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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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61-7511-270

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[REDACTED] b7c
March 27, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am in possession of a publication which describes a school by the name of "The Highlander Folk School" in Tennessee. This publication also states that the school was established in September 1932, by Horton and Donald L. West, a Georgian with a long record of affiliations with Communist-front groups.

I would very much appreciate all information the FBI may be at liberty to give regarding this school, its teachers and its purpose.

This publication also states that this school has continued under close surveillance by the FBI therefore I presume you may have some report available to the public.

My very sincere thanks.

Yours very truly,
[REDACTED] b7c
an

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/2/84 BY SP8 BTg/cw
2455220

REC-82

EX-130

61-7511-272
APR 8 1961

RESPONSE
[Signature]

REC- 82

61-7511-272

April 5, 1961

EX-130

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated March 27, 1961, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is indeed 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 organizations, publications or individuals. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that our files do or do not contain 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 wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 81

APR 5 1961

COMM-FBI

Enclosures

[REDACTED] dew

FBI

REC'D MAIL ROOM

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/2/84 BY SP8 BTG/CA

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO

- Tolson _____
- Parsons _____
- Mohr _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

57 APR 12 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

APR 5 12 12 PM '61
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

12 MAR 20 11 03 AM '61
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

b7c [REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable references to correspondent.

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 HFS. The Bureau has not investigated this organization. (61-7511-266, 267)

The following items of literature are being sent to correspondent:

1. "One Nation's Response to Communism"
2. "Communist Target - Youth"
3. "Communism and the College Student"
4. "The Communists Are After Our Minds"

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (61-7511)

DATE: 5/22/61

FROM : SAC, Knoxville, (61-12)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE
IS - C

Enclosed is original and four copies of letterhead memo pertaining to Highlander Folk School reflecting the latest legal action and decisions concerning the suit filed by the State of Tennessee against this school. This memo is being forwarded for completion of Bufiles.

Photo

CC TO: <i>State (cu) Ec S/VFA/c</i>
REQ. REC'D <i>12-4-62</i>
DEC 17 1961
ANS.
BY: <i>Shank/Een</i>

b7c

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DATE 3/2/84 BY SP8 BTG/CL
245582

2 - Bureau (Enc 5) (RM) EX-116
1 - Knoxville

mlc
(3)

AGENCY *23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100*
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. *6-2-61*
HOW FORW. *N/A*
BY *tap/engr*

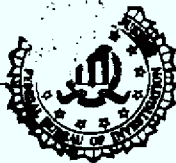
REC-14

61-7511-273

MAY 25 1961

ENCLOSURE

68 JUN 6 1961



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Knoxville, Tennessee
May 22, 1961

**HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C**

The Chattanooga News-Free Press, Chattanooga, Tennessee, a daily publication, in the issue of April 5, 1961, reported that on April 5, 1961, the Tennessee Supreme Court upheld the revocation of the Highlander Folk School's general welfare charter and ordered the operating corporation dissolved. It was reported that the Supreme Court's decision meant that it must shut down operations unless it gets a stay order from the State Court in order to further appeal its case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The school's charter was reported revoked on two grounds: MYLES HORTON, Director and founder of the adult education institution, operated the school for his own personal gain; intoxicating beverages were sold illegally on the school premises.

It was reported that the Tennessee Supreme Court did not consider the 1902 State Segregation Law, stating that it was not necessary for them to pass upon the Constitutional question as to the mixing of white and colored male and female in the same school, since Highlander had violated other state laws.

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245532

61-7511- 273
ENCLOSURE

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

The case was first tried in February, 1960, at which time the local State Court ordered the revocation of the charter and the corporation dissolved, but allowed the school to operate pending the outcome of an appeal.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel, Knoxville, Tennessee, a daily publication, in issue May 5, 1961, reported that the Tennessee Supreme Court had denied a petition to re-hear the controversial Highlander Folk School case. It was reported that in asking for a re-hearing, attorneys for Highlander had argued the charter was revoked simply because it was an integrated institution.

The article reported that the State Supreme Court in a recent opinion ignored the segregation question and said the school should give up its charter because of the beer sales and the finding of the jury in regards to MYLES HORTON, Director.

It was reported that attorneys for the Highlander Folk School said they planned to carry the case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Knoxville Journal, Knoxville, Tennessee, a daily publication, in issue May 11, 1961, reported that on May 10, 1961, the Highlander Folk School announced it had authorized attorneys to take its charter revocation case to the Supreme Court of the United States. They will ask the U. S. Supreme Court to hear an appeal of a recent ruling by the Tennessee Supreme Court revoking the school's charter.

Director MYLES HORTON reported that meanwhile the racially integrated school is operating as usual and last week was planning a new South-wide Citizenship School Program.

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11-7511-275

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CONFIDENTIAL

L. Attache, Bonn (105-1280)

June 29, 1961

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

Director, FBI (105-7511) - 275

9221

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
EAST GERMANY

Classified by *Multisource*
Declassify on: OADR 8/18/84
245582

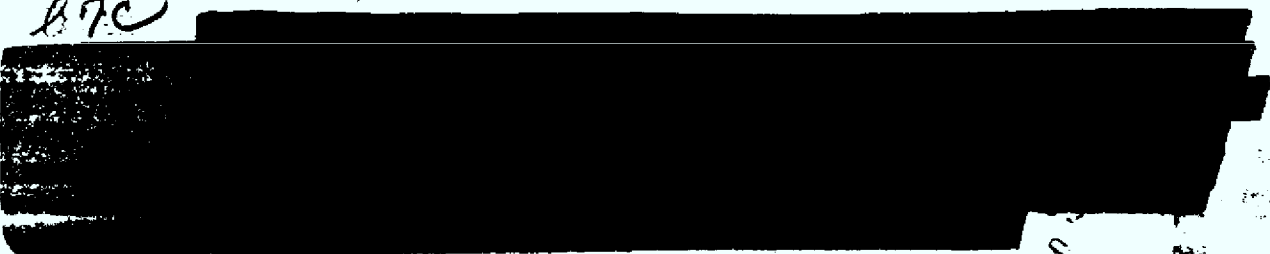
Reurlet 6-14-61.

For your information the Highlander Folk School was organized in approximately 1932 and is reportedly supported primarily by donations from individuals and labor unions in the form of payments for the students to attend its courses. It offers courses of instruction in labor organization, social economics and the general field of labor education.

Myles Horton was born 7-7-05 at Savannah, Tennessee, and attended the Union Theological Seminary, University of Chicago and the Cumberland University. He received an AB degree at the latter University. Myles Horton became Director of the Highlander Folk School in approximately 1932.

According to Bureau files the Highlander Folk School has had Communist Party, (CP), members on its staff and has followed the practice of welcoming communists as students. Due to its interracial character it has been the subject of numerous past allegations that it represents the headquarters for communism in East Tennessee. These allegations have never been substantiated. An investigation was conducted during 1941-43; however, the reports have never been disseminated and contain notes indicating that much of the subversive derogatory information contained therein has been repudiated by individuals previously furnishing information.

MAILED 10
JUN 30 1961
COMM-FBI

b7c


1 - Foreign Liaison (Route through for review)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT

CONFIDENTIAL

50 JUL 6 1961

JUL 3 1961

Legal Attache, Bonn
RE: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
61-7511

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In view of the above it does not appear desirable to volunteer information concerning the Highlander Folk School and Horton to outside agencies. If a request for information is received in this regard, the identifying information in paragraphs two and three may be furnished. The substance of paragraphs four and five, however, should only be furnished orally.

NOTE:

61
In view of the controversial nature of the organization and Horton and the lack of substantiating information concerning allegations against them it appears that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] c

CONFIDENTIAL

Highlander Folk School

Section 7 of 11 Sections

61-7511

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

DATE: 10/17/61

FROM : SAC, KNOXVILLE (61-12)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
IS - C

The Knoxville News-Sentinel, Knoxville, Tenn., a daily publication, in issue of October 8, 1961, reported that the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL at Monteagle, Tenn., announces plans for a similar school in Knoxville, Tenn., to be located in an old apartment building at 1625 Riverside Drive, Knoxville. It was reported the Knoxville institution will be a research and educational center which "insures the continuation of the Highlander idea". It was reported that so far as financially possible, the Knoxville school will take over the previous educational program of the Monteagle School if the latter is forced to close.

News media have reported the U. S. Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal of the Highlander Folk School from the decision of the Tennessee Courts and found that Highlander violated criminal laws of the state and revoked the school's charter. HORTON, during the state trial, was accused of operating the school for personal benefit, and it was alleged beer was illegally sold on the grounds.

In the news article of October 8, 1961, it was reported that the State Charter for the Knoxville School was issued on August 28, 1961.

MEMPHIS DIVISION, at Nashville, Tenn., will, through appropriate state offices, verify the reported charter of the Knoxville institution and will obtain from the charter records the purpose of the school, date charter granted, list of directors and officials and any other pertinent data available in such files. It is requested that this information be furnished to the Knoxville Office.

3 - Bureau
3 - Memphis (2 - 61-34, 1 - 100-3208)
1 - Knoxville
bgc

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DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTM/DA

58 OCT 24 1961

REC-17

10 OCT 19 1961

FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: 10/25/62

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

Via _____

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (61-12)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
INTERNAL SECURITY - CCC TO: StableREQ. REC'D 12-14-62

DEC 17 1962

ANS.

BY: ShorHIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
INTERNAL SECURITY - CCC TO: AEDREQ. REC'D 11-27-62

ANS.

BY: Phong

Enclosed herewith are five copies of letterhead memorandum in captioned matter.

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

Location of Report

T-1 is [REDACTED]

T-2 is the House of Representatives Select Committee to Investigate Foundations and Other Organizations, which committee advised the Bureau by memorandum reflecting interviews with various witnesses including BUDENZ. The Bureau furnished copies of this memorandum to the New York Office by letter dated 2/24/53, entitled, "USE OF BENEVOLENT TRUST FUNDS, PHILANTHROPIC AND ELEMOSYNARY INSTITUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRESS OF SUBVERSIVE GROUPS; IS - C".

