, would prohibit their continued use as gathering places and sites for the institution's regular operations

The Chattanooga Times 8-2-59 Page 1 Chattanooga, Tennessee

Martin S. Ochs, Editor

Knoxville Office

Office Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT : Director, FBI (61-7511) DATE: 9/11/59 TO CONFIDENTIAL : SAC, Knoxville (61-12) HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL SUBJECT: MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING Enclosed is original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum concerning captioned matter This memorandum is not being disseminated to local intelligence agencies. CC TO:4.5.I.A. REQ. REC'D. //- 30 - 6 WAT ATE AGENCIES OFFICES DEC 9 1964 CONTRACTOR OF STREETS AND EAGIN 13 SHARING ENCHET WELRE SHOWN CTHERWISE. 20 SEP 14 1959 Bureau (Enc. Knoxville Classified 6 % of 1 23 1959



UNCO STATES DEPARTMENT OF OTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No. 617 Walnut Street, S.W. Kroxville 02, Tennessee September 11, 1959

AFFRICATE AGENCIES

AND VIEW (S) OF 3 5 84 A

CONFINENTIAL

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL HOTTLAGLE, TENTESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING CC TO:
REQ. REG'D.
DEC 9 1964
ANS.
BY:

A copy of a mimeographed letter was received by the Knoxville Office of the FBI bearing the return address of the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee. This mimeographed letter reads as follows:

"Highlander Folk School Monteagle, Tennessee

From Myles Forten to Fellow Tennesseans:

The State Legislative Investigation instigated by Atty. Genl. Bruce Bennet of Arkansas spectacularly failed to prove that Highlander's stand on integration was subversive. Nevertheless our District Atty. was instructed to find some other excuse for closing the school.

While I was away something happened that shocked all decent people. Mrs. Septima blark, Highlander's Educational Director, an outstanding church woman, was arrested and hauled off to jail in the midst of an integrated workshop. (At present she is conducting a workshop attended by 33 people, including a number of foreign visitors sent by the State Department, with her usual dignity.)

According to the Nashville Tennessean Sloan agreed that the raid, which he directed, was for the purpose of finding whiskey so he could have the school closed. "The members of the legislative committee gave me information mostly on integration and communism,"

ALL INFORDETION COUTAINED
HERELE IS LOGICAC TO IED
EXCLET WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

61-75/1-3 CONPUDENTIAL ENCLOSURE Glassified by DPR BILL (4)
Declassify as CALR (4)



Re: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

said Sloan, "and I wasn't satisfied I could be successful at that. I thought maybe this was the best shot and I think now I'll be successful."

In a letter of protest, Dr. Roger L. Shinn, TENN recently professor of Christian Ethics at Vanderbilt University, wrote:

After a long history of unfair heckling and absurd charges brought against the Highlander Folk School, I suppose I should not be surprised at the latest episode. But I thought that some of your foes might have the wisdom to keep quiet after their ridiculous efforts at the last session of the state legislature. During my years in Tennessee I was glad for the Christian and democratic idealism of Highlander Folk School. You have been investigated repeatedly and have been vindicated against false and malicious charges.

Sloan is insisting that Highlander be padlocked as a public nuisance. A hearing has been set for Sept. 14 at 9:00 am at the Grundy County Courthouse in Altamont.

Many of our friends have written or called to say they will be at Altamont early Monday morning. I would like very much to have you with us also. Your very presence will show that Tennesseans want fair play and will do a great deal to keep this unprecedented action from turning into a second Scopes Trial. At the first hearing the courtroom was packed with Atty. Sloan's rooting section well before court opened. You will want to get to Altamont early. Let us know if you will want to spend Sunday night at Highlander.

P.S. A few of the many letters of support and encouragement are enclosed."

The Knoxville News-Sentinel, Knoxville, Tennessee, a daily newspaper, in the issue of August 1, 1959, carried a news article datelined at Monteagle, Tennessee, which reported as follows:





Re: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

"County and state law enforcement officials raided integrated Highlander Folk School last night, arrested a Negro woman and three white men and consicated a quantity of liquor.

"The school was the subject of an investigation by the 1959 state Legislature, which sought indication of Communistic activities or teachings at the school.

"The Negro woman arrested was Mrs. Septima P. APPROX Ciark, 61, who said she was director of education for Highlander and in charge during the absence of School Director Myles Horton, now in Europe.

Liquor in Horton Home

"She was charged with possessing whisky after raiders said they found bottles of gin and rum and a keg containing whisky in the home of Morton. She was jailed pending receipt of bond. Grundy County is prohibition.

"Dist. Atty. Ab Sloan, who directed the raid along with Grundy County Sheriff Elston Clay and Tennessee Bureau of Identification Agent Kenneth Shelton, said he plans to file a petition seeking that Highlander be declared a public nuisance and be closed.

"The raiding part of 15 hit the school shortly after an estimated 30 Negro men and women and several young white couples had finished a banquet and were watching a movie.

"The search warrant was signed by Justice of the Peace John P. Wright.

Reld on Several Charges

"Others arrested and jailed at Altamount, the county seat, on charges of drunkenness, interfering with officers and resisting arrest were Brent Eugene APPROX 19 Barksdale, 22, of Los Angeles, Calif., Guy Hughes Cara- B. APPROX 19 wan, Jr., 32, of Los Angeles, and Perry Mackay Sturges, B. APPROX 17, 34, Shelter Island Heights, N.Y.



CONFINENTIAL

Re: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

"A committee from the 1959 Legislature held several hearings on Highlander and then visited the school itself. It reported it found the school engaged in a "very questionable activity" and recommended its tax-exempt charter be revoked.

"Norton has denied repeatedly any Communistic connections at the school. The school does not hold formal classes but conducts discussions and seminars and is frequently addressed by guest speakers."

advised to the effect "the Anghlander Folk School is an institution located near Monteagle, Tennessee. It is an institution with classes on a seminar basis and is supported primarily by donations from individuals, from labor unions in the form of payments for students who attend, and to some extent by the Farmers Union. It offers courses of instruction in labor organization, social economics, parliamentary procedure, and the general field of labor education. This school has had Communist Party members on its staff and as instructors, and has followed the practice of welcoming Communist Party members as students, but to my knowledge the school has never offered courses of instruction in Communist matters nor has the Communist element ever completely controlled the institution".

This memorandum is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

CONF. L.VIIAL

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In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

UNDED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

617 Walnut Street, S.W. Knoxville 02, Tennessee September 11, 1959

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to letterhead memorandum dated September 11, 1959, at Knoxville, Tennessee.

This memorandum is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3 2 84 BY Spectago

MAILED SEP 1 & 1958

4910

September 15, 1959

HIL INFORMATION CONTAINS HEREIN IS UNFLASSIFIED PLONET WATER SHOWN OTHERWISE.

MIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MILES MORTON, DIRECTOR Monteagle, Tennessee Classified by PO BT CA Declassify on: OADE 3 P84

All confidential informents referred to in this memorandum have furnished reliable information in the past.

advised that myles Morton, Mighlander Folk School, Monteagle.
Tennessee, was a speaker at a meeting of the Southern
Conference for Human Welfare which was held in Mashville.
Tennessee, on April 19 through 21, 1942.

Morton spoke on the importance of training the youth of the nation both vocationally and in democracy.
The Southern Conference for Human Welfare has been eited by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report,
March 29, 1944, page 147 as a "Communist front which received money from the Robert Marshall foundation, one of the principal sources of the funds by which many Communist fronts operate."

furnished the following information concerning the Highlander Folk School:

The Highlander Folk School is an institution located near Monteagle, Tennessee. It is an institution with classes on a seminar basis and supported primarily by donations from individuals, from labor unions in the form of payments for students who attend, and to some extent by the Farmer's Union. It offers courses of

Req. rectd 9/8/59

State Lisison)

NOTE: Substance of above furnished OSI-4 April 27, 1956, in response to name check. Thumbnail sketch re Highlander Folk School checkiup to date with August/posk/ Organization Desk.

This memo classified "Confidential" inasmuch as the informants

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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Highlander Folk School Myles Horton, Director Monteagle, Tennessee

instruction in labor organization, social economics, parliamentary procedure and the general field of labor education. This school has had Communist Party members on its staff as instructors, and has followed the practice of welcoming Communist Party members as students, but to my knowledge, the school has never offered courses of instruction in communist matters nor has the communist element ever completely controlled the institution.

Another Governmental agency which conducts intelligence investigations has advised that Louis Francis Budenz, former editor of the "Daily Worker," an east coast communist newspaper which suspended publication January 13, 1958, and an admitted former official in the Communist Party, advised on Movember 21, 1952, that the Highlander Folk School was procommunist.

On April 19, 1949, Paul Crouch, a self-admitted former member of the Communist Party, furnished to this Bureau a signed statement in which he described Myles Horton as a left wing Socialist who was always elese to ... the Communist Party. According to this statement Horton met With officials and representatives of the Communist Party to discuss policy and procedure during the period from 1939 to 1941; and, even though he showed some independence in thought, Horton usually followed the Communist Party line. The statement continues that in 1941 Horton could have been described as a close sympathizer and follower of the Communist Party line; and that his wife, Zylphia Horton, was even closer to the Party than her husband. According to Crouch's statement, when he last saw Zylphia Horton in 1941 she was seriously considering joining the Communist rerty.

that on various occasions between 1947 and 1950, Myles Horton closely followed and paralleled the Communist Party 1,7311-259

1

Highlander Folk School Myles Horton, Director Monteagle, Tennessee

line in political, economic, and social doctrines and associated with known Communist Party members. In the opinion of the informant, Horton was not a member of the Communist Party.

LAD

the Communist Party even though he had close association with Party members.

810

For your additional information please be advised that Myles Horton referred to above testified in public session before the Jenner Committee on March 20, 1954. You may desire to consult records of this Committee for additional information concerning the subject of your inquiry. The Highlander Folk School has been the subject of considerable newspaper publicity in the State of Tennessee, particularly, in the Chattanooga, Tennessee area. (61-7511-193)

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Mem randum · UNITED

GOVERNMENT

Director, 'FBI (61-7511)

DATE: 11/5/59

SAC, Knoxville (61-12)

SUBJECT: C

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL Monteagle, Tennessee INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed for Bureau files is one autostat copy each of four news articles concerning the Highlander Folk School.

These news items result from a hearing brought against the school by State authorities seeking to revoke the charter of the school.

EX 101

2 - Bureau (Enclosures 4)

Knoxville

15 NOV 12 1959

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₹ NOV 16 1959

Highlander Charged With Integration

ALTAMONT, Tein. Cit. 37 m. The integration issue had feel bruight into a move extension to permanently clear Highlands. Poli School, an interrockal additional action man Managed.

District Atty, Gen. A. F. Sielle yesterday amounted his putition to include a charge that Highleyeler hor updated a Tourne and design which method it "unlocated it where and sphered province the dend the same school."

The district piterary general has subed a court order pavoling. Highlander's tax-enough charler and permanently closing the school as a public automore.

The case will be heard have Tuesday by Circuit Judge Chaster C. Chettin. Sloss has requested a jury trial.

Sloan opened his drive against Highlander last July 31 when he personally led a liquer redd against the controversial 25-year-old institution, which is located to dry Grundy County.

Sloan said tonight even flough

Sloan said tenight even though the Tennessee sugregation law has become unconstitutional as it apglied to public schools, it still should be valled in the capt of private schools.

The state of the s

THE KNOWNILL JOSEPHAL
KNOWNILL, TRANSCESS
OCT. 29, 1959
GUY L. EMETH - EDITOR

REGIALITY DIABLOS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 32 84 BY SPECIAL OFFICE

Highlander Padlock Suit Dropped, State to Ask Charter Be Revoked

Clash of Attorneys Starts Off Hearing

not pursue efforts to obtain a permanent padlock injunction on the main education building at Highlander Folk School located near Monteagle, Tenn., but that it would seek revocation of the school's charter.

After approximately two and a half hours of legal argument between the state and Defense Atty. Cecil Branstetter of Nachville, a selection of a jury

Judge Chester Chattin overruled a demurrer filed by the defense to an amendme the original bill against Highlander Folk School. Among other things the demurrer asserted that the "orginal amended bill shows on its face that it is multifarious.

Atty. Branstetter also argued that the charges against High-lander Folk School were "s shotgun approach trying to find omething, I assume."

Relative to the amendm

Partly Cloudy,





conducting interracial clauses in

be constitutional for private inthat the constitutional right of (Continued on Pa

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Chattanooga News-Free Press Chattanooga, Tennessee 11-3-59 Kies Anderson, Editor

HIGHLANDER CHARTER HIT

(Continued From Page 1)

wort that Highlander Folk School admits that it has oparated classes for Negroes and 'almost since it began' over 25 years ago.

He said that the court would enjoin Highlander from per-forming commercial activities in the future, and that briefs could be submitted relative to the question of whether or not Highlander has violated the law by baying integration in its classrooms.

However, these suggestions asi followed and a short time inter enjection of a jury to hear the case was begun.

SUMPOENA PROTESTED

The defense also objected to a subpoens requiring Myles Horton, Bighland Folk School director, to bring to court a mass of records of the school's operation. Anony the things requested by the state were the corporation's bylews and charter, all minutes meetings deeds and ni a of sale, all records of donations to the achool and the and receipts and all transfers of) property by Highlander to other individue (a

Atterney Branstetter told the in that this would require "B serloads, and I mean boxcar loads, of records." He Went on to say that this was an unreasonable request, since it had core from made by the state yes-

The Madiville attorney then moved that the subposes be qualted, modified or vacation.

Padge Chattin remarked tha seque vita except the arbilities today Mr. Bransteth Afterney Allen Kelly of South Shound and ship stage, we're to

The Judge than sales & folms If they would like a gramm " N. S. 100 Alm to select the and Atty Branstatter replies Dant though the distance of

1

The court room was filled to metty and a number of pera Acres balters Atty. Kelly, Atty. Ge baliway. is assisted by Atty & Pork Relibion South Pittsburg law

The dropping of the s effort to have a permanent padlook infunction placed on Elgh-lander's main soucation building means that the pastock will be removed from that building im-The building was mediately. padiocked several weeks ago after a hearing on a temporary pedlock proceeding Judge Chat tin at that time found the had been sold in that building by Highlander without a Ross and to minors

The state said this marriag that it is not moving against any individual connected with Highlander, but that its action to aimed at the corporation itself.

Atty. Branstetter and the state was "on a fishing expedi-tion." when it sought the records of Highlander. He also remarks

on another occasion that the wash its hands before it came time Clark, was inducted state is committing acts of into the sourtream this morning charge of whisky possession.

oppression. The state has not come to 4 Indicted as Result this court with clean pands, Of Highlander Raid the defense attorney state. Atty ALTAMONT, Tenn. (AP)—The

والمراقبين ويهوا والجواروي

"Go wash your hands. Atty
Gen Sinan multired suchity to Grundy County grand jury returning. Shelter Island Heights, Attys. Kally and Easterd who ad indictments Membray against They were charged with a research man at the Highlander Folk School's education table.

When Atty, Kelly west even to address the court, he apologised for the neglect of the state to The school efficial, Mrs. September continued.

The three men. ing part in a works school, were Brent Euger dale, 27, Los Angel Hughes Carawan,

Cash bonds pasted by the four at the time of their arrest have

Highlander Hearing Opens Today; Mrs. Clark, 3 Others Are Indicted

By MOUZON PETERS

ALTAMONT, Tenn. - The Ht-| rector and three others tle mountain courthouse among charges of possessing moonshine the colorful maples in the county whisky at the school. seat of Grundy County will be the Indictments setting Tuesday of the second act; late Monday in the current legal drama entitled Septima. Clark, the education Highlander Folk Selbool Must director; Brent Eugene Barks-

Opening in Grundy County cir. Hughes Carawan, cuit court is the hearing in which Angeles, and Perry Sturgess, the attorney general of Tennes. 38. Shelter Island Heights, N.K., see's 18n reduced Chyuit will seek Circuit Court Clerk Mrs. Floran order revoking the 25-year-old ence Bouldin revealed. charter of the institution which conducts integrated classes and charge of possession of whisky. workshops and pursues a policy The three men, who were taking of aggressive liberalism.

Pettsbarg, sought a temporary in-charge of his official duty. junction against the operation of the school on grounds it was a public zuisance.

hearing opened when the Grandy County grand jury in-

Mrs. Clark was indicted on a part in a workshop at the school The first part of the current move against the school was in mid-beptember, when the attorney general, A. F. Sioan of South Petitsburg, sought a temporary in-

Cash bonds, posted by the four at the time of their arrests, were continued, Mrs. Righlander lost a preliminary Bouldin said. No date was set round Monday even before the immediately for their trial.