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OTHERWISE

3 - Bureau (Enc. 5) (RM)
1 - Knoxville

AGENCY D2, ONI, OSI, RAO

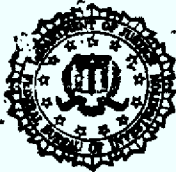
REQ. REC'D

DATE FORW. 10-29-62HOW FORW. ASBY TRE

OCT 27 1962

Sent

Per Classified by SP8Declassify on: OAD~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UI

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
JULY BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONIn Reply, Please Refer to
File No.Knoxville, Tennessee
October 25, 1962~~CONFIDENTIAL~~HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
INTERNAL SECURITY - CHIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The October 13, 1962 issue of the Knoxville Journal, a local daily newspaper published at Knoxville, Tennessee, contained an article captioned "Highlander Alters Policies". This article read in part as follows:

"Highlander Folk School, noted for its pro-Communist leanings, has changed emphasis from education of whites to accept integration to agitation by a few Negroes in stirring up racial trouble by sitings and the like, it was learned yesterday.

This was the gist of a speech given this week by Myles Horton, Highlander director, to a group of 11 supporters of Rev. Maurice McCracken in Cincinnati. McCracken is a Presbyterian minister, under suspension, who was the treasurer of "Operation Freedom" for "Tent City" in West Tennessee a few months ago. He has a community church in Cincinnati.

Highlander has been operating here at 1625 Riverside Drive. It formerly was at Monteagle, but was closed there several months ago by the state. After that, Horton and a group obtained another charter from the state to function here.

Horton, in his talk, told of a Negro Presbyterian Church in Knoxville where the basement is used as a cafeteria and meeting place for Negro students from University of Tennessee, Maryville College and Knoxville College to plan integration activities. Upstairs quarters are used to house Negro speakers who come into Knoxville to speak to the groups.

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ENCLOSURE

Classified by SP8 BTJ/CW
Declassify on: OADR 3/18/84
243582

61-7511-277

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Horton also told of the "difficulties" Highlander is having with Knoxville city ordinances passed to specifically hinder operation of the left wing institution.

He told the meeting "a group of labor leaders" who helped elect Mayor John Duncan went to the mayor to protest the ordinances, but "all they got was lip service."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

b7D [REDACTED]

b7D [REDACTED]

b-1 [REDACTED]

Confidential Informant Knoxville T-2, another Government agency, advised that LOUIS FRANCIS BUDENZ, admitted former editor of the Daily Worker, an East Coast Communist newspaper, and a former official of the Communist Party, advised on November 21, 1952, that the Highlander Folk School was pro-Communist, but BUDENZ did not furnish further details.

The October 8, 1961 issue of the Knoxville News-Sentinel, a local daily newspaper published at Knoxville, Tennessee, contained an article reflecting that Highlander Folk School had announced plans for a similar school at Knoxville to be located at 1625 Riverside Drive. The article identified MYLES HORTON as director of Highlander.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The December 17, 1961 issue of the Knoxville News-Sentinel contained an article reflecting that on December 16, 1961, assets of Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee, were auctioned by the State of Tennessee under a court decree after the school was convicted of violating three Tennessee laws and failed in appeals to the State and United States Supreme Courts.

The July 8, 1962 issue of the Knoxville News-Sentinel contained an article reflecting the land on which Highlander Folk School was formerly located had been sold at public auction under Court decree. The article stated that MYLES HORTON, Director of Highlander during its entire existence, has moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, and has been granted a State charter for an organization called Highlander Research and Educational Center.

4
CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Knoxville, Tennessee
October 25, 1962

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Title HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER

Character INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference Letterhead Memorandum dated
October 25, 1962, Knoxville, Tenn.

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced
communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/CW

245526

ENCLOSURE

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FBI

Date: 6/20/63

Transmit the following in

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Type in plain text or code)

Via

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (61-12)

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

IS - C

INFORMATION CONCERNING
RACIAL MATTERS

Re Knoxville teletype 6/20/63.

Enclosed are the original and seven copies of a letterhead memorandum bearing the caption, "HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL, INFORMATION CONCERNING, RACIAL MATTERS".

No local dissemination to intelligence agencies has been made by the Knoxville Office.

As the Bureau is aware the Knoxville Office is making no investigation of the Highlander Folk School pursuant to Bureau instructions. The source referred to in enclosed letterhead memorandum is [REDACTED]

b1 KX T-1 is [REDACTED]

KX T-2 is the House of Representatives Select Committee to investigate Foundations and Other Organizations, which committee advised the Bureau by memorandum reflecting interviews with various witnesses, including BUDENZ.

③ - Bureau (Enclosures - 8) (RM)

1 - Knoxville

epm

ENCLOSURE

C. C. WICK

REC-38

61-7511-279

20 JUN 22 1963

Classified by SP8 BJA/AN

Declassify on: OADR 01/84

245530

b7c

SID

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OTHERWISE

Approved: 68 JUL 8

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP (S) OF
DATE 6/27/63

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

61-7511-280
CHANGED TO
44-22405-4X

OCT 29 1964

BC, AAI

C

CONFIDENTIAL

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Belmont

1 - Mr. Mohr

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Evans

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. M. A. Jones

1 - Mr. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Bland

1 - Section Ticker

1 - Mr. [redacted]

REQUESTS FROM SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON

JEFFERY COHELAN

CURRENT RACIAL AGITATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/6/80 BY SP4 [redacted]

Enclosed are letters from Senator Warren G. Magnuson and Congressman Jeffery Cohehan, which are self-explanatory. I have informed each by letter this date that I am referring his letter to you for your consideration in line with Departmental policy.

Copies of my letters in this regard are also attached.

As you will note, each letter transmitted a leaflet containing a photograph of Martin Luther King and others purportedly in attendance at a seminar at the Highlander Folk School over the Labor Day weekend in 1957 and requested information pertinent to the validity of the leaflet.

Information concerning the school and those identified in the leaflet with King--Abner Berry, Aubrey Williams, and Myles Horton--was furnished to you by letter dated July 17, 1963, captioned "Martin Luther King, Security Matter-C, Racial Matters."

For your additional information, newspaper articles indicate that the Georgia Commission on Education, which is the legislative investigating body of the State of Georgia, sent a photographer [redacted] to the Labor Day, 1957, weekend seminar at the Highlander Folk School. He reportedly took both still and motion pictures of the individuals and activities there on that occasion. The Commission later published these photographs in a large folder and is known to have circulated them within a month of the Labor Day meeting.

MAILED 2

JUL 18 1963

COMM-FBI

Berry, in a column in the September 15, 1957, issue of the "Daily Worker," an east coast communist newspaper, stated that he had attended the weekend seminar at the Highlander Folk School over the Labor Day weekend, 1957. Berry stated that Martin Luther King and Aubrey Williams also attended this seminar.

REC'D DEPT MOVI

CONFIDENTIAL

NOT RECORDED

145 JUL 18 1963

(15)

NOTE:

See memo, Smith to Sullivan, 7/18/63 re: REQUESTS FROM SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON & CONGRESSMAN JEFFERY COHELAN CONCERNING CURRENT RACIAL AGITATION. aab

JUL 23 1963

REC'D HVI

DECLASSIFIED BY 6010 CLASSIFICATION

SEE NOTE ON PAGE TWO RE

EX-28

TELETYPE UNIT

ON

11/10/80

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

CONFIDENTIAL

The Attorney General

A Washington Capital News Service dispatch for July 13, 1961, quoted Martin Luther King as stating that his only visit to the Highlander Folk School was for a speech he had made at the school's 25th Anniversary celebration in 1957. He stated that the picture of him at the school which had been displayed by Governor Ross Barnett, of Mississippi, to the Senate Committee on Commerce on July 12, 1961, apparently was taken during this visit.

Enclosures (6)

1 - Mr. Deputy Attorney General - Enclosures (6)

1 - Mr. Burke Marshall - Enclosures (6)
Assistant Attorney General

NOTE:

This letter is classified Confidential since it contains information furnished from confidential informants whose revelation could cause harm to the national defense.

CONFIDENTIAL

lrc [REDACTED]
July 10, 1963.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/5/84 BY SP8079/02
245832 RLB

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

After a telephone conversation with the local agent, yesterday, I concluded that, to be safe, I'd write you regarding a document on the Highlander Folk School; Communist Training School, Monteagle, Tenn, which came into my possession as stated below and the advisability of showing it to friends and acquaintances. I am active in politics.

This document seems to be particularly appropriate at this time.

[REDACTED]

Human Events was a publication subscribed for. In one issue there was a paragraph to the effect that a document was circulating in Washington, that was causing comment. This could be obtained free of charge by writing to the Georgia Commission on Education, 320 Agriculture Building, 19 Hunter Street, S. W., Atlanta 3, Georgia. This I did and in return I received this 4 page spread with text and pictures of this school. Editorial comment to the effect: "On the preceeding pages you have seen pictures of the leaders of every major race incident in the South from May 1954 until the time of this meeting, Labor Day, 1957 Week-end (August 30, 31 and September 1, 2). ***** All or any part of this folder may be reproduced by any person or organization with or without credit being given to this Commission."

Georgia Commission on Education
Governor Marvin Griffin, Chairman.

Tenn. I. V. Williams, Jr., Executive Secretary. REC-37
801-7511-281

Martin Luther King, Rev. Abernathy are among many others pictured. There are also numerous references to the activities of the N. A. A. C. P. In view of what is going on now, this folder with its reliable information, seems useful today.

I shall be grateful for any advice you can give me. JUL 18 1963

Very sincerely,
[REDACTED]

CORRESPONDENCE

EX-108

REC-37

61-7511-281

July 16, 1963

b7c
b7c

[REDACTED]

JUL 16 4 24 PM '63
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of July 10th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI, being an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In addition, information in the files of this Bureau must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am, therefore, unable to comment in the manner you suggested. I hope you will understand my position.

Sincerely yours, ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

J. Edgar Hoover

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/als
245532

MAILED 6
JUL 16 1963
COMM-FBI

NOTE: No record of correspondent in Bufiles.