Circuit Judge Chester C. Chatdicted the school's education di- See Page Two, Column Three

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3 3 RU BY SPERTO

HEARING ORENS ON BIGHLANDER

From Page Con

tin at that time agreed to the pad locking of one building among the amous. He ruled that the state's attorney had proved a charge that beer had been dispensed flierally the one building, but that m proof had been submitted to substantiate charges of rowdy bolsterous conduct or of iso immoral practices at the se

Atty. Gen. Sloan, in addition to attacking Highlander in the hearing spening Tuesday charges of his original petition, will seek revocation of the charter on the claim that operations of th subobl have violated terms of the

In addition, although the attactive yearers and said during the first bearing and since that racial saues were not involved, he last week filled an amendment to his netition to charge that Highlander is in violation of a 58-year-old Tenpessee law which forbids white persons and Negroes from attend-

ing the same classes. Myles Horion, founder and president of Highlander, and others associated with the defense have ex-

pressed some rather confused sur-

prise at the amendment. We are willing to stipulate that Highlander is integrated," Horton. "We hardly see how it is possible, though, to be in violation of a statute siready held to be invalid by both state and federal

The actions in circuit court followed by several months an investigation by a special committee of Tennessee legislators. Seeking evidence of subversive activities at the institution located a few miles bouth of here between Tracy City and Monteagle, this or mittee visited the school and b everal sessions for taking of ter timony, but came up with a repo pointing up nothing more sp

visttanoogaTimes Chattanooga, Tennessee 11-3-59 -Mertih Ochs Editor Knokville Division

HIGHLANDER CASE GIVEN RACE ISSUE

Sloam's Petition Against School Amended, Holds State Law Violated

By MOUZON PETERS

gext Tuesday morning.

A. F. (Ab) Sloan of South

Pittsburg, attorney general for
Tennessee's 15th judicial circuit, that the school had been the tegration at Highlander abouth some of immoral conduct and incorporated in the complete bave the school's charter reTennessee's 15th judicial circuit, that the school had been the tegration at Highlander aboutd incorporated in the complete bave the school's charter reTighting, quarreling and drumb, against the institution and alleg the complete base managing the complete base proved in court.

That said corporate defends the court in the mornishing of Tennessee's 15th judicial circuit, that the school had been the tegration at Highlander about incorporated in the complete base proved in the complete base of the second in the complete base of the court in the wants to second the law of the said that the second in the complete base of the court in the petition of the second the law of the law of the second the law of th termanently, amended his peti- had not been proved in court. That said corporate defendant tion to include the rabial issue Cacil F. Bransteter of Nath- has violated the provisions of Ten-in an appearance before Circuit ville, attorney for Highlander, nessee Code Annotated 49-3701

at Highlander Felk School is again again that integration ate which, the petition says, "doclares it to be unlawful for white as Oct. 23 in a special inter and colored persons to attend published by "Concern, the same school."

charter revocation case on the setting to do with the state's same allegations contained in the petition for temperary padiook which brought the hearing resulting Sept. 16 in a ruling resulting Sept. 16 in a ruling said the racial question was not closing Highlender's LTAMONT, Tenn.-The is- tration building. Although a number of changes were made, ected into the Highlander Felk Judge Chattin at that time held they teach as long of case which reopens here that only the charge of flugal the law. It is up to Tuesday morning.

Judge Chester C. Chattin at confessed to some surprise at which declares it to be unlawful Winchester Tuesday. the attorney general's amount for white and colored persons to Winchester Tuesday, the attorney general's amend for white and colored persons to This latest move in the case ment. "As I understood it," said attend the same school, in that it by Atty. Gen. Sloan charges Branstetter, "the attorney gen- is now and has in the part conthat racial integration practiced eral has said time and time tinususly operated said school on

monthly magazine Prior to this, the attorney Nashville by the National Congeneral was predicating the ference of Methodist Youth, charter

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/2/84 BY 5/8/8/19

The Chattanooga Times On Monnooga, Tennocies 10-29-59 Martin Ochs, Editor

and void."

The attorney g ing a jury trial

The case will get under way the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 3, with arguments on Highlander's Memurrer to the original bill as ingo temporarily, Horton amended.

In addition to the interview with the attorney general, the Methodist youth publication "Conoern," printed an interview with Myles Horion, president and founder of Highlander. Asked to explain the objections of local residents to the school's activities,

Asked his opinion tember hearing which re a decision closing one of his build-**60**mmented "It was a dignified, properly conducted trial."
"However," he added,

HIGHLANDER OFFICIAL

-The High NEW lander Folk School is continu- Next Monday, she said, for-ing its interracial program is mer students at Highlander will is to help Negroes

bers and against the institutions a "public nuisance."
On Oct. 11 and 12, she said

24 ministers from six Southern states came to a workshop session on ways of cooperating with social workers and social security representatives in most ing the needs of members of their local communities. A second workshop for ministers is scheduled for Nov. 27-28, she - mid.

Horizon noted that "attacks ing its interractal program is mer students at Highlander will is to help Negroes enably for against Highlander have been for spite of sourt actions confront-open literacy night schools for voting and to teach them about numerous reasons — subversion, by it, according to the educated adults on islands off the South traffic laws, fire prevention and communism, integrated activities tion director of the institution Carolina coast. Their purpose cooperatives, she said.



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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

DATE:

2/5/60

FROM

SAC, KNOXVILLE (61-12)

SUBJECT: CHIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING

> Enclosed for Bureau files is one autostat copy of news article in Chattanooga Times, Chattanooga, Tennessee, issue of 1/12/60 concerning the Highlander Folk School.

This item relates to the pending case brought by state authorities seeking to revoke the charter of the school.

Bureau (Encl. - 1)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED (HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED , DATE 3/2/84 BY SP8 BI

FEB 8 1989



HIGHLANDER CASE IS DELAYED ANEW

15 Days Granted to State for Filing of Briefs by Judge C. C. Chattin

Special to The Challenouse Nucle

WINCHESTER, Tenn. — As an ditional 15 days has been granted to state's attorneys for filing brick in the case involving the controversal Highlander Polk School & Grundy County, Circuit Judge Chester C. Chattin disclosed Manday.

The previous deading for the briefs has just expired and Judge Chattin said the new deading wilbe Tuesday, Jun. 28.

The week-long hearing in which the district afterney general had scripht as order revolting the chapter of the school was accepted in throat securit at Artescent light. June 6 At their Core Judge Challer gover supporting content until fire to to five written better The dee five later was extended to Jan. It and now has been extended again.

At Moun's Request

The new date was set, Judge Chattin said, at the request of & F. (Ab) Stoan of Routh Pittsburg. See district attorney. The previous delay was granted at the request of Cecil Bransletter of Mashville, representing Bighlander.

In a filtion, the count holy declared, Attorney Brandstatter his remarked that both sides be perfectly that could arguments in the case after the briefs have been filed to truestion, be said, would be a lied within a few days.

Unless and arguments are pertilled Judge Chattain's decision to the private of case should come eather. I change if the case is any and surface, the decision would be stabled mill after course is a life to the decision that are in others do her. I be be the beginning hearing in

mitted to the pary. One was that Highlander engaged in such commercial activities as selling best, not drinks, rance bisdes and other stems without a license. The other was that Highlander conducted remailly integrated classes and with those "in violation of Tennasses at 1802 segregation as that it," Highlander, admitting it is an integrated fractivities, offered up defense on this charge except to hold that the state's segregation law as ready has been declared mocesticutional.

Although the state stings to he demand that the court declare the school's charter forfelled, lodge chattin has indicated that, court flough all charges are sustained, sevention of the charter adph to goly a linear reset.

"If there is any other separate of his best and "I surprished it to be seen to that had a

The start has the pools, that finding that the achoel has whithing winds to the terms of the charter tevolent, to order the charter tevolent, to order the tentitutation and appears a recovere to figuriate fix physical aserts, including some series or lend, account buildings and other properties, plant has a cosumb amounting to serial thousand deliants.

Also within the furisdiction of the court and within the realm of "remedies" other than revolution of the charter, is the power to remove Horton as head of the school and to declare null and with the deed by which the school out-veyed a part of the property in Horton. Injunctive proceedings unight he applied as strundies with at a sure of the security solution.

MIDELANDER POLK SCHOOL MONTEGALE, TENNESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING MOVILE 61-7511

THE CHATTAHOOGA TIMES
CHATTAHOOGA, TRAM.
JAN. 12, 1960

KROIVILLE DIVISION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE BY SPERT CO

61-7511-258 ENCLOSURE TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

DATE: February 29, 1960

FROM :

VISAC, LOUISVILLE (61-42)

SUBJECT:

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

IS - C 00:KX ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.

Re Memphis letter, 4/2/59. DATE 3/2

3422391 BA Sharelling

The Leuisville Times, Louisville, Kentucky, a newspaper of general circulation, on 2/20/60, carried a story reporting that FRIENDS OF HIGHLANDER, identified as a new organization here, might be called upon to raise funds to carry litigation, in which the charter of the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL was revoked, to the Supreme Court. The story reported that the school's charter was revoked by a Tennessee Circuit Court on 2/16/60.

miss DORCAS RUTHENBURG (not identified in the story but known to be a writer, director, producer at WHAS - Radio and WHAS - TV, Louisville stations, who has received awards for "public service" programs) was identified as temporary thairman of the newly-formed group. The group was said to consist of 58 Negro and white civic and educational leaders.

The story did not directly state but implied that Miss ALICE COBB, "a religious educator, former Kentucky school teacher and social worker," who stopped in Louisville on 2/19/60, "on her way to clear her things off the premises" of the school, was instrumental in formation of the Louisville group.

According to the story, "Miss COBB told a story of months of harassment of the school and its staff, leading up to the court's contention that HIGHLANDER violates Tennessee's segregation laws as they apply to private schools." She reportedly said, "Southerner's main objection to the school is its workshops teaching uneducated Negroes and white persons how to pass literacy requirements for voting."

Miss COBB was further identified as a former community-organization consultant for the Kentucky State Child Welfare Department for three years, under former Governor

2- Bureau (61-7511)(RM)(2 - Knoxville (61-12)(RM)

- knoxviile (01:12)(
- Louisville 7

(1 - 61-42)(1 - 44-200)

6 3 Th 1960

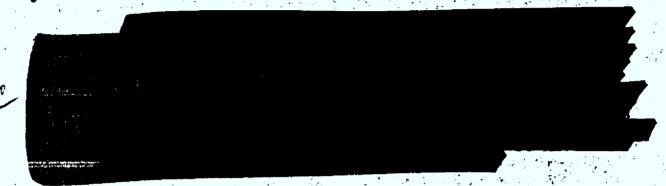
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EX-140-

14 MAR 8 1960

LS 61-42

EARLE C. CLEMENTS prior to which she worked for about ten years in the Pine Mountain Settlement School, Harlan County.



This is being furnished to the Bureau and Knoxville for information. No investigation is being conducted UAC:. Any information received will be furnished Knoxville and the Bureau.

Office Memorandum · United STATES GOVERNMENT

TO

Director, FBI (61-7511)

DATE: 3/2/60

THOM

SAC, Knoxville (61-12)

SUBJECT:

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING

Bu

Enclosed for Bureau files are one each autostatic copy of the following news articles concerning the Highlander Folk School. These news items relate to the case brought by the State of Tennessee authorities seeking to revoke the charter of the school:

News article in Knoxville News-Sentinel, Knoxville, Tennessee, 2/16/60
News article in Chattanooga News-Free Press, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 2/16/60
Editorial in Chattanooga News-Free Press, 2/17/60
Editorial in Chattanooga Times, 2/17/60
News article in Chattanooga News-Free Press, 2/20/60
News article in Knoxville News-Sentinel, 2/23/60

2 - Bureau (Encls - 6) 1 - Knoxville

/pa

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3 2 84 BY SPERTING

REC- 32

61-7511-260

5 MAR 8 1960

EX. - 131

52MAR 10 1000

Highlander Charte Revoked by Court

Judge Cites Segregation **Violations**

School Given 30 Days To Ask for New Trial

ALTAMONT, Tenn., Feb. 16 @-Corruit Judge C. C. Chattin today revoked the charter of controversial Highlander Folk School red the interracial adult education center near Monteagle **ब्रो**ंस्ट्री कार्यसः स्टल्संप्रसाधीकाः

E ar H page decimos filed in Sign to Entropy Ground Court. Terminal Co. #4.27 CEL*100 and laws pertaining to the en of bren.

The judge ruled further that a that giving school property to Lyles Norton, its founder-president, was invebe and that the pri, rety, about 76 acres, must be turned back to the school.

Lew Challenged

Revential of the general welfor charm was about by Diet. the Properties wast but for groups of goth of Horton. المتعاشديك التحريبيع

Bertinder has emtended the PO WARD TO THE WARD TO SEE THE SEE THE

The state of the state of ---

more given here last November. He gave Highlander 20 days in which to file for a new trial

Attorney Comments

There were no immediate comment from Highlander officials.

la Nashville, however, Cacil Branstetter, attorney for Righlander said he would file a motion for a new trial

The decision was not altogether unexpected since in questioning all the jurors and people in the community, as the record shows, they all said that they did not believe in and many said it was against their religion for whites and Negroes to all in the same clared room," Branstetter said other comment might be more over since the matter is still peach before a daily constituted court."

Code Quoted

Chattin's epinion said "Highlander admits it practices inte-gration and that it is a private Institution. That it is an adult education institution was proved by a preponderance of evidence at the trial

This, he said, violates a set of the Tennessee Code that provides

"It shall be unlawful for any school, scademy, college, or other places of learning to allow white and colored persons to attend the same school, academy, college, & other places of learning."

derive basista Cantila said

Board of Education . . . held that the foregoing statute was unconstitutional. The defendant further insists that the 14th Amendbent of the Constitution of the U. S. forpids state action based on race.

Boline Quoted

The Supreme Court held as follows in the Brown case: We conclude that in the field of public education on the doctrine of separate but equal has no place."

"The relator (the state) insists that this holding does not render the statute unconstitutional as to private schools. The statute may be unconstitutional and woul to their application to a serie their subject matter an aid as w other parts, or, to state the most lors more concretely, they may be constitutional in operation with respect to some persons and states of fact, and unconstitutional to others."

Chattin then ruled:

"The court is of the opinion that the segregation laws of the state as applied to private schools are ron titutional and valid . . .

Ber Sale Recalled

Chattin said Highlander vio-lated the criminal laws of the beer on school property.

state by permitting the sale of "The court," he said, "is of further opinion that the defendants having violated the criminal laws of the state in that it has permitted the sale of beer to be carried out upon its property without a permit, or license, and permitting integration in its school, works a forfeiture of its charter, the defendant having accepted its charter with the condition that 's violation of any of the provisions of this charter shall subject the corporation into dissolution at the insistence of the

The Knoxville News Scatinel Knoxville, Tenn. Loye W. Miller. Editor.

HUME Edition

Dated 2-16-60 Page

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENN INFORMATION CONCERNIA BUFILE 61-7511

Mighlander Decree Wording Given

Fourth PITTSBURG, Term., Feb. 23 (UPI)—Judge Chester Chattin yesterday received the state's opinion on what should be said in Chattin's revocation fecree for Highlander Folk School's charter.

Cecil Branstetter of Nashville, defense attorney for the controversial racially integrated institution near Monteagle, is also expected to submit a decree construction what the defense mining what the defense mining beautiful so note the order.

F Chattin can use either or writed one of his own. The eventual order will go into the record and a receiver will be appointed to close out the affairs of the school. After the decree's issuance, the defense has 30 days in which to

appeal.

Bransletter had indicated he will

ask for a new trial.

Chattin ordered the charter revocation last week saying in his opinion, the school's integrated seminars and workshops violated his grate's segregation law. HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENN INFORMATION CONCERNING BUFILE 61-7511

Highlander Hooked

From its Red-tinged beginnings, Highiander Folk School near Monteagle, Tenn., has been a notorious, disgraceful, leftwing, integrationist institution in highly questionable purposes. But it has gone along imperturbably, angeled by a band of nationally-known leftwing quacks.

For a change, Highlander Folk School now seems to be in real trouble.

Judge Chester C. Chattin officially ruled yesterday that the state charter of the school be revoked, that 70 scres of school land given to Director Myles Horton revert to the school, and that a receiver be appointed to dispose of the institution's properties.