[REDACTED]

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- DeLoach
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

(note continued on next page)

REC'D MAIL ROOM

JUL 25 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

guy

DW

B.B.

b7c

[REDACTED]

The Highlander Folk School (HFS) has been the subject of numerous allegations that it is communist sponsored and a communist headquarters in eastern Tennessee. These allegations are due primarily to its racial character. The allegations have not been substantiated; however, the Bureau is aware of numerous communist affiliations of personnel associated with HFS.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C; b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

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

61-7511-282

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
 JOHN O. PASTORE, R.I.
 L. B. NIEMEYER, ROY, OKLA.
 STROM THURMOND, S.C.
 FRANK J. LAUSCHE, OHIO
 RALPH YARBOROUGH, TEX.
 CLAIR ENGLE, CALIF.
 E. L. BARTLETT, ALASKA
 VANCE HARTKE, IND.
 GALE W. MCGEE, WYO.
 PHILIP A. HART, MICH.
 HOWARD W. CANNON, NEV.

MORRIS COTTON,
 THURSTON B. M., KY.
 HUGH SCOTT, PA.
 WINSTON L. PROSSER, VT.
 J. GLENN BEALL, MD.

EDWARD JARRETT, CHIEF CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. Belmont ✓
 Mr. Mohr ✓
 Mr. Casper ✓
 Mr. Callahan ✓
 Mr. Conrad ✓
 Mr. DeLoach ✓
 Mr. Evans ✓
 Mr. Gale ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Sullivan ✓
 Mr. Tavel ✓
 Mr. Trotter ✓
 Tele. Room ✓
 Miss Holmes ✓
 Miss Gandy ✓

July 16, 1963

Dear Mr. Director:

I am enclosing a leaflet which was included in the official hearing record on S. 1732, the Administration's Public Accommodations Civil Rights bill. It was submitted by the Governor of Mississippi, Ross Barnett, as part of his statement to demonstrate that the recent racial demonstrations in the South and elsewhere are inspired and organized by communists.

Could you at the earliest possible time advise me of the authenticity of the picture, the status of the organization printing it (the Georgia Commission on Education), the nature and character of the Highlander Folk School of Monteagle, Tenn., as well as any other facts that might be pertinent in evaluating the implications of the material.

A reply with the return of the leaflet for inclusion in the record would be very helpful. My thanks in advance.

Personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

WARREN G. MAGNUSON
 Chairman

161-7511-
 NOT RECORDED
 184 JUL 24 1963

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Department of Justice
 Washington 25, D. C.

ENCLOSURE

Encl.

WGM:GBGc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/11/79 BY 5180 RCR/JAR

3 JUL 24 1963

CORRESPONDENCE

32 JUL 17 1963
 105-2121-501
 32 JUL 17 1963
 105-2121-501

July 18, 1963

61-7544

Honorable Warren G. Magnuson
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

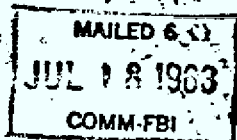
My dear Senator:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 18, 1963, with the enclosed leaflet and your request for information concerning the authenticity of the picture in the leaflet, the nature and character of the Highlander Folk School, and the status of the Georgia Commission on Education. In line with Departmental policy, your request and a copy of the leaflet are being forwarded to the Attorney General for his consideration.

Pursuant to your request, I am returning the leaflet.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/11/79 BY SP10 RCD/jre

aab
(15)

- 1 - The Attorney General
- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Mr. Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General

NOTE:

Address per Special Correspondents' List. Re memo Smith to Sullivan dated 7/18/63 re: REQUESTS FROM SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON AND CONGRESSMAN JEFFERY COHELAN CONCERNING CURRENT RACIAL AGIATION. BLN/jre

63 JUL 29 1963

TELETYPE UNIT

- 1 - Original
- 1 - Yellow
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Bland
- 1 - Section tickler

REC'D-READING ROOM

JUL 23 58 PM '63

FBI

SEC. 11211C
SEC. D BETHOM

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Be wup

Wup

CH

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: July 18, 1963

FROM : R. W. Smith *RS*SUBJECT: REQUESTS FROM SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON
AND CONGRESSMAN JEFFERY COHELAN
CONCERNING CURRENT RACIAL AGITATION

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Reference my memorandum dated 7/18/63, captioned as above, which acknowledged receipt of letters and enclosures from Senator Magnuson and Congressman Cohelan and informed them that their requests are being forwarded to the Attorney General for his consideration.

Senator Magnuson requested information as to the authenticity of a photograph of Martin Luther King and others taken at the Highlander Folk School, the status of the Georgia Commission on Education which printed the photograph, and information relating to the Highlander Folk School. Congressman Cohelan also requested information regarding King and the school.

Information concerning the Highlander Folk School and those in the photograph with King--Abner Winston Berry, Aubrey Williams, and Myles Horton--was furnished to the Attorney General by letter dated 7/17/63, captioned "Martin Luther King, Security Matter-C, Racial Matters."

The enclosed memorandum contains additional information for the Attorney General.

The Georgia Commission on Education, a legislative investigating body of the State of Georgia, sent a photographer to a seminar at the Highlander Folk School over Labor Day, 1957, to take still and motion pictures of individuals and activities. Later the Commission published these photographs in a large folder.

Enclosures *sent 7-18-63*

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. M.A. Jones
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Section tickler
1 - *[redacted]*

161-7511-
NOT RECORDED
176 JUL 24 1963

22 *142*
(11)

54 JUL 30 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *11/12/80* BY *SP4 JRM/eb*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-60672-39

Memo Smith to Sullivan

Re: REQUESTS FROM SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON
AND CONGRESSMAN JEFFERY COHELAN
CONCERNING CURRENT RACIAL AGITATION

Information in our files shows that Abner Berry, Aubrey Williams, and King were present at this Labor Day seminar at the school. King was quoted by a press service on July 13, 1963, as having admitted that he attended the 25th anniversary celebration of the school in 1957 and that the picture of him was apparently taken during this visit.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the enclosed letter be sent to the Attorney General.

WCS
Be

GR. ✓
P

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 7/18/63

FROM : R. W. Smith

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/11/79 BY SP8 RCB/jem

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FROM SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON
AND CONGRESSMAN JEFFERY COHELAN
CONCERNING CURRENT RACIAL AGITATION

1 - Belmont

1 - Mohr

1 - DeLoach

1 - Evans

1 - Sullivan

1 - Jones

1 - Baumgardner

1 - Bland

1 - Section Tickler

1 - [REDACTED]

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

By letter dated 7/16/63, Senator Magnuson enclosed a leaflet containing the photograph of Martin Luther King and others at what was described as a "Communist Training School." Senator Magnuson requested information concerning the authenticity of the photograph, information as to the Highlander Folk School where the photograph was allegedly taken, and the status of the Georgia Commission on Education which printed the leaflet.

By letter dated 7/15/63, with a similar enclosure, Congressman Cohelan requested information regarding King and the school.

It is believed that these requests, which are similar in nature to the previous request of Senator Monroney, should be handled in the same manner by advising the correspondents that because of Departmental policy their requests are being forwarded to the Department for its consideration. Enclosed for that purpose are separate letters to Senator Magnuson and Congressman Cohelan.

By separate communication, the Attorney General is being furnished one copy each of correspondents' letters, enclosures, and our replies. We are also furnishing pertinent information and calling attention to the data previously submitted to him regarding this matter contained in the Director's letter to the Attorney General dated 7/16/63.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the enclosed letters be sent to Senator Magnuson and Congressman Cohelan.

NOT RECORDED JUL 23 1963

109 sent to Senator Magnuson and

Enclosures

gcl gcl

(11) b7c

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-66672

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

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

61-7511-283

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☒ For your information:

LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY

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

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JUDGE SLAP

Senate group to quiz FBI, RFK on claim mixes Red-inspired

BY NEIL GILBRIDE

WASHINGTON, July 13—Supporters of President Kennedy's civil rights legislation have challenged a Southern governor's claim that current Negro demonstrations are "largely Communist inspired."

Sen. A. S. Mike Monroney, D-Okla., said the Federal Bureau of Investigation could be asked for any information it has relevant to the statement of Gov. Ross

Barnett of Mississippi Friday in testimony before the Senate Commerce Committee.

Under questioning by Sen. E.L. Bartlett, D-Alaska, Barnett conceded he had not talked with any FBI official to back up his claim that "leaders of the FBI" believe the demonstrations follow a Communist pattern.

Barnett also gave the committee a photograph which he said was taken at "a Communist training school" and showed a group that included Dr. Martin Luther King, Negro integration leader.

In New York, King commented that Barnett's claim of a Communist link with Negro demonstrations or with the school where the picture was taken were "utterly ridiculous and falacious."

The school is the Highland Folk School at Mont Eagle, Tenn.

One man in the picture with King was Abner W. Berry, whom Barnett said was a member of the central committee of the Communist Party.

Sen. Philip A. Hart, D-Mich., commented:

"I am for civil rights. I would walk with Martin Luther King. I hope that doesn't make me suspect."

Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, D-Wash., said the picture would be brought to the attention of Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy. Magnuson, chairman of the

POTOMAC OFFBEAT

*Peter Lawford and friends
give movieland lingo
to New Frontier*

News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 13—President Kennedy has many friends—and a brother-in-law, Peter Lawford—among the Hollywood contingent, and that may explain the liberal use of movieland expressions by New Frontiersmen.

For instance, before Kennedy went to Europe, administrative planners drew up not an itinerary but a scenario. Thus there was the "Germany scenario," the "Dublin scenario" and so forth.

Such show biz terminology is not just an example of momentary lightheartedness. It is standard around the White House.

At the height of the rail crisis the other day, as aides were readying the fish room for an important statement by the President, one could hear such cries as "clear the set, clear the set."

Ceremonial business tough

IT WAS A COOL morning for Washington in July, but young Sen. Eugene McCarthy, D-Minn., almost yawned a greeting to a newspaperman.

Why was he so sleepy? A heavier than usual load of not Senate work. It's this cere-

Birmingham, Ala., Saturday, July 13, 1963

S SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1
 crimination in public accommodations, emphasized that the main question before Congress was whether the civil rights legislation warranted.