Judge Chattin found Highlander guilty of breaking the state laws against maintenance of a racially integrated institution. He pointed out that the Warren Court's 1954 ruling entity to knock down state laws proposition in public schools—but did not attack laws prohibiting integration in private schools. Another

violation involved clear proof that Highlander had engaged in the illegal sale of heer without a license, like an ordinary hootlegging joint. The third violation listed by the judge was operation of the supposedly non-profit school with Horion profiting in the form of the 70acre land grant. The judge also noted there were no official documents establishing Horion's salary and that checkwriting was done by Horion at his discretion.

If appeal is carried far enough, the ruling involving integration may be everturned. But it would be difficult to get around the beer-bootlegging and the private-profit-counts involving violations of the non-profit charter.

Integrationists are claiming Highlander is being persecuted because of its racial mixing. But the integrationists in taking up for Highlander put themsalves in the peculiar posture of inallying that Highlander should be permitted to violate the law to bootley and run for private profit because it is integrated.

Chattanooga News-Free Press P-17-60 Chattancoga, Tenn. Lee Anderson, Edito: Knoxville Division

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENN INFORNATION CONCERNING BUFILE 61-7511

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/3/84 BY 5/85/0100

HIGHLANDER TO STAY OPEN

Press Conference Held in Washington

WASHINGTON — Mrs. Septima Clark, education director of the Highlander Folk School, and Friday the institution will attempt to operate despite a court order shutting it down.

Mrs. Clark summoned a press conference at the Washington Hotel to denounce the ruling Tuesday by Judge Chester C. Chattin closing the 27-year-old school.

She passed out mimeographed find the saying the ruling was a "blow to the peaceful and constructive efforts made at find School to achieve racial integration in an educational institution."

This is to keep the school open while the decision is being appraised." The statement de-

Mer Mark told newsmen the achies a coard will meet Monday and lucaday at an unspecified place to make plans for conunity the educational program Whole further legal steps are

Judge Chaffin revoked the school charter Tuesday on grounds that heer was sold there litegally, that integration at the school violated a Tennessee of the School Director Myles Horton had Tennessee of land deeded to him from

Mrs Consider A we did not send any page school would remain to the page that a courtesproint; receiver has before the mind of the school the courtesproint; receiver has before the mind of the colleges may select for the school and bountagle property is formations.

The emphasized that a workshop of "Serial Yards and Sectal Resources" Ehebried for Pub. 20 to 21 was canceled "paly because heavy snows have made the mountain roads impassable."

Mrs. Clark also distributed sopies of the Highlander School's 37th annual report, which showed the school is planning a workshop on consumers' problems at Charleston, S.C., March 25-27, another on "The College Student and Social James" at the Monteagle site April 1-2, and on "Community Services and Segregation" at Monteagle May 22-27,

May 22-27,
Another workshop, satisfied,
"Voting and Registration," is
scheduled for June 50 to July 5.

Mrs. Clark apent most of the 30-minute press conference describing her arrest last July 21, along with three male students who were accused of drunkenbess and resisting arrest.

She said she was in Washington to attend a national conference of "Now (National Organization of Whinen) for Equality in Education". She added that she is a gift, of the American Jewish Chiggess National Women's Division.

Chattanooga News-Free Press Chattanooga, Tennessee 2-20-60 City Edition Lee Anderson, Editor Page 3 Column 1 Knoxville Division

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENN INFORMATION CONCERNING BUFILE 61-7511

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The Highlander Ruling

A legislative committee investigated Highlander Folk School, near Monteagle, following a recommendation in January 1959 from Arkasses Attorney General Bruce Bennett, who said that W Highlander were in his district he would close it.

Today Mr. Bennett, who came to Nashville a year ago to consult with the committee, is saying something must be some to counter all the hirt-ful publicity Arkansas has received in the segregation controversy. But whatever one may think of Highlander—and, as we have stated, we are not and have not been partisans of the school—at stands closed in a monumental case of persecution and political self-glorification that does Teanessee damage in the eyes of a freedom-loving nation.

The General Assembly's committee, after a \$5,000 inquiry in which Gov. Ellington showed a notable lack of enthusiasm, directed District Attorney Sloan of South Pittsburg to investigate the possibility of closing the school. Two of the Assembly's best-known extremists, pushing the trobe, hinted of subversion.

At no time in the trial of the case, however, has subversion been charged by the state. At one time, in fact, the charges were reduced to selling beer without a license and personal gain by Highlander's director, Myles Horton. Testimony showed that some beer had in fact been sold and that Mr. Horton had been deeded property at the school in return for a number of years' service without salary. Mr. Sloan stated at one point that the school's policy of integration since 1912 had "not a thing in the world" to do with the case. "It is up to the individual if he wants to socialize with colors people—I defend the law."

But the segregation, vertica and its exploita-

Judge Chester C. Chattin finds that integra-

The Chattancega Time: 2-17-60 Chattancoga, Tenn. Martin S. Ochs, Editer Knexville Divisien

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENN INFORMATION CONCERNING BUFILE 61-7511

L. a private actical violates Tennessee law, and Fish a agents now expected to move for the clause of the Verteria products argued and the reveal other private facilities, with a few

is well, it seems to as thei appeal of the sime is which is result to consideration by the constitutionality of tax-paying between by any regular private anhoule and

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Violution of Segregation Law, Sales of Beer Cited by Judge



By T. GRADY GALLANT
Judge Chester C, Chattin to day revoked the general welfare charter of controversal Highiander Folk School and ruled that a "receiver will be appointed by the court to wind up the defendant's affairs."

In violation of a section of the their insists that the 14th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States forbids charter of controversal Highschool, academy, college, or other state action based on race.

"The Supreme Court beld as the defendant's affairs."

The judge's brief was relearning."

The judge's brief was re-learning." ceived at Altamont, Tenn., the In his optnion,



Highlander Folk School proper Supreme Court of the U.S. In the problem more concrete ties under the ruling.

the case of Brown vs Board of they may be constitutional



of separate but equal has no

county seat of Grandy County, stated:

this morning around 9 o'clock

Judge Chattin alzo ruled void
a deed whereby Myles Horton, founder and director of Highlander, had been presented with
some 70 acres of school lands

The land will revert back to

"Defendant (Highlander Folk Tennesses) insists that this prections holding does not render the statute unconstitutional as to
rive back salary."

This land will revert back to

"Defendant insists that the that it is a pristatute unconstitutional and void as some 70 acres of school lands proved by a preponderance of their subject matter, invalid

"Defendant insists that the that the as to other parts, or, to state

Highlander Folk School properSupreme Court of the U.S. in the mother more concretely.

Chattanooga News-Free Press Chattanooga, Tenn. nexville Division

Re Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn. INFO CONCERNING Bufile 61-7511

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HIGHLANDER CHARTER VOID (Continued From Page 3)

persons and states of fact, and unconstitutinonal as to others.

Judge Obațiin then ruled: The court is of the opinion that the segregation laws of the as applied to private schools are constitutional and

BILL BALL

The court found that Highlander Folk School violated the criminal laws of the state by permitting the sale of beer on school property.

Judge Chattin ruled:

The court is of further opinion that the defendants having violated the criminal laws of the state in that it has permitted the sale of beer to be carried out upon its property! without a permit, or license, and permitting integration in its school, works a forfeiture of its charter, the defendant having defendant school have eve accepted its charter with the condition that 'a violation of any of the provisions of this in the Illegal operation of the charter shall subject the corporation into dissolution at the insistence of the state."

Judge Chattin also noted in

his opinion:

"The court is of the further dent of the defendant corporation, has been operating this solved for his own personal. The judge, who resides at gdin is such a misuse of de. Winchester, gale the defendant fender its charter as works for 8' days in which to appeal. feiture of same."

The judge also stated in his reached by telephone.

opinion:

af eil that Myles "Com of hindly, in valuable imy. It by the de-twentant, Habitander Folk Boloof, Test be handles all the there of the school That although Miss May Justes was the scoretery and treasurer of the en'out one did not write the shocks or handle the fimancer of the school

Wrote all orkors

The progident, Myles Marine fendant. He wrote all the checks, or designated someone when he was away, to write the checks. He had used the defendant's money to pay his household servanta

"He reared a family on the defendant's property and all the expense of taking care of himself and family through 25 years were paid out of defendant's funds...

"Horton testified that during the first years of the school he put everything into the building of the school with the idea of getting it out of the school at a later sate. Horton -tretified that for the past few years he has been receiving a salary of some \$9,000 annually. However, he was unable to preduce any record of directors, or executive council, having fixed his salary. The inference is that he fixed his own salary.

"There isn't sny proof that the governing officers of the tested any of the acts of Horton

"The charter of the defendant provides: The general welfare of society, not individual profit, is the objective for which this charter is granted, and the opinion that in the view of the members are not stockholders findings of the jury to the ef. in the legal sense of the term, feet that Myles Horton, presi, and no dividende or profits shall be divided among them." " Judge

Mr. Horton could not be

Dist. Atty. Gen. A. F. Sloan, "The prey melerance of the South Pittsburg, Tenn. is out.

arnet Highlander Polk School He was assisted by C. P. Swafford, assistant district stierner general, Dayton, Tenn.; Atty. Alian Kelly, South Pittsburg, and Atty, Sam Polk Raulston, South Pittsburg.

Atty. Decil Branstitter to Nashville was chief attorney for the defense.

Atty. Kelly, reached by telephone in Japper, Tenn., had this to say concerning the decision of Judge Chatting

For the state we feel that Judge Chattin's decision was entirely correct based upon the uncontroverted evidence to the record and the provisions of law applicable thereto.

Judge Chattin's opinion is very thorough and well-reasoned and shows that he has fully given regard to the theories and insistances of both the relator (the state) and the defendant (Highlander Folk Bchool).

FEEL RULING TO STAND

"We feel assured that in event recourse to the appellate courts is had, Judge Chattin's decision will be sustained on all decisive points," Atty. Kelly seid.

The Associated Press in Nashville reported that Atty. Branstetter, attorney for High-lander Folk School, made this comment:

The decision was not altogether unexpected since in questioning all the jurors and people in the community, as record shows, they all said that they did not believe in and many said it was against their religion for whiter and Negroes to sit in the same classroom.

"Any other comment might be improper since the matter is still pending before a duly constituted court," the Nashville

attorney said.

Mr. Horton said that he has taiked with B. R. Brazeal, dean of Morehouse College, Atlanta, Gs., and that a meeting of the full board of directors of High-Minder will be belo of the school sent Tues ay stop of \$400 ofeline (CPT).

ed. The directors will hold an all-dry serior tip following day, and at this time will decid We Will to " Botton a

UNITED STAT

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TO

DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

DATE:

3/11/60

P KOM

SAC, KNOXVILLE (61-12)

SUBJECT:

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed for Bureau files are autostat copies of newspaper articles relating to the suit filed by the State of Tennessee against the Highlander Folk School seeking to revoke the school's charter. A decree was previously handed down by State Court revoking the school's charter.

The enclosed autostat news articles are described as follows:

"Highlander School Asks ACLU To Help" - Knoxville News Sentinel, Knoxville, Tennessee, 2/24/60;

"Judicial Decree Hits Highlander" - Chattanooga Times, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 2/26/60;

"Highlander Decree Wording Given" - Knoxville News Sentinel, 2/23/60;

"Highlander Decree Filed" - Chattanooga News Free Press, 2/25/60;

"Reds' Victory Design Noted" - Chattanooga News Free Press, 2/25/60.

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23 MAR 14 1960

Rightander School Asks ACLU To Help

MONTEAGLE, Tenn.; Feb. M. M.—Highlander Folk School has asked the American Civil Liberties Union for help in overturning a Circuit Court decision revoking the interracial adult aducation center's M-year-old general walfare charter.

This was disclosed Tuesday as members of the mountain school's board of directors gathered to decade what course to take in fighting the state action.

Myles Horton, Highlander from dent and one of its founders, said no decision would come from the aceture before late today

Borton reported the invitation so the ACLL; which was quoted as mying it was studying the revocation opinion issued last week by Judge Chester C. Chat-

The judge said he would name a receiver to conclude the aflairs of the controversial school, two miles from here on 300 acres.

Chattin ruled the school vislated criminal law by selling beer on its premises and violated Tennessee serregation law which he said still applies to private schools. Last November a sury ruled Horion had aperated the non-profit school for persual gain.

Righlander attorney Ceell Brainstetter of Mashville has said he will file a motion for a new ideal and appeal to the State featurement County has becomeny. The Knoxville News Sentinel
Knoxville, Tenn.
Loye W. Miller,
Editor.

CITY Edition

Dated 2-24-60

Page 29
Re Righlander Folk
School, Monteagle, Tenn.
Bufile 61-7511

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61-12

JUDICIAL DECREE HITS HIGHLANDER

Order Formally Entered to Revoke Charter of Monteagle School

ALTAMONT, Tenn. — Highlander Folk Schools charter was refrozen and the residential property which had been deeded to Mises Strates and patterned to the arhool traces are retirement to the arhool traces as a tree whole published each to of in Grundy County sir-

eur court last November.

Othersia of the controversial south education school were discerted in the court to prepare to the third of the court of the malacas.

as it in this effect immodiit intraported strainty by while close down an almost as committely while do nee.

marie Operation

From ed South Pittsi arismery - general, rit. however, that the intended to pro-

of the state of th

end the atthough

"I don't believe they can use thin me from beaching and stating any policie in derecting region had removed. It they groun, I self-from them surrenters. It may not be us this property here, but I will teach. I have taught 20 years for bothing. It won't have anne commensation."

A deed transferring 79 owns of the school servery to Norten in list of salary for the years during which he receiped no compensation was declared guil and with the Judge Chattin's order. This tract, including the residence coquant by Borton, govern to the

Defended was in a per training to the a section for a per training of the school, The executive committee of the school, which was a session when the order was filed, agreed Wednesday to carry the case to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary, so an appeal is always of the case of the case of the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary, so an appeal is always of the case of the case of the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary, so an appeal is always of the case of the case

Meanwhile, History, Mightaniar will be restained to terms of ind wourt entit within a see the extract is "subsity sustained and prohibited from transferring, edivering, giving, delivering, surendering, canceling or transmitting any assets... to any person, tirm, enganization or subby and likewise ... from emocaling or suppressing the imoviedge of the assets and place of isoping of any sects."

Julie Ciatin's order was the say recome of the strong sould be strong to be seen as the strong to be seen as the s

is weak and against the action.

The shart found that the prince had been exercised for the personal financial gain of florion; that at had violated state laws in selling beer and other frame without at least and that its operation six a sectably integrated school was in violation of the state's segregation.

The great Hed West-volum aggs.

Economic Contractors

Sets. 2/26/60

Author of erticle_

Editor Martin S. Ochs

Edition MORNING

Page number EIGHT

Title HIGHLANDERS
FOLK SCHOOL MONTO
EAGLE, TENN.
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61-7511-261 ENCLOSURE 61-12

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Highlander Decree Wording Given

SOUTH PITTSBURG, Tesh., Feb. 22 (UPI)—Judge Chestur Chattin yesterday received the state's opinion on what should be said in Chattin's revocation decree for Highlander Folk School's charter.

Cecil Branstetter of Nashville, degrace attorney for the contraversed racially integrated institution pear Montreile, in olse of peopled to estimat a decree cultailizing what the defense thinks should go into the order.

Chattin can use either or write one of his own. The eventual order will go into the record and a receiver will be appointed to close out the affairs of the school,

After the decree's issuance, the defence has it days in which to appeal.

Branstetter had indicated he will ask for a new trial.

Coattin ordered the charter revocation last week saving, in his epinion, the achool's integrated accounts and workshops violated for another segregations and appropriate The Knoxville News
Sentinel
Knoxville, Tenn.
Loye W. Miller,
Editor.
HOME Edition

Dated Feb. 23, 1960

Page TER

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCH-OOL, MONTEAGLE, TENN INFORMATION CONCERN ING. BUFIE 61-7511

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61-7511-261 ENCLOSIA

HIGHLANDER DECREE FILED

Property Inventory Of School Ordered

By T. GRADY SALLANT.

Highiander Folk School has been enjoined to present an inventory of its possessions by March 8 in a decree implementing a Seriois to revolve the p.h. a fax-exampt therise, March 27 range Rander, except court of salamon thanks, and salamon thank

The decree, which in affect puts into force the decision handed down in the case Feb. 16, was brought to Mrs. Bouldin's office in Alianant yearse day morning at 11:55 clock

day morning at 11:55 actors.
The decree also enjoins Markiander Folk School from disposing of any property, or trains forming is during the appeal period.