He said it was besides the point whether racial demonstrations inspired by "the Communist Party, the Elks Club, or the John Birch Society."

had other harsh things to say about Negro demonstrations and the administration's civil

rights bill and his general attitude toward Negroes

MARTIN LUTHER KING.... AT COMMUNIST TRAINING SCHOOL



PICTURED (Foreground),

- (1) Martin Luther King of the Montgomery Boycott and the Birmingham riots, backed up by the Kennedys,
- (2) Abner W. Berry of the Central Committee of the Communist Party,
- (3) Aubrey Williams, pres. of the Southern Conference Education Fund, Inc., the Transmission Belt in the South for the Communist Party,
- (4) Myles Horton, director of Highlander Folk School for Communist Training, Monteagle, Tenn.

These "four horsemen" of racial agitation have brought tension, disturbance, strife and violence in their advancement of the Communist doctrine of racial nationalism.

LA 108
REC- 25

61-7511-284

July 22, 1963

[REDACTED]

REC'D-READING ROOM
JUL 22 4 15 PM '63

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of July 15, 1963, with enclosures, and I want to thank you for your kind prayers.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 25
JUL 22 1963
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. 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 HFS. The Bureau has not investigated this organization.

His enclosures were newspaper articles pertaining to Dr. Martin Luther King pictured at the HFS and a circular of correspondent's church.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/5/84 BY SP5 BTG/CA
945502

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

JUL 31 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 7-19-63

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

b7c

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

By letter to the FBI dated 7-15-63 concerning "Reds in Our Capital" and directed to "Gentlemen or Jackasses," captioned individual furnished her views concerning the Highlander Folk School. She traced its history and quoted a Tennessee newspaper article of 1939 which set out "It is a center, if not the center for the spreading of Communists doctrine in 13 Southeastern States." She praises Governor Ross Barnett of Mississippi for his wonderful stand on civil rights and criticizes the FBI as being weak and indifferent. She concurs with Governor Barnett that Jews are mostly responsible for our present day ills and refers to Martin Luther King and others as "niggers." In addition to this school, she attacks the NAACP and observes it should be banned from the U. S. and its assets seized.

RECOMMENDATION:

Due to her inflammatory language and unfounded attacks on the FBI, this letter should not be acknowledged.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
 :mlh (3)

53 AUG 5 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/aa

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: July 26, 1963

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

A review of the file on the Highlander Research and Education Center, formerly operated as the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee, has been made and it is recommended that no security-type investigation be conducted since this organization is primarily involved as a training ground in the integration movement in the South. It is believed, however, that we should obtain the names of all officers, teachers and students of this organization so that a check of Bufiles can be made.

The Highlander Folk School was founded in 1932 by Myles Horton who continues as director of this group and by Donald Lee West [REDACTED]. The School was supported by donations of individuals and labor unions in the form of payments for students attending courses of instruction in labor organizations, social economics and the general field of labor education. It has had Communist Party (CP) members on its staff and has accepted communists as students. No courses, however, were ever offered in communism nor has the CP ever succeeded in gaining control of the School.

Due to the interracial character of the School, it has been the subject of numerous allegations that it represented the headquarters of communism in east Tennessee. An extensive investigation was conducted in 1941 and 1942 as a result of the allegations. These allegations have never been substantiated and much of the information of a subversive derogatory nature concerning this School was later repudiated by the individuals who previously furnished the information. No investigation is being conducted concerning this organization at this time. Although inquiries have been made of the Knoxville Office from time to time regarding an investigation of this group, Knoxville recommended no investigation. 61-7511-286

61-7511

dfm/fjh

Enc.

(4) ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/AD

245522

JUL 30 1963

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

61-7511

On 2/16/60 the charter of the Highlander Folk School was revoked by the State of Tennessee as the School was operating "a private racially integrated school" in violation of the Tennessee Code making it unlawful to allow white and colored persons to attend the same institution of learning. Horton subsequently opened the Highlander Research and Education Center, Knoxville, Tennessee, which continues in existence.

This organization has continuously been involved in the integration movement and as a result charges are being continuously made that it is "communist." These charges are based mainly on the opinion of individuals making the charges that being prointegration is being procommunist.

This organization in June, 1963, was again involved in an incident involving the arrest of 28 white and colored men and women after a raid on a camp site near Maryville, Tennessee. This camp was being operated as a branch of the Highlander Research and Education Center and was being used as a workshop to train individuals for the integration movement.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter to the Knoxville Office be approved instructing that the names of all officers, teachers and students connected with this organization be obtained in a very discreet manner and furnished to the Bureau. No active investigation is to be conducted.

1/11 *gnd* *W*

SAC, Knoxville (61-12)

July 29, 1963

REC-106

Director, FBI (61-7511) *286*

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

**HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)**

b7c

You are instructed to discreetly obtain the names of all officers, teachers and students who are currently connected with the Highlander Research and Education Center for submission to the Bureau. No active investigation may be conducted. You should insure that obtaining these names does not become a matter of public information in your territory.

This matter should be handled expeditiously and the names furnished to the Bureau as soon as possible.

NOTE:

See memorandum Baumgardner to Sullivan, same caption, dated 7/26/63, TPR:dfw/fjh.



Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

fjh/fjh
(6)

106
AUG 2 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/10
245632

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

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) b7c 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.

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

☒ For your information: LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY

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

61-7511-287

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

 4-750 (2-7-79)
 XXXXX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Knoxville (Your file 61-12) DATE: 8/16/63FROM : Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 61-9511-287)Room No. 612-88SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)☒ Post in file and
destroy 0-1
(For SOG use
only)☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency.

- ☒ 2. Date ☐ airtel ☒ letter ☐ submitted
☐ report ☐ letterhead memo ☒ will be submitted ReBulet 7/29/63.
- ☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted _____
- ☐ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☐ Investigation ☐ Prosecution
- ☐ 5. Submit ☐ airtel ☐ letter
☐ report ☐ letterhead memo
- By _____

(Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. Note receipt and acknowledgment on top serial in case file)

Letter Submitted 8/13/63

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8BTQ/04
24532

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 17 1963	
FBI - KNOX	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (61-7511)

DATE: 8/13/63

FROM : SAC, Knoxville (61-12) (C)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

ReBulet to Knoxville 7/29/63.

Referenced letter instructed Knoxville to discreetly obtain the names of all officers, teachers, and students currently connected with Highlander Research and Education Center (HREC). The Bulet instructed Knoxville to conduct no active investigation and to insure that obtaining these names did not become a matter of public information.

HREC is located at 1625 Riverside Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee, and its director is MYLES HORTON, long-time director of Highlander Folk School (HFS), Monteagle, Tennessee. The Bureau is aware that assets of HFS were auctioned by the State of Tennessee in 1961 under court decree after HFS was convicted of violating state laws.

The physical facilities of this institution consist of one large former residence and a small adjoining structure. MYLES HORTON and his wife reside on the premises and it is believed that other persons reside there on a temporary basis from time to time.

On 8/28/61, a State of Tennessee General Welfare Charter was issued to HREC, Inc. The incorporators listed on the charter are:

Dr. SCOTT BATES
MYLES HORTON
Miss MARY JUSTUS
Mr. EUGENE KAYDEN
Miss VERA McCAMPBELL

2 - Bureau
1 - Knoxville

EX-115

REC-64

10 AUG 15 1963

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8BTG/04

6 OCT 10 1963

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET4

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) b7C; b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

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

61-7511-288, p. 2-5

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 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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~~_____~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 278: 1039-1044.

KX 61-12

In the absence of specific Bureau instructions, Knoxville will continue to comply with Bureau instructions issued 6/11/54 and will not conduct any investigation whatsoever or attempt to develop any sources to furnish information regarding Highlander Research and Education Center.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies), _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

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

61-7511-289

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February 20, 1964

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/CW
9455361

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

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

Dear Sir:

Many things are bothering me, and so I am coming to you with a few of them, hoping for some help.

- (a) Why can't something be done to oust Dean Rusk and a few other REDS from our State Department? Ditto MacNamara. What is he doing for the defense of the U.S.A? Surely causing the country to quietly disarm is not defense of our country. What about the Chairman of the Un-American Activities? Why are we slowly wasting away under this Communist subversion??? Can we recover in time?
- (b) Why cannot Earl Warren be impeached? He votes in favor of the Reds — and now the cover-up of the testimony of Oswald's widow. The American people who pay taxes are entitled to the truth.
- (c) I enclose photocopy of a letter I received from TIME. Will you please advise whether the U.S. Government did actually clear the Highlander Folk School of being a Communist organization? I understand the school was closed, but re-opened elsewhere.

Thank you for writing me. I am a hard worker in the CONSERVATIVE Republican party.

Sincerely REC-138

61-7511-290

11 FEB 24 1964

I have a copy of your address of October 9, 1962 at Las Vegas, Nevada
-- National Convention of the American Legion.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Volume 11, Number 8

February 17, 1964

NEW YORK 10019

EDITORIAL OFFICES

Room 2-400

February 17, 1964

Dear [REDACTED]

If the evidence suggested to TIME's editors that Dr. Martin Luther King was not a loyal American, you may be sure that we would discuss the charges openly. But we have no reason to question King's devotion to America's ideals and traditions, and in this connection it is worth noting what Ralph McGill of the Atlanta Constitution has had to say about him: "His nonviolence tactic has forced his opponents to practice nonviolence, to negotiate in the American way. He has put violence in a bad light, made it unpopular... but if he were an evil man, the South right now would be in the midst of a bloodbath. White Southerners should thank the dear Lord for sending them a Martin Luther King."

Not long ago the Georgia Commission on Education started to circulate a photograph of Dr. King taken at a 25th anniversary celebration of the Highlander Folk School; the commission labeled this school "Communist." (in actual fact, however, U.S. Government investigators cleared both the founder of the school and the school itself of accusations of Communist activities, but this is the sort of unfounded rumor which has been responsible for the conviction in the minds of some people that King is a Communist. TIME discussed these accusations briefly in our July 19, 1963 issue.

Cordially yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

F. B. I. Counterspy Speaks Here

A packed crowd of over 200 heard Karl Prussion, counterspy for 12 years for the F. B. I., outline the concept of counterspy at a meeting at the Wisconsin Room last Wednesday evening at the Wisconsin Room.

Facing names and dates published in Mr. Prussion's head-biting address. An alarm of capture of communist infiltration in the fields of education and labor was revealed.

Mr. Prussion gave special attention to the civil rights movement. On this subject he distributed the following affidavit:

"I Karl Prussion, a former counterspy for the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1947 to 1960, do hereby swear under oath and under penalty of perjury, that from the years 1954 through 1958 I attended five county committee meetings of the Communist Party of Santa Clara County, California. (A county committee meeting of the Communist Party consists of one delegate representing each Communist cell in the county.) The meetings were held during the above mentioned period in the following locations: The residence of Robert Lindsay, Communist, in San Jose, California, 1954; the residence of Mary Field, Communist section organizer, Palo Alto, California, 1955; the residence of Isobel and Edwin Carney, both Communists, Menlo Park, California, 1956; the residence of Gertrude Adler, Communist, Palo Alto, California, 1957; the residence of Karl Prussion, counterspy for the F. B. I., Los Altos, California, 1958; the residence of Myro White, Communist, Mountain View, California, 1959.

I hereby further solemnly state that at each and every meeting as set forth above, one Ed Beck, Communist, who is presently secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of San Mateo County, California, and a member of the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE), presented the directive from the district office of the Communist Party in San Francisco to the effect that:

"All communists working within the framework of the N.A.A.C.P. are instructed to work for a change of the passive attitude of the N.A.A.C.P. into an organization for the achievement of communist objectives."

I further swear and attest that at each and every one of the above mentioned meetings, one Reverend Martin Luther King was always set forth as the individual to whom Communists should look and rally around in the Communist struggle on the many racial issues.

I hereby also state that Martin Luther King has either been a member of, or wittingly has accepted support from, over 60 Communist fronts, individuals, and/or organizations, which give aid to or espouse Communist causes. (Notary Seal) (signed, Karl Prussion)

Prussion, who belonged to the Communist party as an informer, said that Martin Luther King was not a Communist. "He's a Good American making a terrible mistake."



KARL PRUSSION, COUNTERSPY FOR 12 years for the F.B.I. was interviewed by Metro reporter Curry during Prussion's recent visit to Milwaukee. Mr. Prussion spoke to a group of over 200 on the creeping menace of communists in America.

Soviet Prisoner Tells Experience

A Jesuit missionary, Father Walter Cizek, who was released last October from the Soviet Union after 21 years of detention, will lecture at Marquette University Tuesday, April 28, on his experience in Russia.

Father Cizek is one of nine speakers who are scheduled to speak on the subject of "Religion Under Communism" in a series of evening lectures to begin Feb. 18.

Under the sponsorship of the Marquette continuing education division, the lectures will be concerned with the conflict of religion and Communism and the problem of coexistence and liquidation of churches.

Other noted authorities who will speak are: Father George A. Maloney, S. J., Fordham University Russian Center; Walter Dushnyck, editor of the Ukrainian Quarterly, Bulletin and Weekly publications, and Monsignor Bela Varga, former president of the Hungarian parliament.

Joseph L. Luchten, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Stefan Ousky, member of the Free Czechoslovakia Committee; Augustin Pope, Romanian delegate to the Captive European Nations Assembly; Niklos Veto, Marquette philosophy instructor who is a native of Budapest and Roman R. Smal-Stocki.

Lectures will be at 7:15 p. m. on Tuesdays, in Carpenter Hall, 617 N. 13th st. Advance registration for the series will be held in the Marquette continuing education offices in Carpenter Hall. Office hours: 8:30 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Asks for Joint Committee To Review CIA Activities

Rep. Clement J. Zablocki (Dem.-Wis.) told Congress recently that he has asked the House rules committee for early hearings on his bill creating a joint congressional committee on central intelligence.

Speaking on the floor of the House, Zablocki said legislation giving Congress a continuous review of U.S. intelligence activities is long overdue. He has had a bill on the subject in Congress since 1953.

The Congressman, second ranking member of the House foreign affairs committee, said the recent press conference held by the Central Intelligence Agency to comment on the Soviet economy represented "a severe departure from past CIA practices."

"Unfortunately, Congress cannot know the circumstances surrounding this apparent policy shift nor assess whether it is in the national interest," Zablocki said.

"It is my contention, however, that the intelligence activities carried on by the United States are not exclusively a function of the executive branch of our government. Congress too must be informed on intelligence matters."

The Milwaukee Congressman pointed out that currently three separate congressional committees now handle intelligence activities and appropriations.

"The result of the present system is all too often a piecemeal, hit-and-run examination of the policies and activities of the CIA and other U.S. intelligence-gathering agencies," Zablocki contended.

Wedding

Invitations and ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE NAPKINS

and

Car Wedding Sign

With This Ad

ADVANCE

PRESS

5226 W. Hampton HO 3-7800

REC-136

EX-112 61-7511-290

February 27, 1964

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Mr. Hoover read your letter of February 20th and the enclosures.

He asked me to advise you that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. This Bureau does not issue clearances, and in view of the foregoing, he trusts you will understand why he cannot comment as you have suggested.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/24552

MAILED 5
FEB 27 1964
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The Highlander Folk School has been the subject of numerous allegations of being a communist school and the headquarters of communism in Eastern Tennessee due primarily to its racial character. These allegations have not been substantiated and this Bureau has not investigated this organization. We are cognizant, however, of the numerous communist affiliations of personnel affiliated with this organization. In view of the tenor of correspondent's letter it is felt that a reply does not warrant a reply from the Director and that the above letter over Miss Gandy's signature is in order. Her enclosure consists of a letter she [REDACTED] resp (3) CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Walters _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

87 MAR 4 1964 TELETYPE UNIT

FEB 27 4 20 PM '64
RECEIVED-READING ROOM

b7c

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

DS

[Handwritten initials]

b7C [REDACTED]

received from the publication "Time" in which it is stated that the U. S. Government investigators cleared both the founder of the Highlander Folk School and the school itself of accusations of communist activities. The FBI is not mentioned in this communication. The other enclosure was a copy of a newspaper clipping of an address made by Karl Prussian.

May 6, 1964

Dear Director Hoover:

Sir, I would like to have from you if I may, any printed statements you might have on hand, in concern with the Closing of The Highlander Folk School in Tenn. This school was it disclosed, trained pro-Communist people of the Civil Rights movement in this country. Also I would like to have a printed (or other type of) copy of the statement that you made in connection with the Communist infiltration into the Civil Rights organizations.

Sir, I have always suspected that the Civil Rights people were a bit left-leaning so to speak. Any varification of the above would be appreciated.

I remain sincerely yours:

[Redacted signature]

b7c

1

REC-21

61-7511-271

2 MAY 15 1964

EX-103

b7c

[Redacted block]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/5/84 BY SP8BJD/a

245622

ack/ken
5-13-64

008 ATP

EX-103

May 13, 1964

REC-27

61-7511-291

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of May 6th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested.

With regard to my statement made in connection with communist infiltration into civil rights groups, I am enclosing a copy of my testimony before the House Subcommittee on Appropriations, on January 29, 1964. On pages 40 and 41 you will note data bearing on the topic of your interest. I am also sending you other material which I trust will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
MAY 14 1964
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

FBI 1965 Appropriation Booklet
Let's Fight Communism Sane!y
The FBI's Role in the Field of Civil Rights
4-1-61 LEB Introduction
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BT/ab
2455321

68 MAY 22 1964

TELETYPE UNIT

REC'D-READ ROOM

MAY 13 2 10 PM '64

WGP

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

DSW

DSW
B.S.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 7/7/64

FROM : SAC, KNOXVILLE (100-3506) (RUC)

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON COMMITTEE FOR
HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
IS - C
(OO: WFO)

Re WFO let to Knoxville dated 6/1/64.

[REDACTED] has made available information indicating captioned group may be active in the Washington, D. C. area. Knoxville was requested to advise if the Highlander Folk School is of current investigative interest, and, if so, furnish WFO with a current characterization.

As the Bureau is aware, and for the information of WFO, on 6/11/54 the Bureau instructed Knoxville to make no contacts whatsoever at Highlander Folk School (HFS), Monteagle, Tennessee, and that no discussions pro or con should be made with any individual concerning this school. Highlander Research and Education Center (HREC), Knoxville, is the successor to the HFS, whose assets were auctioned by the State of Tennessee under a court decree after the school was convicted of violating Tennessee laws. MYLES HORTON, former Director of HFS, is currently Director of HREC.

The above Bureau instructions were issued as a result of allegations against Bureau Agents following interview with HORTON. In view of these instructions, no sources whatever have been developed at HFS or the HREC and, consequently, in view of Bureau instructions, no investigation has been or is being conducted concerning the organization.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/C

- 2 - Bureau (RM) CC KK-817
2 - WFO (100-43335) (RM)
2 - Knoxville (1 - 100-3506

1 - 61-12 Highlander Research & Education Center)

(6) at

EX-112 REC-42

1 JUL 9 1964

66 JUL 22 1964

INT/SEC.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

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

61-7511-293

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Date: 7/31/64Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (100-5125)

RE : HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Savannah airtel to Bureau, 7/27/64.

Enclosed are original and four copies of LHM,
suitable for dissemination, re captioned matter.The source referred to in above-mentioned LHM is
[REDACTED]Information copy of instant airtel and LHM to
Charlotte, in view of their interest in this matter.

- 3- Bureau (Encls. 5) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1- Charlotte (Encl. 1) (Info) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1- Savannah

(5)

REC. REG. 61-7511-294

DATE FORW. 8-3-64

HOW FORW. n/a

BY TPR:let

2 copies of airtel & memo

1 cc airtel & memo 8/10/64

C G Wick

Enc 3 & 02 b11.87

EX-112
REC-66

61-7511-294

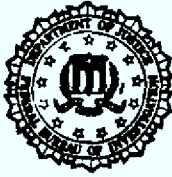
10 AUG 1 1964

Classified by SP8 BTG/aw
Declassify on: OADR~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Approved: 64 AUG 12 1964
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

Per _____

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (4-10)
DATE 3/7/84



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER

Southwide Voter Education Internship Project, sponsored by Highlander Education and Research Center, is being held at the Sea Island Progressive Club Center, River Road, Johns Island, South Carolina, from July 6, 1964, through July 18, 1964. The second workshop begins July 20, 1964, and ends August 1, 1964. The purpose of this project is to put into practice what those attending learn in working with politically conscious Negro and white leadership in Charleston and the surrounding sea islands.