It revoked the books charter an the three gar eds given in the course eaching. Violation of the state's segregation law, use of the achool for the personal gain of Myles Morton, founder and director, and sale of beer in violation of the state's criminal laws.

Judge Chester C. Chattin did not appoint a receiver to "wind up the affairs" of the school, but retained the right to do so se, the proper time.

Any violations of the provisions of the decree will be contenued of court

The next legal step for High-

The inventory of backer prop-

Highlander and amounced to day that it will take its fight to preserve its tax-exempt charter to the U.S. Supreme Court

he encryive council headed by Pean I II Brazest Morebouse (Kupte) College, Atlanta, Ga. enpres if veraplists sentidruis at Little.

The "charges of operating the school for personal profit and selling beer illegally were merely smoke acreens to cloud the major issue of integration."

During the trial of the mass. Morion stated under each that beer was sold at the school on "a rotation plant" The inhest also a den't ted integrated glasses. Barton tentified while the school of acts of act

NEWS	FAET TRESS
Basa	2/25/60

Wayspaper. DMATTALLOGS.

Author	of	article
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EditorLee Anderson

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Page number_16

Submitting office....

Title Highlander Folk School, Monteagl

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Concerning Eufile 61-7511

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RESS VICTORY Design Noted

Adm. Hoyward Here For Navy Clinic

By GEORGE BUNNIAM
Americans are playing a
de percox, over-simplified game
of counting missiles as the only
deferred around the orehunders
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the County the Phile displaying
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Confedence of t

Adm. Hayward, in Chattamongs to take part in the city's first Navy Research and Development Clinic at the University of Chattanoogs said Riseic plans to best America conomically, politically, psychologically, and militally—not by just raining bombs on our counter."

The admiral said America was sufficiently strong militarily at the monest, in comparison with River but warred against the daily or in future years the we could be the modernstrong of the modern and determination of

Acts: Represed deporty chief at reval operations, developdient, made his remarks during an interview prior to the opening of today's clinic. He addressed a lanchoon of the Find from the on Beautic Individual

France Berthid

paters of the Night 2 come of the State of t

"Your Navy is the most modern have force in the world produced force in the world produced for the force in the world produced force in the force the last decade have revolutionized many previous concepts of naval warfare. Nuclear propulation, guided missiles of long and short range, high-performance aircraft, and new and revolutionary changes in ship-dealign, particularly in submarines, have created a new Navy of great potential power, and have, at the same time created new problems in defense and anti-submarine warfare.

MINIMUM DELAY

"In a time when we are engaged in a race for improved weapons, it is of primary importance the wa manage our research and development preserved as a ship we must compare to the and technique, we must achieve acientific break - throughs in many unexplored fields.

The Chumber of Pessarch areas of interest to the Navy is broad in scope. We are sponsoring research into such diverse fields as the neture of outer atmosphere, the flore and fauna of Arctic regions, the propagation of sound in all media, and the behavior of light media, and the behavior of sight media, and the behavior of sight media, and the behavior of sight median flying platforms and vertical take-off sircraft.

Our policy in awarding research and development contracts is to work with those firms which have the highest competence in the apecific leanth of statute or technical for the apecific to the contract of statute or technical for the contract of the contract

"it is obvious text in the in-

SEES CHALLENGES

He said challenges faced beday by spientists, engineers, gesearch organizations and industrialists are:

"First, to have the will and determination to undertake hard tasks.

"Second, to ecoperate within this region to develop organiza-

Third, in make known and to use the pro-ing pails that are evaluate—to be writing to undertake these jobs and be able to sell these abilities.

"The Navy cannot force anyone to undertake these tasks. It can seek, as it will and does, but it cannot find lights that are hidden under bushels of indifference. We will so all we can to help, but the fittative restraint.

"Already, the Apper Tennasme Valley and the Chattaneogus
area have made significant contributions to the Navy in solving our new technological problems created by our new weapons system. This very university
has helped us greatly in the
past. The University of Tennessee is currently making studies
for us on such matters as meteor scattar signals and titaplum-hydrogen alloys. Many labbratories and industrial facilities in this area contribute to
our fund of scientific knowledge
and pave the way for a newer
and hetter life for all of us and
including this best possible detense of our United States."

Secretary Milne will address a dinner meeting at 7 o'clock tonight on The Navy's Challenge—The 1980s.

Five separate panel discusations were head this afternorat the university with leading Navy experts in charge.

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American Oremore American
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Newspaper. CHATTANGOGA NEWS FREE FRES

Date __2/25/60

Author of article

Editor, Lee Anderson

Edition__F/FRING_

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Titl. Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn.

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61-7511-261

OFTIONAL FORM NO. 10 Tolson 1 UNITED STATES (Callahan emora DeLoach Malone McGuire TO DATE: April 11, 1960 Tomm Trotter W.C. Sullivan Tele. Room **In**gram **FROM** C. D. DeLoach SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE list of names of persons connected with the above-entitled school. RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended the attached be forwarded to the Domestic Intelligence Division for their information. 1 - Mr. Belmont Enclosure ENCLOSURE EX- 105 RESERVED FILE REC- 54 6/- 75 ATION CONTAINED 23 APR 26 1960 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED 1960 50 MAY 2



115	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) 47C; 47D 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(jes); as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBL.		
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<u></u>	For your information:		
E	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: $(-1-1)5/1-262$ (EBF)		



September 6, 1960 mr J Edgar Hooner Federal Bureau Of Anvestigation Washington, D.C. Dear mr Hooner: may I have a copy of your Ramplet Communist Jarget Mauth! I am sending you to pamplet about a Communist training Camp in mantiagle, Dennessee. I would like to know what is being dotte I made a special Trip out to see This camp and it is still apen and going strong.

RFC- 79 ES SEP 16 Mesure bruly, 170 / Kno / pw

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about it?

TRUE COPY

l1C September 6, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

May I have a copy of your pamplet "Communist Target - Youth"?

I am sending you a pamplet about a communist training camp in Monteagle, Tennessee. I would like to know what is being done about it?

I made a special trip out to see this camp and it is still open and going strong.

Yours truly,

/ø/

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	Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies), was/were forwarded to them for direct response to y	
	Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies);	
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September 15, 1960

REC 72 61-1511-263

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Parsons Beimont

 Dear Tenn

Highlander Folk School Monteagle, Tenni

Your letter dated September 6, 1960, with its enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that all information received by this Bureau is carefully evaluated and, where warranted, appropriate action is instituted in accordance with our responsibilities in the internal security field. However, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. It is not possible, therefore, for me to comment concerning the organization you mentioned.

I am enclosing a copy of my report to the House Committee on Un-American Activities entitled "Communist Target - Youth," which you requested.

MAILED 25
SEP 1 5 1960
COMM-FBH

John Edgar Hoover Director

Sincerely yours,

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO

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NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent requests a copy of the Director's report entitled "Communist Target - Youth." Correspondent refers to a "communist training camp in Monteagle, Tennessee." She asks, "I would like to know what is being done about it?"

Correspondent enclosed a pamphlet published by the Georgia Commission on Education which charges that the Highlander Folk School is a communist training school.

The Highlander Folk School has been the subject of numerous allegations that it is a communist school and the headquarters of communism in eastern Tennessee due primarily to its interracial character. These allegations have never been substantiated. The Bureau has not investigated this organization. (61-7511)

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.



	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 with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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	For your information:
	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 61-7511-265

XXXXXX XXXXXX XXXXXX

Mr. J. Edger Hoover Federal Bureau of Investigation washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Not far from here there is a place called highlander Folk School. I was told the F. B. I. watches that place rather carefully and that is what prompted me to make this letter.

I am thinking about working in a government job and I do not want to jeopardize my chance by getting my name on any subversive list.

I hope you will take this into consideration, thank you.

Sincerely yours,

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and 11.25-60

EX : 10,

REC- 22

61-7511-266

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3284 BY SPERTS

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Dear I have received your letter dated November 14, 1960, and your interest in communicating with me is indeed appreciated. Your letter is being made a matter of record by this Bureau; however, for your information, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. I am enclosing some material on the topic of communism which may be of interest to you. Sincerely yours, **ALL INFORMATION CONTAIN** HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED John Edgar Hoover Enclosures -MAILED 20 NOV 2 5 1960 COMM-FBI Tame. frotter MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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NOTE ON YELLOW

(;

Correspondent states that he understands the FBI has had an interest in the Highlander Folk School.