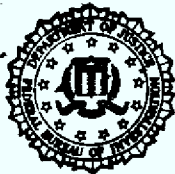
The staff of the Sea Island Progressive Club Center is composed of Esau Jenkins, who is the director; and Guy Carawan, who is the music director.

volunteered the following information:

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~Classified by SP8 BJS/AM~~
~~Declassify on: OSR 3/3/84~~
245532

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Savannah, Georgia
July 31, 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Title	HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
Character	INFORMATION CONCERNING
Reference	Savannah memorandum dated July 31, 1964, captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (61-7511)

FROM : SAC, Knoxville (61-12) (RUC)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 8/28/64

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re Savannah airtel 7/24/64.

No information has come to the attention of the Knoxville Office concerning MYLES MORTON or the Highlander Education and Research Center conducting a South-wide Voter Education Internship Project at the Sea Island Progressive Club Center, St. Johns Island, S.C.

Any information received will be forwarded to Savannah. For the information of the Savannah Office, the Knoxville Office is conducting no active investigation of the Highlander Center pursuant to previous Bureau instructions. The Bureau and Savannah has previously been furnished information that the Highlander Center had a group of the Council of Federated Organizations at the center in Knoxville for one week following completion of this group's orientation at Oxford, Ohio, and just prior to the group's departure for Mississippi. It was reported that the group in Mississippi would be in the Gulfport area "to find out what kind of an alliance, political and civic, can be established between white and colored citizens in the Mississippi community".

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Class
DATE 3/7/84

Classified by SP8 BTJ/cw

Declassify on: DATE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

EX-112

REC-47. 61-7511-295

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Savannah (100-5125) (RM)
- 1 - [redacted] (info) (RM)
- 1 - Knoxville

21 AUG 31 1964

mlc

66 SEP 24 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECT. CONTROL

FBI

Date: 8/19/64

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTELAIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511)

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (100-5125)

RE : HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Savannah airtel to Bureau, 7/31/64.

Attached hereto are two copies of newspaper clipping appearing in the "NEWS AND COURIER," Charleston, S. C., newspaper, 8/17/64, entitled "Advancement is Goal Of Progressive Club."

It is noted that, near the end of the article, a spokesman at the meeting is reported to have referred to the FBI as the "Future Bureau of Investigation."

3- Bureau (Encls. 2) *ENCLOSURE*
1- Savannah

ex *eh*
(4) *eh*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/CA
245685

C C. Wick

58 SEP 3 1964

Approved: *[Signature]*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

CRIME RESEARCH

61-7511-29
AUG 21 1964

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Advancement Is Goal Of Progressive Club

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles on the background and activities of the John's Island Progressive Club, its leaders and members.)

By CHARLES L. DIBBLE

Aside from the dearth of hustle-bustle, John's Island has much in common with historic

Charleston. Surrounded by Low-country waterways, the island—fifth largest on the Atlantic seaboard—is a kaleidoscope of ancient trees, Spanish moss, and Gullah-speaking Negroes.

It is with the latter—the dark-skinned peoples of the island—that Esau Jenkins has concerned himself over the years.

In 1948, the Negro leader brought together eight or 10 of his neighbors and formed the Progressive Club, aimed at the political and economic advancement of the John's Island Negro community.

In recent years the efforts of the club have reached beyond the limits of Bohicket Creek and

the Stono River. The expansion is due, in large measure, to the efforts of Highlander Folk School and its successor, Highlander Research and Education Center of Knoxville, Tenn.

The Progressive Club has sponsored many extra John's Island activities, the most recent being two Southern Voter Educa-

tion Internship Projects. Sponsored and financed by Highlander, the bi-racial workshops were attended by Southern Negroes for the most part.

Each of the projects consisted of a week-long workshop session followed by a week's "internship" during which time the participants lived in Charleston

homes. Although identical in format, the two sessions featured different speakers and, for the most part, a different audience.

With a general theme of voter registration, the workshops branched out into virtually all aspects of the civil rights question.

Who attended these sessions?

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1 and 2A
The News and Courier
—Charleston, SC.

Date: 8-17-64
Edition: Morning
Author: Thomas R. War.
Editor: Editor
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Savanna
☐ Being Investigated

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8BTG/cw
248832

61-7511-296
ENCLOSURE

And what, specifically, ~~did~~ they discuss?

The largest turnout during the two workshops appeared at the opening session on July 6. About 100 people—including some 15 white people—were present. Thirty-six of these were regis-

(See GOAL, Page 2-A)

Continued From Page 1-A

tered at the workshop while the others were area residents.

Scheduled to speak on "Basic Issues in the Current Revolution" was Randolph Blackwell, an Atlanta attorney associated with Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). But Blackwell canceled his appearance at the last minute.

Filling in for him was Milton S. Hurst, director of the workshop. Hurst, instructor of social sciences and acting director of public relations at Talladega College, Ala., has an A.B. degree from Talladega and an M.B.A. from Atlanta University.

The eloquent young Negro told his audience: "The 'Current Revolution' is not a Negro problem; it is an American problem."

Stressing a theme of responsibility, he told the group: "It's just as important for us to redirect our energies toward

school dropouts and text books as to demonstrate. It is important that we start now to get our young people in school and to make them stay there.

"The proletariat and bourgeoisie overthrew the aristocracy. Then the bourgeois assumed the customs of the aristocracy," the social science professor said. "We must be careful that—when we are victorious in our revolution—we do not assume the customs of our enemy."

"God is on our side," he claimed. "But let's make sure as we continue in this 'Current Revolution' that we're on God's side in carrying out his will."

Attending the Monday night session and several others during the week was Luther Sturtevant, a white student at Drew University's theological school. The young Methodist, a graduate of Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore., is serving this summer as pastor's

aide to the Rev. F. Perry Metz, minister at Olivet Presbyterian Church, a Negro church on Beaufain Street.

Sturtevant has assisted in the voter registration drive in Charleston and, in addition, has served as a tutor to a group of Negro eighth-graders.

Leading the singing during the first workshop was Guy Carawan, a collector and singer of folk songs, who lives on John's Island with his wife and their two-year-old son.

Two white college students attended both sessions—Ellie Eden of Berkeley, Calif., and Roger Phoenix, who said he was "more or less from New York."

Miss Eden, who has been staying with the Carawans, will study abroad next year, while Phoenix plans to return to Antioch College, a liberal arts school in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Introduced on opening night as a CORE worker, the student has

been working with Esau Jenkins this summer.

The theme of the "Current Revolution" was carried forward the next day—Tuesday—by Dr. W. C. Beck of Florence who discussed "Basic Issues in the Current Local Revolution," during the morning. Afternoon brought Fred Henderson Moore, a Charleston Negro attorney, who spoke on "The Role of the President's Commission of Equal Employment." A general discussion of problems of equal employment followed.

"The Church and Human Relations" received the group's attention Wednesday morning. Speaking were the Rev. F. O. Pharr, past president of the Charleston NAACP, and C. Conrad Browne.

Browne, associate director of Highlander, attended the first workshop for three days with his wife Ora and three of their children. He returned briefly at the end of the second session to pick up Highlander equipment.

After a talk Wednesday afternoon by Jenkins on "Is the Second Step—Political Education—Important?", the group of about 35 gathered at the Caravan house for a cook-out and recreation. While the youngsters played badminton and volleyball and the older ones watched. Browne, who once attended the University of Chicago divinity school, related his experiences prior to joining the Highlander staff.

From 1949 to 1963 he lived near Americus, Ga., on 1,100-acre Koinonia Farms—a bi-racial, religiously-oriented communal farm. Vividly he recounted the "terror-tactics used against us by the people of the area. Founded in the early '40s, the farm was quietly accepted for more than a decade by the people of southwestern Georgia's Sumter County.

"The Supreme Court decision changed that. I guess the people felt like they had to do something." Trouble followed. And in a six-month period there came legal reprisals, dynamitings, shotgun blasts, a fire, and cross-burnings. Farm members were unable to buy or sell goods in Americus because of a boycott and had to bring in supplies from 50 to 75 miles away.

The farm eventually was closed.

Turning to Mississippi, the Highlander official spoke with a tone of despair about the then missing civil rights workers and impatiently referred to the FBI as the Future Bureau of Investigation: "It's always 'we can come in after the crime is committed' but they never do anything to prevent a crime."

The evening program centered around the presentation and discussion of a film emphasizing the need for voter registration, "Knock on Every Door."

Thursday morning H. A. DeCosta, a Charleston Negro contractor, and Mrs. Ruby Cornwell, also of Charleston, treated "The Role of Higher Education in Achieving Jobs, Freedom, and Citizenship Responsibility." Dr. Scott Bates, a professor at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., continued the same discussion during the

afternoon. Bates, vice-chairman of the Board of Directors of Highlanders, was followed on the program by attorney Russell Brown, president of the Charleston NAACP, who spoke on the provisions and implications of the Civil Rights bill.

The evening was spent seeking an answer to "Why Negroes Seem to Care So Little about Civic and Political Responsibilities." Speaking were director Hurst and the Rev. Mr. Douglas of the Baptist Center.

Friday the group of 36 persons spent the day at the Jenkins' home at Atlantic Beach, a Negro resort about 15 miles north of Myrtle Beach. During the day, sessions were held on "Advantages of Political Maturity" and "American Ideals and American Illusions." The workshop participants returned to John's Island during the evening.

A session on the accomplishments of the workshop was held Saturday morning. Then the group split up: during the week that followed the interns lived with Charleston Negro families.

The group regathered several times, however. Sunday they attended a Second Step—Political Education—Workshop on Edisto Island, directed by Isaac Robinson. Monday and Thursday they attended Adult Citizenship Schools in North Charleston and at Parker's Ferry. Mrs. Roberta Leonard

and Mrs. Mary Brown led schools.

Charleston's library was visited before the participants returned to the Progress Club Center at the end of week for a discussion of week's events and implementation of the ideas discovered during the two-week session. (TOMORROW: The second John's Island workshop.)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

FROM: ~~TEX~~ *EMS* SAC, SAVANNAH (Your file _____) DATE: 9 10 8/26/64TO: ~~KROM~~ Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial 61-7511)Room No. ~~100-101~~SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING☒ Do not in file and
destroy 0-1
(For SOG use
only)☐ 1. Bufiles indicate this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP5 BTJ/CH
24502☐ 2. DATE ☐ airtel ☐ letterhead memo ☐ submitted
☐ report ☐ letter ☐ 90-day progress letter ☐ will be submitted _____

Reporting employee _____

☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when re
will be submitted _____☒ 4. Status of ☐ Appeal ☐ Inquiry ☒ Investigation ☐ Prosecuti
Closing letter being submitted to Bureau.☐ 5. Submit ☐ airtel ☐ letter by _____
☐ report ☐ letterhead memo

(Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. Note receipt and acknowledgment on top)

100-5125

SEARCHED <u>6</u>	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
1964	
FBI - SAVANNAH	

82 [redacted] [initials]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7511) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 9/10/64

FROM: SAC, SAVANNAH (100-5125) (C)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Savannah airtel to Bureau, 8/19/64;
Knoxville letter to Bureau, 8/28/64;
[REDACTED] letter to Bureau, 9/1/64.

The Bureau has recently been furnished a series of articles appearing in the "News and Courier", Charleston, S. C., newspaper, concerning captioned center.

The Knoxville Division has advised the Bureau that no information has come to the attention of the Knoxville Division concerning MYLES HORTON or the Highlander Education and Research Center conducting a South-wide Voter Education Internship Project at Sea Island Progressive Club Center, Johns Island, S. C.

The Bureau has been previously advised that no active investigation is being conducted concerning captioned organization.

b7D [REDACTED] has advised that any further information coming to his attention concerning above will be made available to the Savannah Division.

Accordingly, the case in the Savannah Division is being placed in a closed status.

2- Bureau (RM)
1- Savannah

elh
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

EX-114

REC-23

61-7511-297

SEP 14 1964

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

Classified by SP-3 BTG/OW
Declassify on: OADR 3/5/84
245522

DATE

3/7/84

61 SEP 18 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEC

b7c
[REDACTED]

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

87C
[REDACTED]
Sept. 9th, 1964

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

EXP. PROC

Dear Mr. Hoover:

39 SEP 14 1964

35

I have just finished reading your article "The Faith of Our Fathers", in the current (Sept 11) issue of Christianity Today. Please accept my grateful thanks for writing it.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/cu

I know of no man in this Nation who has made a greater contribution to its welfare and security than yourself. You have placed our children, our grandchildren, and generations yet unborn, deeply in your debt. Yours is a magnificent record of unselfish service.

There is a bit of information that I would like very much to have, if it not against the policy of your office to furnish it.

REC-5A 61-7511-298

TC 9116/64 fd [REDACTED] dec
ack 9-16-64

EX-112

25 SEP 14 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

I want to know something about
the Highlander Folk School in Monteagle
Tenn. Was this organization listed as
a subversive organization, and was it
a Communist Party front?

With all good wishes,

Most sincerely,

b7c [REDACTED]

P. S. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7c

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED] b7c

Sept. 9th, 1964

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/cn
245832

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just finished reading your article "The Faith of Our Fathers," in the current (Sept 11) issue of Christianity Today. Please accept My grateful thanks for writing it.

I Know of No Man in this Nation who has Made a greater contribution to its Welfare and Security than yourself. You have placed our children, our grandchildren, and generations yet unborn, deeply in your debt. Yours is a Magnificent record of unselfish service.

There is a bit of information that I would like Very Much to have if it Not against the policy of your office to furnish it.

I want to Know something about the Highlander Folk School in Monteagle Tenn. Was this organization listed as a Subversive organization, and was it a Communist Party Front?

With all good wishes,

Most Sincerely

[REDACTED]

8 x TP

7/15/64
npl
ack 9-16-64
dec
P. S.

[REDACTED] b7c

September 16, 1964

REC-54

61-7511-298

EX-112

b7C

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/an
24556

Dear [REDACTED]

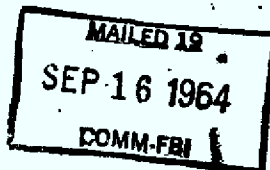
I received your letter of September 9th and I want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my article, "The Faith of Our Fathers," and my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

While I would like to be of service to you, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the topic of your interest.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosures (5)
Communism - The Incredible Swindle
"Faith in Freedom"

Counterintelligence Activities
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. 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 persons affiliated with the HFS. The Bureau has not investigated this organization.

(61-7511-266, 267).

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____

SEP 16 1964

SEP 16 1964

TELETYPE UNIT

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

SEP 16 4 00 PM '64

dem
B.S.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/clg
DATE: 7-27-64 045832

TO : Mr. DeLoach

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
THE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL;
REQUEST FROM CONGRESSMAN ROMAN C. PUCINSKI
(DEMOCRAT - ILLINOIS)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Declassification
DATE 2/23/79 RSP

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

BACKGROUND:

Congressman Pucinski forwarded a copy of a flyer made from a news clipping from the "Augusta Courier," Augusta, Georgia, on 7-8-63. The flyer identifies Martin Luther King in a photograph taken of certain individuals attending the Highlander Folk School during the Labor Day weekend of 1957. The Congressman would like to know if the Highlander Folk School was a communist training school and whether or not the person identified in the photograph is Martin Luther King, Jr.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

The photograph of Martin Luther King attending the Highlander Folk School has come to our attention several times in the past. A United Press - International Service release of 7-12-63 reported Governor Ross Barnett displayed a poster-size photograph to the Senate Commerce Committee which he claimed showed King "at a communist training school." Governor Barnett said the picture was taken at the Highlander Folk School of Monteagle, Tennessee. The Bureau obtained another copy of the photograph from our Savannah Office in March, 1963, and it was revealed that the photograph was taken surreptitiously by an "undercover agent" of the Georgia Commission on Education at the Highlander Folk School in 1957.

The photograph also identified Abner W. Berry who has been a writer for "The Daily Worker" and has been a member of the Communist Party, although he reportedly left it in September, 1958. Aubrey Williams, also identified in the photograph has been associated with communist causes and has held such positions as chairman of the National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee and vice president and member of the board of directors of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc., a communist front. Myles Horton, identified on the flyer forwarded by Congressman Pucinski as director of the Highlander Folk School, has been very close to the Communist Party in the past, although informants doubt that he has ever been a member of the Communist Party.

1 - Mr. DeLoach

(5)

REC 8
XEROX
SEP 30 1964
SENT DIRECTOR
7-28-64

11 SEP 30 1964

DECLASSIFIED BY 4080
ON 11/29/77

(Continued, page 2)

M. A. Jones to DeLoach memo
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Highlander Folk School was formed in 1932 and was a leftist organization supported by private donations. It offered courses of instruction in labor organization, economics and labor education. Informants have advised that the school has had Communist Party members on its staff as instructors and has followed the practice of welcoming communists as students. Informants have advised the school was pro-communist, but there is no indication it was ever completely controlled by communists. The school was closed by the State of Tennessee in December, 1961, after its conviction for violating Tennessee segregation laws. A state charter for a Highlander Research and Education Center of Knoxville, Tennessee was issued on 8-28-61 and Myles Horton was identified as its Director.

RECOMMENDATION:

That a representative of your, Mr. DeLoach, office personally contact Congressman Pucinski, with whom we have had prior cordial relations, and inform him confidentially of the background regarding the flyer he enclosed concerning the Highlander Folk School.

John
AT
WCP
P
AM
V. Kuyper
do

Handled with Congressman
Pucinski personally
Enclosure to his letter returned
to him.

ROMAN C. PUCINSKI
11TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

July 22, 1964

COMMITTEE:
EDUCATION AND LABOR

Mr. Tolson_____
Mr. Belmont_____
Mr. Mohr_____
Mr. Casper_____
Mr. Callahan_____
Mr. Conrad_____
Mr. DeLoach_____
Mr. Evans_____
Mr. Gale_____
Mr. Rosen_____
Mr. Sullivan_____
Mr. Tavel_____
Mr. Trotter_____
Tele. Room_____
Miss Holmes_____
Miss Gandy_____

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I wonder if you would be good enough to give me your department's report of the veracity of the enclosed brochure.

I have seen this material rather widely distributed and I would like to know if the Highlander Folk School was a Communist Training School and whether or not the person identified in the photograph is, indeed, Martin Luther King, Jr.

Since this material is being widely distributed in my district, you can appreciate my concern.

Sincerely yours,

Roman C. Pucinski
Member of Congress

RCP:pk

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/a

ENCLOSURE
362

60 OCT 5 1964 XEROX
SEP 30 1964

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

EX-102

JUL 24 1964

CORRESPONDENCE

JUL 24 1964

EXP. PROC.
JUL 24 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: 7/24/64

Transmitted (Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTELAIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (100-5125) (P)

SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING① HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
Re letter to Knoxville, 6/19/64.

 letter from the above captioned organization located at 1625 Riverside Drive, Knoxville, Tenn. Along with this letter was an announcement of a 1964 Southwide Voter Education Project to be held at Johns Island, S. C.

This announcement reflects that the Sea Island Progressive Club Center, River Road, Johns Island, S. C., will have a 1964 Southwide Voter Education Internship Project sponsored by Highlander Research and Education Center from 7/6-18/64 and again from 7/20-8/1/64.