170

to work for the Government and he does not want to jeopardize his chances by having his name on a subversive list. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

The Highlander Folk School has been the subject of numerous allegations that it is a communist school and the headquarters of communism in eastern Tennessee, due primarily to its interracial character. These allegations have not been substantiated. The Bureau has not investigated this organization.

61-7511

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent.

1. *Communist Target - Youth.*

2. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

3. "What You Can Do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."

4. "America - Freedom's Champion."

5. Reprint from *FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, * March, 1960, with *An Analysis of the 17th National Convention of the CP, USA.*

January 16, 1961

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

Dear Sir:

Please inform me immediately as to whether or not the Higlander Folk School of Monteagle, Tennessee, has been listed as a Communistic "Front".

Yours very truly,

en

EX 1000 BEC. 16

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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JAN 25 1961

Dear Your letter dated January 16, 1961, has been received. Although I would like to be of service, in carrying out its investigative responsibilities, the FBI does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. If you desire a list of the organizations which have been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the scope of Executive Order 10450, your request should be submitted to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C. Byon print Sincerely yours, MAILED 9 JAN2 4 1961 John Edgar Hoover COMM-FBI Director NOTE: (Note continued on next page)

Letter to

1-24-61

NOTE (continued):

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No other references located which might be identifiable

with correspondent.
is not identifiable in Bufiles.

The Bureau is cognizant of the numerous communist affiliations of personnel affiliated with the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Mr. Belmont UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Mr. Callahan March 2, 1961 Mr. Conrad OMPHONE Oach The attached clipping was sent to the Director in an envelope postmarked at Atlanta, Ga., with the シングイン handwritten notation: "Shouldn't Mr. Trotter this be investigated??" Mr. Jones Mr. W.C. Sullivan Tele. Room Attachment Mr. Ingram hbb Miss Holmes **REC-31** ENCLOSURE AHONYMOUS COMMUNICATION KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED **ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED** HEREIN IŞ UNCLASSIFIED

62 MAR 9 1961

Highlander And Dr. King Join Forces

Atlanta's Southern Christian
Leadership Conference — headed
by the Rev. Martin Luther King
Jr.—and Tennessee's confroverstal Highlander Folk School have
joined forces to train Negro leaders for the Southern civil rights
struggle.

James R. Wood, SCLC administrative assistant, said in Atlanta Thursday that 11 Negro leaders have already completed a one-week course of instruction at the school and another 15 will attend a second course in two weeks.

He said the first 11 participants were Negroes from Savannah and Montgomery, Ala. None was from Atlanta, he said.

THE SECOND class will be composed of students from Tennessee and Kentucky, he said.

Mr. Hunt said the course was designed primarily to instruct Negro leaders from smaller towns, who will then return home and teach local Negroes.

"They're being trained to be leaders and teachers," he said. "They are learning to teach simple reading, writing, civics, politics, economics and leadership to less educated Negroes."

He said the course also included instruction in the elementary philosophy of nonviolence, social protest and "what prejudice is and how segregation works."

MR. HUNT emphasized that Dr. King's organization hopes the program "will quickly outgrow its beginnings" and will eventually be set up on an area-to-area basis.

The Highlander Folk School, located deep in Tennessee's Cumberland Mountains between Chattanoga and Nashville, has been involved in the past in several political controversies.

It has been stanchly defended by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, among others, but, in 1960, a Tennessee state court revoked its charter after a legislative investigation charged that Communists had lectured there. THE SCHOOL has continued to operate, pending appeal of the court order.

Mr. Wood said Thursday that the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is aware that the school's reputation might rub off, but he added:

"We find no reason not to cooperate with any organization that is interested in the development of full citizenship for Americans which cannot be proved to have conducted itself in a manner which is not American or patriotite."

Mr. Wood said the Highlander classes are part of a three-phase training program designed to develop local Negro leadership. The other phases are "citizenship schools" to be established by the Highlander graduates and a "correspondence institute" to be conducted by the conference.

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61-751/-268 ENCLOSURE



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	For your information: LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY		
	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: $61-7511-269$		

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Highlander Plan Designed To Help Negro Pass Voting Test

By LEON DANIEL

Monteagle (UPI) — Highlander appeal the case all the way to the polls. School, a liberal outpost in the rolling Southeast Tennessee than the is giving less thought to hill country, is quietly at work on a project designed to make the help southern Negro's voice heard at the polls.

The teachers for the schools get against Highlander. Horton himself has been calle shops at Highlander. Horton said he is country, is quietly at work on he is giving less thought to hill country, is quietly at work on he is to what he calls his "citizensouthern Negro's voice heard at ship schools."

The teachers for the schools get theore work their training at intensive work. Horton himself has been calle shops at Highlander. Horton said he is celerated "when the motivation is first class citizenship.

In explaining how the plan the program worked out by Mrs. Septimal director, will southern communities and set up coast of South Carolina. Most of the paid of years but girls. Negroes to read and write well very few of them, according to the said. "I have been experimentiated by continuous to the plan for years but ships."

Freezable Dressing

t as voting.

The school has traveled a rocky road since it was founded in 1932 by Myles Horton, a native of Satall was nah in segregation minded than 700 are registered and almost all of them vote."

The racially-mixed school's charter was revoked for violating the began voting on But the school was permitted to mon But the school was permitted to livel count to the school, and support of the school, taught by local volunteer teachers, they was once directed to smoke out zero.

The school has traveled a rocky wery few of them, according to the worked out the teaching de-Horton, a sile worked out the teaching de-Horton, a sile worked out the teaching de-Horton, a native of Satally worked out the teaching de-Horton, a native of Satally were in 1938; we worked out the teaching de-Horton, a native of Satally worked out the teaching de-Horton, a native of Satally were and so worked out the teaching de-Horton, a native of Satally were in 1938; we worked out the teaching de-Horton, a native of Satally were and of the school to states. Among the more prominent backers of the school trough the school of the school of the school Niebuhr, well-known theologian.

Freezable Dressing

Freezable Dressing

From Salad Developed

Albany, Cal. — Frozen sale dressing is a new development the school were improved.

The racially-mixed school's char-began voting on Johns Island to them vote."

He said that as more Negroes the well-known theologian.

Horton said he founded the school was permitted to the school whites, the school's purpose has remained the

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

165-2511-269

ENCLOSURE

REC- 82

1. - Nr.

March 16, 1961

P-7c Dear

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 3284 BY SPORTS CONTAINED

I have received your letter dated March 3, 1961, with its enclosure, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

In view of your interest in the internal security of the United States, I am enclosing some literature which you may like to read.

MAR 1 6 1961 COMM-FBI Sincerely yours.

John Edgar Hoover

Enclosures - 5

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MAR 24 1961

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NOTE ON YELLOW:

There are no identifiable references to correspondent.

Concepondent wites apparently in self-justification concerning her views on integration expressing
a segregationist's viewpoint while stating she is not
a segregationist. She asks whether integration is
promoted by "communism" and then in her letter announces
that she does not oppose integration but opposes
communism. She encloses a clipping from a newspaper
concerning the Highlander Folk School which is described
as teaching volunteer teachers so that they may return
to their community and in turn teach the Negro people
to read and write sufficiently well so that they can
pass literacy tests to vote. The newspaper article
stated the School's charter was revoked for violating
the state segregation laws. The case is reported to be
presently under appeal. Correspondent asks whether
schools of this type are training Negroes to be
communists and expresses the opinion that this school's
"leader and other ones have been investigated and brought
to trial for Communism." She wonders who is intervening
in favor of the School's leader.

Correspondent furnished an address on her

En

The Highlander Folk School (HFS) has been the subject of numerous allegations that it is a communist school and the headquarters of communism in Eastern Tennessee, due primarily to its racial character. These allegations have not been substantiated. The Bureau is cognizant of the numerous communist affiliations of personnel affiliated with the HPS. The Bureau has not investigated this organization. (61-7511-266, 267)

The following literature was forwarded to correspondent:

"One Nation's Response to Communism.
"Communist Target-Youth."
"Breaking the Communist Spell."
"God and Country or Communism?"
"Communism and the College Student."