The staff is reflected as ESAU JENKINS, Director,
GUY CARAWAN, Music Director.

 advised that MILES HORTON was presently at Johns Island conducting a Southwide Voter Education Internship Project at the Sea Island Progressive Club Center.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Knoxville (RM)
2 - (RM)
1 - Savannah

0-17 SAVANNAH 6 JUL 27 1964

Copy to

Date 7/28/64By TPRRemarks Approved: Sent

M

Per

60 AUG 13 1964 Special Agent in Charge

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Classified by
Declassify on:

SC

US

RECEIVED

FBI

JUL 27 1964

FBI

SV 100-5125

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7D

[REDACTED]

Inasmuch as this club is operating a Voter Education Internship Project, no investigation is being conducted by the Savannah Office; however, it will be followed through sources and any pertinent information will be developed.

The [REDACTED] is requested to furnish the Savannah Office and Knoxville any information developed in this regard.

The Knoxville Office is also requested to keep the Savannah Office advised of activities in this regard.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-- 2 --

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

Date: 7/27/64

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (100-5125)
SUBJECT: HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

For the information of the Charlotte Office, a 1964 Southwide Voter Education internship project sponsored by Highlander Research and Education Center is being held at the Sea Island Progressive Club Center, River Road, Johns Island, S. C., from 7/6/64 through 7/18/64. The second workshop begins July 20, 1964 and ends August 1, 1964. The purpose of this project is to put into practice what those attending learn in working with politically conscious Negro and white leadership in Charleston and the surrounding sea islands.

The staff of the Sea Island Progressive Club Center is composed of ESAU JENKINS who is the director, and GUY CARAWAN who is the music director.

[REDACTED] volunteered the following information:

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - Charlotte (RM)
- 2 - Savannah

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/CL

NOV 5 1964

64 AUG 14 1964

Special Agent in Charge

EX 109 REC-66

JUL 28 1964

Per

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

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

61-7511-302, p. 2

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 X DELETED PAGE(S) X
 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 9/1/64

TO

DIRECTOR, FBI

SUBJECT:

HIGHLANDER EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH CENTER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Savannah Airtel to Bureau 7/24/64.

Referenced airtel requested that [redacted] furnish Savannah and Knoxville any information developed regarding the above captioned organization. Continued contact with informants has failed to reflect any additional information in this regard.

[redacted] will furnish any information received on this regard to the Savannah and Knoxville Offices.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

Classified by SP8 BTG/aw

Declassify on GAO 3/3/84

245532

cc 808
2-Bureau (RM)
2-Savannah (100-5152) (RM)
2-Knoxville (RM)

REC 5

61-7511-513

SEP 2 1964

EX-131

SEP 22 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET4

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



Deleted under exemption(s) b 7 D with no segregable material available for release to you.



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



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



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

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

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



For your information: _____



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

61-7511-NR, 1/14/65

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XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

b7c

February 18, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am confused.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/cjs
245632

A recent paid political ad in the Boulder Daily Camera showed a picture of Rev. Martin Luther King at the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee in 1957. The ad states that this is a Communist school, that some Communist members were in attendance, that a Karl Prussian charges that King is a member of 60 "Communist Front" organizations (whatever that is), etc., etc.

The ad further states that Karl Prussia was an FBI counter-spy for 22 years.

CORRESPONDENCE

act 2-25-65 b7c [redacted] /cti

Mr. Hoover

2.

Feb. 18, 1965

These charges, while not specifically calling King a Communist, are serious.

Numerous letters to the editor of the Daily Camera have condemned the article, praised the article, defended the right to publish it, etc. Few of these writers have any basic facts to go on, I feel.

Could you supply me with any information on this Highlander School? Its founding, faculty, students, sources of income, etc.

What was King's participation? Was "Karl Prussian" really an FBI member. Does King belong to 60 such "front" organizations.

I only want to become an informed citizen, and not have to rely on rumors, half-truths, etc.

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

CK

TRUE COPY

 b7c
February 18, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am confused.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/C
245588

A recent paid political ad in the Boulder Daily Camera showed a picture of Rev. Martin Luther King at the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee in 1957. The ad states that this is a communist school, that some communist members were in attendance, that a Karl Prussian charges that King is a member of 60 "Communist Front" organizations (whatever that is), etc. etc.

The ad further states that Karl Prussian was an FBI counter-spy for 22 years.


These charges, while not specifically calling King a communist, are serious.

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I only want to become an informed citizen, and not have to rely on rumors, half-truths, etc.

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

IT MAR 1 1965
Respectfully yours,
 b7c

2-24-65
cm
alt 2-25-65
b7c

February 25, 1965

REC-56 61-7511-304

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 18th has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the subjects of your inquiry.

I would like to point out that Karl Prussion assisted this Bureau by furnishing information on subversive activities from November, 1949, to July, 1958, during which time he was compensated. He was not, however, a Special Agent of the FBI. This Bureau is not in a position to comment in any way whatsoever on his current activities, statements or personal ventures.

I am enclosing some information which I hope you will find of interest.

MAILED 5
FEB 25 1965
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Our Heritage of Greatness
Time for Decision
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Shall it be Law or Tyranny?

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8BTD/C

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
FEB 25 4 26 PM '65

Tolson
Belmont
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TELETYPE UNIT

b7c [REDACTED]

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. 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 HFS. The Bureau has not investigated this organization (61-7511-266, 267).

March 4, 1965

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/02
2455361

Dear Mr. Hoover;

Because of recent controversy in our community we are attempting to accumulate factual information about the Highlander Folk School of Monteagle, Tennessee. We are concerned about this information as it relates to Martin Luther King

Following are the specific questions for which we need answers:

1. Was there an act of legislature of the State of Tennessee to close the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee, as a subversive school?
2. If now what was the action taken by the State of Tennessee against the Highlander Folk School?
3. What were the specific charges made against the Highlander Folk School?
4. On the basis of what charge did Highlander Folk School lose its charter?
5. Were there any communists on the Staff or Faculty of the Highlander Folk School throughout 1957 or thereafter?
6. Are there now any communists on the Staff or Faculty of the Highland Educational Research Foundation in Knoxville, Tennessee?
7. Was there, to the best of your knowledge, any training given at the Highlander Folk School, which was based on the principles of Marxism, Leninism, Stalinism, or Communism?
8. Can the F.B.I. say whether or not the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee, or the Highland Educational Research Foundation, Knoxville, Tenn. has in any way used methods or principles or any training of people in the methods of Marxist, Leninist, Stalinist or Communistic tactics?

3 APR 01
MAR 12 1965
pm

REC-18

2 MAR 11 1965

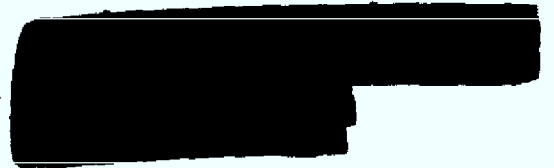
CORRESPONDENCE

9. Was Karl Prussian ever an agent of the F.B.I.?
10. If not an agent, what did he do for the F.B.I.?
11. Was Manning Johnson an agent of the F.B.I.?
12. If not an agent, what did he do for the F.B.I.?
13. Were they paid—if so how much?
14. Are either or both of them now, in any way, associated with the F.B.I.?

Thank you very much,

Sincerely,

b7c

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

C.C.
N. deB Katzenbach
George McCandless

March 10, 1965

REC-18

EX-114

61-7511-305

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/aw
24553

b7c
b7c
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 4th has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have mentioned.

With regard to Karl Prussion and Manning Johnson, I would like to point out Prussion assisted this Bureau by furnishing information on subversive activities from 1949 to July, 1958, while Johnson did likewise from 1942 to 1944, during which time they were compensated; however, they were not Special Agents. Neither Prussion nor Johnson has been connected with the FBI since these dates. Their personal ventures and their opinions are strictly their own and the FBI is not in a position to comment on these in any way whatsoever.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

1 - Denver - Enclosure

1 - [REDACTED] (4)

See enclosures and note next page.

MAILED 2
MAR 10 1965
COMM-FBI

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

70 MAR 19 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-441657-
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-55627-

b7c

[REDACTED]

Domestic Intelligence
Communism the Incredible Swindle
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Our Heritage of Greatness
The Communism Menace

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Karl Prussion is well known to Bureau files as the Highlander Folk School and Martin Luther King. Manning Johnson was a Party member from 1930 to 1939 and furnished information to this Bureau 1942 to 1944. According to public sources information, he died in July, 1959. (100-55627)

3/10/65

[Redacted]

Dear Mr. Hoover,
I have recently received a picture depicting Mr. Martin Luther King at the Highlander Folk School. It says under this picture this school was cited as a subversive organization by the state of Tennessee. This picture was carried by the Argonaut Courier on July 8, 1963 page 4.

I would appreciate it if you could confirm this picture and send any additional information if possible.

Thank you very much,

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

CORRESPONDENCE

5/16

md

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ack: 3-15-65

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/ole
245832

[Redacted] dk/alt
OK

1-7e
3-12-65
/dk

TRUE COPY

3/10/65

Don
[REDACTED]
5-1
let

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have recently recieved a picture depecting Mr. Martin Luther King at the Highlander Folk School. It says under this picture this school was cited as subversive organization by the state of Tennessee. This picture was carried by the Augusta Courier on July 8, 1963 page 4.

I would appreciate it if you could confirm this picture and send any additional information if possible.

Thank you very much.

I am

Sincerely yours,

REC-6

b7c

[REDACTED]

61-7511-306

MAR 17 1965

1.9C
3-12-65/dch

ad: 3-15-65

b7c

del/alt

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/5/84 BY SP8 BTJ/cw

gm 61-7511-306
X

March 16, 1965

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 10th has been received, and I appreciate the concern which prompted you to write me.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment along the lines you have indicated. In addition, I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding the subject of your inquiry.

REC'D-READING ROOM
L
B
I

In response to your request, I am enclosing some material on the general topic of communism. You may also wish to refer to my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." The former was written with the hope that it would help readers gain an insight into the true nature of the communist conspiracy in this country. The latter contains an analysis of international communist practices and contrasts totalitarian methods with life in a free country. These books may be available at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 19
MAR 13 1965
COMM-FBI

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Enclosures (5)

Enclosures & note page 2.

alb (3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/5/84 BY SP8 BTG/aw
240532

66 MAR 23 1965

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

b7c

LEB Intro - 4-1-61
Internal Security - 4-17-62
Deadly Duel
Communism--The Incredible Swindle
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles.