

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

1970

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☐ Return to _____

Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☒ Nonsubversive References Only
☒ Main Summary References Only

JUL 7 1970

on Anderson, Marion

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Fisher, Arpheus Mrs.

Birthdate & Place 2/27/03

Address Marianna Farm

Joe's Hill Rd.

Localities Danbury, Connecticut

R# Date 7/7 Searcher Initials 531

Prod. 9

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

62-101087-A Sub 9/18/58

Arpheus Hodge Mrs. (car)

77-78164

77-78164-35 Summary 6/13/58

Anderson, Marian (car)

77-78164-39 Summary 2/21/66

-37 " 12/15/64

62-5-20231op #61 Summary 8/20/64

62-60527-43658 " 7/26/55

41537 " 2/1/55

30411 " 7/28/52

Anderson, Marion (car)

SI (car)

Fisher, Arpheus Hodge Mrs.

SI (car)

B2

JUL 7 1970

F345

R67

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin BUREAU	Date 6/3/58	Investigative Period 5/7,9,13,23,26-29;6/2,3/58
TITLE OF CASE MARIAN ANDERSON, aka., Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher, Marian Elina Blanche Anderson		Report made by [REDACTED] b7C	Typed By: kto
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

Synopsis:

b7C Appointee's career *[REDACTED] b7C*
verified. Returned from Europe and began career under
management of SOL HUOK, her present manager. Information
regarding SOL HUOK set out. Associates at Hurok
b7C Attractions, *[REDACTED]* and professional associates
b7D regard her favorably. Neighbors at New York home recommend
her. No pertinent information, "New York Times" morgue.
No credit, BSS, or arrest record. MARIAN ANDERSON
appears on letterhead of American Committee for Spanish
Freedom as a sponsor. Newspaper article reflects she
spoke before 1946 meeting of Council on African Affairs.
These two organizations designated by Attorney General
of US pursuant to Executive Order 10450. MARIAN ANDERSON
reportedly agreed to be a sponsor of congress "To Free
EARL BROWDER". BROWDER was General Secretary of
Communist Party. No Board of Elections information
located. NY confidential informants gave no information
concerning appointee.

- RUC -

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: ② - Bureau (77-78164) 1 - New York (77-23894)		77-78164-29	
		NOT RECORDED	
		6 JUN 1958	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/16/97 BY SP5 JLR
373638

NY 77-23894

REFERENCE:

Bureau airtels to NY, 5/2/58 and 5/21/58.

DETAILS:

Professional Career

[REDACTED] on June 2, 1958,

[REDACTED] advised that he has

He said

she was attending South Philadelphia High School for Girls and did occasional singing to supplement the family income.

According to [REDACTED] she studied music in Philadelphia until about 1924, when she won a competition at Lewis Stadium in New York and began more frequent concerts. He explained that she had considerable difficulty in winning recognition and her concerts were irregular and infrequent. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] during these years, from about 1918 to the early 1930's. Further, he said her [REDACTED]

Her next accompanist was ROSE [REDACTED] now deceased.

[REDACTED] continued that the

b7C
b7D
appointee's [REDACTED] and he said he has never had cause to question the appointee's associates. As a young girl, she was very steady, not given to snap judgments, and has always been of very stable disposition. He added she has never expressed herself to any degree on political matters, inasmuch as she is not primarily interested in politics. In his estimation, Miss ANDERSON'S beliefs fall well within the framework of the major political party system and he said she believes an artist can do her people more good if the artist remains in the artistic field. He said she has done this herself and very much disapproves of the political activities of PAUL ROBESON. [REDACTED] said Miss ANDERSON knows Mr. ROBESON as a professional colleague but there has never been any personal friendship between them. According to [REDACTED], Miss ANDERSON has known and admired [REDACTED] another professional colleague.

b7C
b7D
[REDACTED] added that the appointee is a patriotic American who can be relied upon to act with good judgment in any capacity she may undertake. He feels she is richly endowed with humility, depth of character, generosity, and kindness.

NY 77-23894

He said she is extremely well fitted to occupy a position requiring discretion, tact, and trustworthiness. [REDACTED] advised that he has seen her only infrequently since [REDACTED]

b7D [REDACTED] related that during the years [REDACTED] Miss ANDERSON, her professional contacts were limited. For this reason, and due to the passage of time, he could suggest no one who would be acquainted with her early career.

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]
Columbia Artists Management, Inc.
(formerly Columbia Concerts)
113 West 57th Street
New York, New York

Investigation in this caption was conducted on
May 27, 1958, by SA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that

[REDACTED] He stated he was

[REDACTED] She studied and toured in Europe
until about 1934, when SOL HUOK offered the appointee
a guaranteed contract. Miss ANDERSON tried to get
[REDACTED] to match the guarantee but he said he could not
at that time and she subsequently returned to America
under SOL HUOK'S management and has remained under his
management to the present. [REDACTED] noted that Miss
ANDERSON'S career began when she won a competition at
Lewisohn Stadium in New York and shortly thereafter
began singing [REDACTED] added that
Miss ANDERSON originally came from Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania. [REDACTED] stated he recalls one WILLIAM
KING who was accompanist for the appointee for a brief
period but he has not heard of KING for a number of
years and knows nothing about him. He stated he has no
reason to question Mr. KING in any way. [REDACTED] also
stated that the appointee has surrounded herself with
professional managers at Hurok Attractions and he has
never had reason to question her associates there.

Europe
1029-34

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED], stated she first met Miss ANDERSON about twenty-five years ago and has seen her socially several times since that time. Both [REDACTED] stated that they have never heard of the appointee being connected with any political movement and they stated they know her to be truly American and one of the finest persons they know. They stated they have never heard of any association Miss ANDERSON has had with PAUL ROBESON and they stated Miss ANDERSON is a person of the finest patriotism, character, reputation, and integrity. They believe she is a person whom the whole world would approve of in any position and they unreservedly recommended her for a position of responsibility, trust, or confidence.

b2

New York [REDACTED] on November 3, 1955, advised that in June, 1955, the Council on African Affairs dissolved and at the time of dissolution PAUL ROBESON was Chairman of the organization.

The Council on African Affairs and the Communist Party have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b2

New York [REDACTED] in June, 1950, advised that PAUL ROBESON was known to him, prior to 1945, as a concealed Communist.

b2, b7D

New York [REDACTED] in April, 1944, advised that PAUL ROBESON'S Communist Party name was JOHN THOMAS.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] advised that he could think of no one else who would be familiar with this period of the appointee's career.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] advised that he was affiliated with Miss ANDERSON from approximately

*Documented
on Robeson*

Included

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D

1926 to 1929, [REDACTED]. He stated the appointee had not furthered her career to the extent that she desired in the late 1920's and he advised her to go to Europe. He noted that SOL HUROC became aware of the appointee in Europe, in about 1934, brought her to America, and has been her manager since. He stated Miss ANDERSON was refused the right to sing at Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C., in the late 1930's, and in its place, Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, wife of the former President, planned an open-air concert for Miss ANDERSON. He stated this concert won the appointee national acclaim. [REDACTED] continued that he has had no business contact with the appointee for five or six years but he had close contact with her through her present manager in prior years. To his knowledge, the appointee never had any association with PAUL ROBESON and he stated he knows her to be a person of excellent patriotism, character, reputation, and loyalty. Further, he stated Miss ANDERSON conveys deep sincerity and has won the admiration and respect of the world. Miss ANDERSON comports herself with dignity and can adapt herself to any situation. He stated the appointee is highly suitable for any government position requiring the utmost in loyalty, discretion, and judgment.

b7C
b7D

Hurok Attractions, Inc.
730 5th Avenue,
New York, New York

b7C

Investigation in this caption was conducted on May 26, 1958, by SA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised he has known Miss ANDERSON for eighteen years both professionally and personally. He stated she is very temperate and very Christian and her life is based on these principles. Further, she practices her Christian beliefs and is a person of the highest moral character, reputation, and undoubted patriotism. [REDACTED] stated her associates

b7C
b7D

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
have never been other than loyal citizens of good reputation. [REDACTED] recommended her without reservation for a government position in which access to restricted information and undoubted patriotism are required. He noted that SOL HUOK is presently in California, and will not return to New York for approximately ten days.

b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
[REDACTED] stated that he has been associated with Miss ANDERSON for 12 years through this office. He added that she is truly a "great lady" and he trusts her implicitly. [REDACTED] stated that in show business one has the opportunity to meet famous people without their aura of publicity and Miss ANDERSON is a great person, both professionally and personally, with or without attendant publicity. [REDACTED] noted that SOL HUOK has managed the appointee for the greater part of her American career and brought her to America from Europe, in December, 1935. He stated he is not acquainted with the earlier, relatively unknown phases of Miss ANDERSON's career and has no knowledge of WILLIAM KING, her accompanist during her early days. [REDACTED] stated the appointee is worthy of any position requiring unquestioned patriotism, character, and reputation.

Concerning SOL HUOK, the following information is noted:

The New York "Herald Tribune", dated March 18, 1956, reflected that S. HUOK, American impresario, and VLADIMIR STEPANOV, head of the Foreign Department of the Ministry of Culture, announced at a joint press rally in Moscow, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on March 17, 1956, that Hurok Artists, Inc. will handle future American visits of Soviet artists.

b7C
b7D
[REDACTED] was interviewed on October 31, 1956, by SAS [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He stated that he has been in frequent contact with [REDACTED]. These contacts, he stated, have been exclusively of a business

NY 77-23894

b7D and cultural nature involving his occupation [REDACTED]

b7C
Records of the Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, as reviewed on November 30, 1956, by SA [REDACTED] revealed that S.M. HUOK (Producer), was, on October 28, 1941, a sponsor of the Russian War Relief, Inc. These records further reflect that HUOK was listed as a guest to be seated on the platform at a rally held under the auspices of Russian War Relief at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on June 22, 1942. The report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, 2nd Session, pages 364 - 365, reflected the following:

Mr. Sullivan

"Communist Party, under whatever name it has operated, has maintained front organizations and conducted enterprises for the sole purpose of carrying on propaganda on behalf of the Soviet Union. Some of the more important of these fronts and enterprises have been Russian War Relief."

These records further reflected that S. HUOK was on the mailing list of the American Council on Soviet Relations (ACSR), New York City, February 17, 1941. The ACSR has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States, pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A pamphlet entitled, "Investigation on Un-American Propaganda Activities in the United States, Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, MARTIN DIES, Texas, Chairman", reflects on page 1202 that S. HUOK was a sponsor of a Congress of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc., 232 Madison Avenue, New York City.

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc. has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States, pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D [redacted] advised that Mr. HUOK signed Miss ANDERSON in June, 1935, and first presented her in December, 1935. He stated she has been under Mr. HUOK's management since that time and had previously been singing in Europe. He stated that previous to her European experience, she had been [redacted] In [redacted]

[redacted] estimation, Miss ANDERSON is the greatest lady that this office knows and is probably the greatest person, from a personal standpoint, of the artists managed by this office. He stated her patriotism, background, demeanor, and integrity are unquestioned and he recommends her highly for a responsible or trustworthy position.

b7C
b7D [redacted] stated that she has known Miss ANDERSON for the entire time she has been managed by Mr. HUOK, or approximately 22 years. She noted that the appointee had previously been traveling in Europe, and under contract [redacted]. She stated that the earliest days of the appointee's career were [redacted]

b7C
b7D [redacted] and that WILLIAM KING was her accompanist during the earliest days of her career. She has no knowledge concerning Mr. KING and stated the appointee has known PAUL ROBESON only as a professional colleague. She stated Mr. ROBESON and Miss ANDERSON have never been close friends and that Miss ANDERSON has nothing in common with Mr. ROBESON's point of view. According to [redacted] she has never had any reason to doubt Miss ANDERSON in any way and she considers her to be a patriotic, reliable, kind, trustworthy, and very discreet person. She recommends the appointee highly for any work requiring discretion or good judgment. She added that Miss ANDERSON's [redacted] currently in California.

b7C
b7D [redacted] New York, New York, advised that [redacted] and has known her since 1939. He noted that [redacted]

NY 77-23894

b7c
b7c

for the appointee is now dead. He was aware that WILLIAM KING was Miss ANDERSON's accompanist in the beginning of her career but he stated he has no information about KING. He added, however, that he has never had reason to doubt KING in any way. [REDACTED] stated he and Miss ANDERSON have worked together closely for 18 years. She was born in Philadelphia, attended high school there, and came to New York, where she won a prize in a competition at Lewisohn Stadium. A few years thereafter she went to Europe for study and Mr. HUOK subsequently became her manager. He noted that she lives at Marianna Farm, Danbury, Connecticut, but also has an apartment at 1200 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, which is also the business address of her husband, ORPHEUS FISHER, an architect. [REDACTED] continued that the appointee is acquainted with PAUL ROBESON but their differences in politics make their contacts very infrequent and superficial. He explained that Miss ANDERSON has never been involved in politics and is primarily interested in her music and in her Connecticut farm. He stated she does not approve of Mr. ROBESON's political activities or affiliation. He continued that the appointee's character, reputation, and patriotism are above reproach and she enjoys very great stature and respect. He stated her conduct on her recent goodwill tour in Asia was exemplary and her statements were non-political, which is typical of her attitude. [REDACTED] recommended Miss ANDERSON.

Residual
my

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] advised that the appointee's family consists of her husband, ORPHEUS FISHER, her mother, ANNIE ANDERSON, and her two sisters, ALYSE ANDERSON and ETHEL ANDERSON DePRIEST, the latter three of which live in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] American National Theatre and Academy, (ANTA), 1545 Broadway, New York, New York, stated that his knowledge of Miss ANDERSON

NY 77-23894

is purely professional but he has found her to be a person of the finest character, patriotism, and reputation. He stated she is a great person, who is charming, intelligent and dignified. He noted that ANTA has a charter from Congress in the performing arts field as an agency

Department of State for arranging tours of selected artists, which tours are subsidized to the extent that the expenses are not earned. Miss ANDERSON went on such a goodwill tour under contract to ANTA and under the auspices of the Department of State. He stated this tour covered the Far East and South East Asia and extended from September 19, 1957, to November 30, 1957. Her husband,

b7C
b7D
[redacted] accompanied her and [redacted] stated the tour was a resounding success. He stated that proof of Miss ANDERSON's patriotism and good judgment is shown in her statements during the tour in which she handled herself with dignity and restraint. He feels that her patriotism and character are of the highest and he recommended her without reservation. He noted that he had [redacted] and he could suggest no one else in this organization who would know her well.

b7C
b7D
[redacted] See It Now staff, Columbia Broadcasting System, 485 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, on May 27, 1958, advised SA [redacted] that in connection with the above show, [redacted] the appointee, her husband [redacted] on a goodwill tour of the Far East and South East Asia, sponsored by ANTA and Department of State, from approximately September to December, 1957. He stated he was closely associated with Miss ANDERSON and her husband during this period and has met them on occasions since. He was not professionally acquainted with the appointee but during the above association he found her to be an intelligent, articulate, and diplomatic individual who ably and favorably represented her country. He mentioned that she has excellent personal habits and always has complete control of her faculties. Nothing has ever come to his attention that would cause him to question the character, reputation, associations or loyalty of either Miss ANDERSON or her husband and he highly recommends her for a government position requiring tact, discretion, confidence, and undoubted patriotism.

NY 77-23894

Neighborhood

1200 5th Avenue
New York, New York

b7C Investigation under this caption was conducted
on May 27, 1958, by SA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that Miss ANDERSON and her husband, ORPHEUS FISHER, an architect, have lived at this address for approximately the past year. He stated their home is a farm in Connecticut, but when the appointee is in New York she lives here. He estimated she spends approximately one third of her time here. He stated the FISHERS have been [REDACTED] and are well regarded by their neighbors. Their conduct is above reproach, according to [REDACTED] and he has had no reason to doubt their loyalty or character. He stated he would recognize PAUL ROBESON from newspaper publicity and he has never known ROBESON to visit Miss ANDERSON'S apartment. He considers her to be a devout person who is devoted to this country and he recommends her.

b7C
b7D

b7C
b7D [REDACTED] of the above address, [REDACTED] stated that she has known Miss ANDERSON socially for twenty years and as a neighbor for the past year or so. She also knows SOL HUOK, whom she stated has closely guided Miss ANDERSON'S career since 1934. She stated she is acquainted with WILLIAM KING who was the appointee's first accompanist in about 1923. He has not been accompanist with Miss ANDERSON since the late 1920's. She stated she does not know KING well but has never had reason to question his patriotism or character. In her opinion, Miss ANDERSON is extremely devoted to her career as a contralto singer and is most anxious to use her talent to further the best interests of this country. She stated there is no question as to the appointee's associations or patriotism and she is positive that Miss ANDERSON has had no social contacts with PAUL ROBESON. She stated they have nothing in common except their music. She highly recommends the appointee.

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D [REDACTED], of the above address, a housewife, stated she has known Miss ANDERSON and her husband as neighbors for about the past year. She occasionally visits in the FISHER apartment and has had the opportunity to discuss political ideology with Miss ANDERSON. She stated that the latter expressed a strong loyalty to this country and is anxious to use her talent to further the foreign policies important to this country. She stated the character, conduct, reputation, and associates of the appointee and her husband are above reproach and she has never known PAUL ROBESON to be associated with Miss ANDERSON. She recommends the appointee as an extremely loyal American, a very devout person, and one who would be well qualified for a position of trust.

b7C
b7D [REDACTED], of the above address, [REDACTED], advised she has known the appointee as a neighbor and social acquaintance for the past year and has closely followed her career for the past thirty years. She stated WILLIAM KING, the appointee's accompanist during the early days of her career, is presently the organist at St. Luke's Church in New York City. She stated she has no reason to question KING and has never known Miss ANDERSON to be associated with PAUL ROBESON except to have possibly appeared on the same program with him. She characterized Miss ANDERSON and her husband as loyal citizens of good character, reputation, and associates and recommends Miss ANDERSON without hesitation.

b7C
b7D [REDACTED], of the above address, a housewife, stated she has known Miss ANDERSON for the past ten years and highly recommends her in every respect. She stated the appointee's patriotism, character, demeanor, and associates are above reproach.

Credit

b7C
b7D Records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as checked on May 9, 1958, by [REDACTED] for SA [REDACTED], reflected no information concerning MARIAN ANDERSON, also known as, Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher, Marian Elina Blanche Anderson; or Orpheus Hodge Fisher.

NY 77-23894

Arrest Record

b7C
b7D
On May 9 and 13, 1958, SA [REDACTED] caused the records of the New York City Police Department to be checked by [REDACTED], Bureau of Criminal Identification; Acting [REDACTED], Information Unit; [REDACTED], Old Record Room (all of the above are of the New York City Police Department); [REDACTED], Fingerprint Bureau, Magistrate's Court, City of New York. No record was located concerning the appointee or her husband as named above.

Miscellaneous

b7C
b7D
[REDACTED] New York, on May 27, 1958, advised SA [REDACTED] that he has known the appointee on a social basis as well as a [REDACTED] basis from ten to fifteen years, but stated he is not intimately associated with her. He stated Miss ANDERSON has good traits, is very tactful, and very dignified, and makes a good impression. He stated Miss ANDERSON and PAUL ROBESON have nothing in common except their music and he doubts very much if there has been any association between them. He stated he would recommend the appointee without hesitation in regard to character, patriotism, and suitability for a position of trust.

b7C
b7D
[REDACTED] New York, on May 27, 1958, advised SA [REDACTED] she has known Miss ANDERSON for the past twenty-five years and considers her one of her best friends. She characterized the appointee as a great human being as well as an artist of international stature. In addition, she stated Miss ANDERSON has a deeply rooted belief in freedom and democracy, is a deeply religious person, and is incapable of resentment or anger. [REDACTED] stated she has never heard any personal criticism of the.

NY 77-23894

appointee and Miss ANDERSON is humorous, outgoing, warm, and of unquestioned patriotism and integrity. She stated further that Miss ANDERSON furthered good relations in all the countries she visited on her recent g ill tour and her warmth, affection, and generosity were obvious to all. In her estimation the appointee is always gracious and responsive to the simplest people as well as to world-famous individuals and she feels the appointee is an excellent choice for a government position requiring tact, responsibility, and trust or confidence. She stated Miss ANDERSON knew PAUL ROBESON several years ago but has had no contact with him for many years. She explained that Miss ANDERSON feels that ROBESON'S way of thinking is no way of accomplishing good and she was never a friend of him. Further, Miss ANDERSON feels badly about ROBESON'S political activity and has felt that her job as an artist is to sing and not to be affiliated with any organization. [REDACTED] added that she never knew WILLIAM KING and has never had reason to doubt any of the appointee's associates.

b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
New York, [REDACTED], advised SA [REDACTED] on May 27, 1958, that he has been on a joint program with the appointee a few times but has had little association with her. He considers her to be a gracious lady concerning whom he has never heard any unfavorable information. He stated he has had no reason to question her patriotism, integrity, or character and he has no reason to think that her associates have ever been other than loyal Americans. He stated he recalls one WILLIAM KING, who was a piano accompanist. He stated that he has never recalled him playing for the appointee. He stated he has not heard of KING for years. He stated he is insufficiently acquainted with Miss ANDERSON to enable him to comment in detail but has no reason to think that she would not be qualified for a government position.

NY 77-23894

b7C
b7D
On May 28, 1958, SA [REDACTED] caused the records of the Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, to be checked by [REDACTED]. No record was located concerning the appointee, as named in the title of this report, or for ORPHEUS HODGE FISHER.

Records of the Board of Elections, Borough of Manhattan, as checked on May 28, 1958, reflected no information concerning the appointee or her husband, at 1200 5th Avenue, New York, New York, for the years 1950 through 1957.

A number of confidential informants, who are familiar with certain phases of Communist Party activities in the New York area, were contacted during May, 1958. They can supply no information concerning appointee, as named in the title of this report, or concerning ORPHEUS HODGE FISHER.

An article entitled "How It's Done" in the February 27, 1942 edition of "P.M.", a former New York daily newspaper, reflects that the Dies Committee lists the Marian Anderson Citizens Committee as a Communist front group. The article went on to say that this Committee was formed in the Spring of 1939 after the Daughters of the American Revolution had denied Miss ANDERSON the right to appear in Constitution Hall in Washington. It related that the Committee sponsored her appearance at the Lincoln Memorial there.

An article on page 3, column 3, of the September 17, 1941 "Daily Worker" identified Miss MARIAN ANDERSON as Co-Chairman

NY 77-23894

of the Citizens Emergency Conference for Inter-Racial Unity. This article also states that "A widely representative executive committee of the conference includes..... Dr. Max Yergan, Council on African Affairs."

The "Daily Worker" of April 22, 1947, described MAX YERGAN as Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs.

Information concerning the Council on African Affairs has been set out above.

The "Daily Worker" is a former East Coast Communist daily newspaper which suspended publication on January 13, 1958.

b2, b7D New York [redacted] who is not available for recontact in January, 1946, made available a letter on the stationery of the American Committee for Spanish Freedom. On the rear of this letterhead stationery appears a list of sponsors of the organization and this list contains the name "Marian Anderson" not further identified.

The American Committee for Spanish Freedom has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b2 New York [redacted] advised in January, 1946, that the Council on African Affairs held a mass meeting on January 7, 1946, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 138th Street, near Seventh Avenue, New York City. Two to three thousand people were present and one of the speakers was Miss MARION ANDERSON. - New York [redacted] continued that Miss ANDERSON said the audience, as members of her race, should stand by the Council on African Affairs and support it with contributions of money and foodstuff. The informant also said PAUL ROBESON sang 3 numbers and asked

NY 77-23894

62
the audience for complete support of the Council.

New York [redacted] was recontacted on May 28, 1958, and could furnish no additional information concerning the above meeting or Miss ANDERSON. *See p 3 Robeson doc.*

An article entitled "ROBESON, ANDERSON Pack 'Aid to Africa' Meeting", on page 40, columns 1 and 2, of the January 12, 1946 edition of "The Peoples Voice", a New York newspaper, reflects that MARIAN ANDERSON and PAUL ROBESON addressed a meeting sponsored by the Council on African Affairs at the Abyssinian Baptist Church on the previous Monday night. This article stated that MAX YERGAN, founder and executive director of the Council, addressed the meeting. The article went on to say that "Miss MARIAN ANDERSON received a standing ovation that lasted for several minutes before she was allowed to speak. After declaring that she wanted to go to Africa in the near future, she said she knew the audience would 'give until there was no more to give for the suffering South Africans'"... "PAUL ROBESON was the climax speaker and he had the audience hanging on his every word."

62
New York [redacted], who is not available for recontact, in March, 1942, advised that MARIAN ANDERSON (not further identified) had agreed to be a sponsor of the congress "To Free EARL BROWDER".

The "New York Herald Tribune" of October 1, 1952, a New York daily newspaper, refers to EARL BROWDER as General Secretary of the Communist Party from 1930 through 1944. An article by LOUIS BUDENZ in the "Daily Worker" of May 23, 1944, page 2, reflects EARL BROWDER was elected President of the Communist Political Association on May 22, 1944.

The Communist Political Association has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

- RUC -

- 16 -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (77-78164)

DATE: 6/3/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (77-23894)

SUBJECT: MARIAN ANDERSON, aka
Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher, Marian
Elina Blanche Anderson
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Enclosed herewith are 2 copies of the report of SA [REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED], dated and captioned as above, and 2 copies of a
similarly dated and captioned letterhead memorandum.

Identity of Informants

[REDACTED] Used in documenting PAUL ROBESON.
Information re the Council on
African Affairs meeting of 1/7/46 was
given to SA [REDACTED] and is
located in [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] was recontacted on 5/28/58 by
SA [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] is LOUIS BUDENZ, [REDACTED]

Identity withheld by request. Used
in documenting PAUL ROBESON.

[REDACTED] is [REDACTED]

Identity withheld by request. Used
in documenting PAUL ROBESON.

[REDACTED] is a confidential source connected with the [REDACTED]

The information appears
in NY 100-69125-99 and the
informant is not further identified.

[REDACTED], discontinued in 1946. Logs have been
destroyed. The information is reported
in NY 100-4931-1800, page 2.

- ② - Bureau (77-78164) (Encl. 4)
1 - New York (77-23894)

BDL:mcl
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JCL/KS
373638

77-78164-30
NOT RECORDED
17

NY 77-23894

The identity of the confidential informants mentioned in enclosed report is as follows:

b2 b7D [redacted] contacted on 5/29/58 by SA [redacted]
[redacted] contacted on 5/29/58 by SA [redacted]
[redacted] contacted on 5/29/58 by SA [redacted]
[redacted] contacted on 5/29/58 by SA [redacted]
[redacted] contacted on 5/28/58 by SA [redacted] b7C

Miscellaneous

b7C
b7D
b7C
b7C
b7D [redacted] American National Theatre and Academy, whose comments appear in enclosed report, voluntarily commented that he dislikes appointee's [redacted], because he failed to make some of Miss ANDERSON's appearances on her recent tour of Asia available through all News media, as [redacted] said he had agreed to do. He added that he recognized it is [redacted] job to be "hard headed" and he has no other reason to distrust or question [redacted]. He specifically said the above, which he feels was failure to live up to the ANTA contract, does not reflect on [redacted] patriotism. The above is being mentioned because of [redacted] recollection of his father's opinion of [redacted] set out in Philadelphia airtel to NY, 5/8/58, and was not deemed pertinent for inclusion in enclosed report.



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

New York, New York
June 3, 1958

MARIAN ANDEPSON, Also Known As,
Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher,
Marian Elina Blanche Anderson
SPECIAL INQUIRY

b7C
b2, b7D
The confidential informants, mentioned in
report of Special Agent [REDACTED] June 3, 1958,
have furnished reliable information in the past
[REDACTED], and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] also mentioned in above report, have furnished
reliable information in the past. Contact with
[REDACTED] has been insufficient to determine
reliability.

This is for your information and should not be
disseminated to any unauthorized person or agency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JC/KS
#373638

77-78164-30

6/5/58

MARIAN ANDERSON
aka
SPI

Re WFO airtel Bureau May 28, 1958.

The files of the Passport Office, Dept. of State, reviewed on 6/3/58 by SE [REDACTED], reflected that the appointee was issued passport # 461443 on 9/27/27 for twelve months travel to Great Britain, France, Italy and Switzerland. The appointee was issued passport # 215623 on 4/29/30 for one years' travel to Germany for the purpose of studying and giving recitals. On 9/1/33 passport #215623 was renewed and would expire on 4/29/34.

The file reflected that the appointee was issued passport #42 on 4/24/34 by Consul General, at Stockholm, Sweden. No travel plans were indicated on this passport. The appointee's passport #42 was renewed on 4/17/36 by American Consul, Rome, Italy, for two years and to expire on 4/24/38. No travel plans were indicated on her renewal application of the passport.

No additional pertinent data appeared in the file.

Washington Field will RUC upon receipt of outstanding agency check CIA.

③-Bureau
1-WFO
JRA:DRB
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JC/KB

#373638

AIRTEL

77-78164-31

NOT RECORDED

16 JUN 5 1958

RECEIVED
NOT RE
16 JUN

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.
JUN 2 2 05 PM '68
RECEIVED F. B. I.
JUN 2 2 05 PM '68

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.
JUN 2 2 05 PM '68
RECEIVED F. B. I.
JUN 2 2 05 PM '68

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, WFO (77-62924)
RE: ANDERSON, aka
SPI

6/6/58

ReWFOairtel June 5, 1958.

CIA advised this date no derogatory information
re appointee. RUC.

2 - Bureau
1 - WFO
JRA:blb
(4)

AIRTEL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JCL/ES
#373638

77-78164-32
NOT RECORDED
16 JUN 6 1958

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED

JUN 8 2 03 PM '58

RECEIVED FBI

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *ferm*

DATE: June 13, 1958

FROM : G. C. *Gallan*ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIEDDATE *12/17/97* BY *SP5 CLK*
#373638SUBJECT: MARIAN ANDERSON,
aka Mrs. Orpheus Hodge
Fisher SPECIAL INQUIRY

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nease	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holloman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Request received 5-1-58 from State to investigate Anderson for top-level position in State. On 5-8-58, State requested investigation be discontinued; on 5-9-58, requested investigation held in abeyance; on 5-21-58, requested investigation be completed. She was born 2-27-03, Philadelphia, Pa. Since 1924, has been self-employed as singer, studying in Europe from approximately 1929 to 1935. Since 1935, has been associated with Sol Hurok who was a sponsor of Russian War Relief, Incorporated in 1941, which was cited by House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA); was on mailing list of American Council on Soviet Relations in 1941; and was sponsor of a congress of National Council of American-Soviet Relations. Latter 2 organizations designated by Attorney General (AG) under E.O. 10450.

Long-standing acquaintances of Anderson are
Philadelphia, Pa., and

All these organizations designated by AG.

Marian Anderson's name appears on special mailing list of American Council for a Democratic in 1947 which was cited by AG. Her name also on mailing list of Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc., which published the "Southern Patriot" in 1948 which has been cited by HCUA. She was on mailing list of American Committee for Spanish Freedom in 1946 and appeared at a mass meeting of Council on African Affairs which has been designated by AG. Paul Robeson on same program. He was identified by informant as concealed Communist Party (CP) member. Associates of Anderson advised she has no sympathy with Robeson's political beliefs and there is no known association with him.

RECOMMENDATION

REC-58

NOT RECORDED

That the enclosed summary memorandum be furnished to the White House, Secretary of State and Attorney General.

MCD:lw
(5)

Enclosure

June 13, 1958

BY COURIER SERVICE

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington 25, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JCK/RS
#373638

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In accordance with the request of
Mr. Roderic L. O'Connor, in his letter dated April 30,
1958, an investigation has been conducted by this
Bureau of Marian Anderson, also known as Mrs. Orpheus
Hodge Fisher. The results of this investigation are
contained in the enclosed summary memorandum.

It is noted Miss Anderson reportedly resided
abroad from 1929 to 1935. Inasmuch as this Bureau has
no facilities for conducting investigations overseas,
the enclosed summary memorandum contains only the results
of the inquiries conducted in the United States.

The investigation of Miss Anderson covered
inquiries as to her character, loyalty, general standing
and ability, but no inquiries were made as to the
sources of her income.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

MCD:lwv

Note: See cover memo 20846 Callan to Rosen, dated June 13, 1958.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Nease _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Clayton _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM

BY COURIER SERVICE

8 - JUN 13

COMM. - FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM
JUN 13 12 03 PM '58
FBI

NOT RECORDED

8 JUN 18 1958

June 13, 1958

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 CLK/RS
#373638

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

*Photo
100 is agrie
6-12-61
6-29-61
alf-mc*

My dear Mr. Adams:

By letter dated April 30, 1958, Mr. Roderic L. O'Connor of the Department of State requested an investigation of Marian Anderson, also known as Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher. Mr. O'Connor advised it is proposed to recommend to the President that Miss Anderson be appointed to a top-level position in the Department of State.

The results of this investigation are reflected in the enclosed summary memorandum, a copy of which is being furnished to the Secretary of State.

It is noted Miss Anderson reportedly resided abroad from 1929 to 1935. Inasmuch as this Bureau has no facilities for conducting investigations overseas, the enclosed summary memorandum contains only the results of the inquiries conducted in the United States.

The investigation of Miss Anderson covered inquiries as to her character, loyalty, general standing and ability, but no inquiries were made as to the sources of her income.

REC-50
BEO BEC.D

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOT RECORDED

JUN 18 1958

ENCLOSURE

MCD:lw

(6)

Enclosure

Note: Since this involves a Presidential appointment, a copy of the summary is being furnished to the White House.

MAIL ROOM

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Nease _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Clayton _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

67C

cc to white House
5-20-64
E.L.C.

Another copy
to white House
by crime person
4/9/65 D.Y.

June 13, 1958

MARIAN ANDERSON
also known as
Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher

D.C., PA, ILL, N.Y., CONN.,
FOREIGN, MASS.

SUMMARY

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Birth

Marian Anderson was reportedly born February 27, 1903, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the daughter of John B. and Annie Rucker Anderson. No information concerning her was found in the files of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; however, the files of the Passport Office, Department of State, reflect the above.

Education

Marian Anderson was graduated from South Philadelphia High School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1921, exact date not indicated, according to the records of the Board of Education, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. No further information concerning her was available in these records.

b7C
b7D
She reportedly attended the Chicago College of Music, Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] of the Chicago Conservatory advised that the Chicago College of Music has been defunct for approximately fifteen years and the manager of the school is now deceased. No information concerning former teachers of the Chicago College of Music was developed during this investigation.

b7C
Miss Anderson reportedly studied music in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, until 1924. During the early part of her training, [redacted] were reported to have been and [redacted]. No information concerning [redacted] was obtained from either available records or Miss Anderson's associates. She was also coached by Giuseppe Boghetti in

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5-ckes
373638

77-78164-35

ENCLOSURE

Photo
CC TO: [redacted]
REQ. REC'D 10-462
JUN 27 1962
ANS.
BY: [redacted]

Tolson
Nichols
Boardman
Belmont
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
Nease
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

MAIL ROOM

Marian Anderson

b7C
b7D
New York City subsequent to 1924, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] recalled that [REDACTED]

She studied music in Europe from approximately 1929 to 1935, according to associates who have known Miss Anderson since the 1920s.

Miss Anderson has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Music by the following:

Howard University, Washington, D. C., June, 1938; Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June, 1941; and Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, June, 1944.

Marital Status

Marian Anderson married Orpheus Hodge Fisher on July 24, 1943, in Bethel, Connecticut. She has continued the use of her maiden name throughout her professional career. Miss Anderson and her husband permanently reside in Danbury, Connecticut; however, they maintain an apartment in New York City. No children have been born of this marriage.

Employment

Miss Anderson began her professional career as a singer in 1924 when she won a contest at Lewisohn Stadium in New York City in competition with approximately three hundred other singers, according to associates. She has been self-employed since that time.

From approximately 1927 to 1928, she was under contract to Columbia Artists Management, Incorporated (formerly Columbia Concerts), New York City, and was managed by a representative of that firm.

Marian Anderson

From approximately 1929 to 1935, according to associates, she studied music and gave concerts in Europe. She returned from Europe in approximately 1935 and, since that time, has been managed by Sol Hurok who owns and operates Hurok Attractions, Incorporated, New York City.

Beginning in September, 1957, Miss Anderson toured several Far Eastern countries giving concerts under the auspices of the International Cultural Exchange Service, Department of State. The tour ended in approximately November, 1957.

II. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Interviews

The following persons interviewed during this investigation highly recommended Miss Anderson for a position of trust and confidence:

b7C
b7D
[redacted] Howard University, Washington, D. C. [redacted] advised he has been personally acquainted with Marian Anderson for approximately twenty-five years. He said she is a great artist and a woman of impeccable character. He described her as a tolerant woman who possesses excellent judgment. [redacted] said Miss Anderson is a loyal citizen.

b7C
b7D
[redacted] New York City. [redacted] advised he was

[redacted] noted that her career began when she won a contest at Lewisohn Stadium in New York City and has been an outstanding contralto since that time. He advised that she studied and toured Europe from approximately 1929 to 1935. [redacted] advised that Miss Anderson is a person of the highest character and she is without doubt a loyal citizen.

b7C
b7D
F

Marian Anderson

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] New York City, advised that he has known Miss Anderson since 1927. He stated she was refused the right to sing in Constitution Hall in Washington, D. C., in the late 1930s and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the former President, planned an open-air concert for her which won her national acclaim. [REDACTED] stated Miss Anderson is sincere and has won the admiration and respect of the world. He stated she is suitable for any position requiring the utmost loyalty, discretion and judgment.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] American National Theater and Academy, New York City. [REDACTED] stated that he is acquainted with Miss Anderson on a professional basis only and has found her to be a person of the highest character, patriotism and reputation. He also stated she is a person who is charming, intelligent and dignified. [REDACTED] noted that the American National Theater and Academy has a charter from Congress in the field of arts as an agency of the Department of State for the purpose of arranging tours of selected artists. He said Miss Anderson went on such a tour and that it was a resounding success. He stated that proof of Miss Anderson's patriotism and good judgment is shown in her statements during the tour in which she handled herself with dignity and restraint.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] City of Danbury, Danbury, Connecticut. [REDACTED] advised he has known Miss Anderson and her husband for approximately five years, having met them at a number of civic

Marian Anderson

b7C
b7D
functions. [redacted] continued that Miss Anderson has an excellent reputation in the community and he has no reason to question her loyalty. He related that Miss Anderson's associates who are known to him have all appeared to be people of good character.

b7C
b7D
[redacted] Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, [redacted] advised he is acquainted with Miss Anderson but not as a close personal friend. He said she is a noble and dignified person who, in the eyes of the entire music profession, has been admired as an artist and an exceptionally fine person. He said there is no question in his mind concerning her ability, loyalty or patriotism.

b7C
b7D
[redacted] personal acquaintance, Danbury, Connecticut.

b7C
b7D
[redacted] the "News Times," Danbury, Connecticut.

b7C
b7D
[redacted] Philadelphia Orchestra, Academy of Music, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

b7D
[redacted] personal acquaintance, New York City. [redacted] advised he

[redacted] He said their respect for each other is evidenced by the fact that [redacted]

[redacted] described Miss Anderson as the "first lady of the world." He also said she is a great person, not only as an artist but as a

Marian Anderson

b7D
human being, and will be a tremendous asset to the United States in the present struggle between totalitarianism and the free world. [REDACTED] said Miss Anderson sought his advice concerning the acceptance of the appointment tendered her and he said he advised her that if she is needed by the Government she should take this appointment even though it will represent a considerable financial sacrifice to her. [REDACTED] said that the Government could find a greater or more loyal person to represent and promote the interests of the United States.

The records of the Bureau of Special Services, New York Police Department, New York City, revealed that Sol Hurok (producer), was a sponsor of Russian War Relief, Incorporated, on October 28, 1941. These records further revealed that he was listed as a guest to be seated on the platform at a rally held under the auspices of Russian War Relief, Incorporated, at Madison Square Garden on June 22, 1942. The report of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, 78th Congress, second session, reflected the following:

"Communist Party, under whatever name it has operated, has maintained front organizations and conducted enterprises for the sole purpose of carrying on propaganda on behalf of the Soviet Union. Some of the more important of these fronts and enterprises have been . . . Russian War Relief."

The records of the Bureau of Special Services further revealed that S. Hurok was on the mailing list of the American Council on Soviet Relations, New York City, on

Marian Anderson

February 17, 1941. The American Council on Soviet Relations has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A pamphlet entitled, "Investigation on Un-American Propaganda Activities in the United States, Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, Martin Dies, Texas, Chairman," reflects on page 1202 that S. Hurok was a sponsor of a congress of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, New York City. The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
b7C
b7D
[redacted] and
member of [redacted]
advised he has known Marian Anderson [redacted]
[redacted] He said that his family and
Marian Anderson's family had exchanged
numerous visits throughout the years.
[redacted] said Miss Anderson's character
is without a blemish and she is undoubtedly
one of the great ladies of America.
[redacted] said Miss Anderson's associates
are all above reproach and she is a person
of great ability. He said she would lend
dignity and prestige to any Government
position and he described her as a loyal
citizen.

b7C
[redacted]

Marian Anderson

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

The Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b7c

[REDACTED]

The American Committee for Spanish Freedom has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

b7c

[REDACTED]

The American

* Anonymous
** [REDACTED]
*** Anonymous

Marian Anderson

Youth for Democracy has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On November 29, 1947, [REDACTED]

b7C

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On December 21, 1949, [REDACTED]

b7C

The National Lawyers' Guild was cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, report on the National Lawyers' Guild, House Report Number 3123, September 21, 1950, as follows:

"Cited as a Communist front which is the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions and which since its inception, has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents."

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED], advised she has known Marian Anderson for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

*Anonymous
**Anonymous

Marian Anderson

b7C
b7D
considers her to be a person of excellent character and reputation. She said Miss Anderson is respected by everyone who knows her and that she has never heard anything unfavorable concerning her or her associates. She said Miss Anderson is a person with such determination that she believes she, Miss Anderson, could do almost anything she set out to do. [REDACTED] said Miss Anderson is a loyal citizen.

b7C
On May 2, 1942, [REDACTED]

b7C
On May 8, 1946, [REDACTED]

Agency Checks

The files of the Passport Office, Department of State, reflect that Miss Anderson has been issued ten passports for travel abroad from 1927 to 1956 for study and business reasons and for concert tours. No additional pertinent information was available.

The files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities; Investigations Division, Civil Service Commission; Office of Security, Department of State; Central Intelligence

* G-2, Department of the Army

** [REDACTED]

Marian Anderson

Agency; and the central files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation contain no additional pertinent identifiable information concerning Miss Anderson.

Relatives

b7C Miss Anderson's father is deceased. Her mother [redacted] reside at 752 South Martin Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. [redacted]

Her only other living immediate relative is her husband.

b7C [redacted]
[redacted] The Congress of American Women has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Credit and Arrest Checks

The files of the appropriate law enforcement agencies and credit bureaus were checked during this investigation and no pertinent identifiable information concerning Miss Anderson or her living immediate relatives was obtained.

Miscellaneous

A confidential informant,** who has furnished reliable information in the past and who is not personally acquainted with Miss Anderson, advised on November 15, 1947, that the name Marian Anderson, 752 South Martin Street, appeared on a special mailing list of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Council for a Democratic Greece, which advertised a public council

* Anonymous

** [redacted]

Marian Anderson

meeting to be held on November 20, 1947. The American Council for a Democratic Greece has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The June 5, 1945, issue of the "Norwalk Hour," a newspaper in Norwalk, Connecticut, contained an article reflecting that an organizational meeting of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions was held on June 4, 1945. The article stated, in part, that a telegram of greeting from Marian Anderson, the noted singer, was read. The Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions was cited as a communist front by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in its report dated April 1, 1951.

*

A confidential informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in 1945 that the name Marian Anderson, RFD 1, Danbury, Connecticut, was on the mailing list of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated, which was utilized in sending out the publication entitled the "Southern Patriot." This informant pointed out that many persons carried on this mailing list had not subscribed to the paper of their own accord. A confidential informant*, who has furnished reliable information in the past and who has some knowledge of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated, and the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, advised that the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated, was originally an adjunct of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare prior to its demise in 1948. This informant stated the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated, continued as a separate and independent organization, stressing the fact that it was nonpolitical in nature. Continuing, this informant stated it has devoted its efforts primarily to race relations, campaigning against discrimination and segregation and, further, that the principal leaders of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated, were the same as those of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. In conclusion, this informant advised that the Communist Party was interested in infiltrating and controlling the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, but it has given little indication of interest in the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated.

Marian Anderson

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare has been cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, as a communist-front organization "which seeks to attract ~~and~~ ^{own} liberals on the basis of its seeming interest in the problems of the South," although its "professed interest in southern welfare is simply an expedient for larger aims serving the Soviet Union and its subservient Communist Party in the United States."

The Communist Party, USA, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The "Southern Patriot" was cited as an organ of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, in its report dated June 12, 1945.

A confidential informant^{*} who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available in January, 1946, a letter on the stationery of the American Committee for Spanish Freedom. A list of sponsors of this organization appears on this stationery and this list contains the name Marian Anderson, not further identified. The American Committee for Spanish Freedom has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Another confidential informant^{**} who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in January, 1946, that the Council on African Affairs held a mass meeting on January 7, 1946, in New York City and that one of the speakers was Miss Marion Anderson. This informant continued that Miss Anderson said that the audience, as members of her race, should stand by the Council on African Affairs and support it with contributions of money and food. This informant also said Paul Robeson sang and asked the audience for complete support of the council. The Council on African Affairs has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Another confidential informant^{***} who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 3, 1955,

* a confidential source

Marian Anderson

that the Council on African Affairs dissolved in June, 1955, and, at the time of dissolution, Paul Robeson was chairman of the organization.

Another confidential informant,* who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in June, 1950, that Paul Robeson was known to him to be a concealed communist prior to 1945.

Another confidential informant,** who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in April, 1944, that Paul Robeson's Communist Party name was John Thomas.

Associates of Miss Anderson's, who have been acquainted with her for a number of years, advised that she has had no social contacts with Paul Robeson and they have nothing in common except their music. They further advised she disapproves of his political activities.

* Louis Budenz
[REDACTED]

b7c, b7d

The Attorney General

June 13, 1958

Director, FBI

MARIAN ANDERSON
also known as Mrs. Orpheus Hodge
Fisher; SPECIAL INQUIRY

21067 #373638
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JCL/B

By letter dated April 30, 1958, Mr. Roderic L. O'Connor of the Department of State requested an investigation of the above-captioned individual. Mr. O'Connor advised it is proposed to recommend to the President that Miss Anderson be appointed to a top-level position in the Department of State.

The results of this investigation are reflected in the enclosed summary memorandum, copies of which are being furnished to the Honorable Sherman Adams and the Secretary of State.

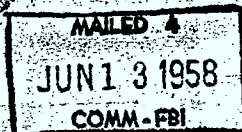
It is noted Miss Anderson reportedly resided abroad from 1929 to 1935. Inasmuch as this Bureau has no facilities for conducting investigations overseas, the enclosed summary memorandum contains only the results of the inquiries conducted in the United States.

The investigation of Miss Anderson covered inquiries as to her character, loyalty, general standing and ability, but no inquiries were made as to the sources of her income.

Enclosure

77-78164

MCD:lw
(7)



33

JUN 13 12 03 PM '58
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
77-78164-304
NOT RECORDED

NOTE: Since this involves a Presidential appointment, a copy of the summary memorandum is being furnished to the Attorney General.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Nease _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Clayton _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

67 JUN 24 1958

MAIL ROOM

67C

MAILED

DEC 16 1964

NAME CHECK

December 15, 1964

RA
X
MARIAN ANDERSON

Born: February 27, 1902

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

In response to your name check request, you are referred to a memorandum concerning Marian Anderson, also known as Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher which was furnished to your agency on June 13, 1958.
(77-78164)

Subsequent to this information, FBI files reveal that in the May 30, 1960, issue of "The Washington Daily News" there was an article regarding a speech made by Premier Fidel Castro at Havana the previous evening. There was also a photograph in connection with this article showing Premier Castro talking with the singer, Marian Anderson, who was presented on a TV concert prior to Castro's speech.

(109-12-210-A 5-30-60, Washington Daily News)

Information was received at the Bureau in July, 1959, that Marian Anderson, along with a number of other prominent individuals was included on the mailing list of an organization known as Gensuikyo, American name, Japan Council for Prohibition of Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. This organization has been described by a source as a communist infiltrated organization in Japan.

(105-62469-14, 34)

Original & 1-STATE (CU/ECS/AA)
Request Received-11/23/64

and ADS:ded
(4)

NOTE: Information previously furnished to White House on August 20, 1964.

REC-35 77-78164-37

This reply is result of check of FBI investigative files. To obtain arrest records request must be submitted to FBI Identification Division.

DEC 17 1964

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. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JCK/B
373638

58 DEC 22 1964

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: ANDERSON, MARIAN

Supervisor _____ Room _____

R# _____ Date 11/50 Searcher Initial 709Prod. DEC 1

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

1964

64-47156-223100-3-81-A

WORKER

100-351585-A

WASH. CAP. NEW S.

5/20/61105-31418-1:8105-39795-28 E.P. 34;105-62469-14 E.P. 23;105-87964-218 p. 8;109-12-210-A

WASH. ORNL, NARS

5/30/60157-6-10-250 E.P. 5;157-970-397 E.P. 2;1018 E.P. 12; (21)MARIAN ELINA BLANCHE

DEC 7 1964

SI

VAR

FISCHER, DR PHEUS Hodge (mas)

SI

(21)

FISHER, DR PHEUS Hodge

SI

FISHER, DR PHEUS (mas)

WASH. STAR

62-101087-A9/18/58ANDERSON, MARION (WHE)62-103661-266 p. 63;[REDACTED]6146

67C

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: ANDERSON, MARIANSupervisor 0 Room R# Date 11/30 Searcher Initial 709Prod. 17 FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

ANDERSON, MARIAN (VAR)105-43756-23 p. 23;Var. YTD'sSee On pass. Pels.Not listedHodgE, ORPHEUS
5196

June 10, 1965

BY LIAISON

Honorable Marvin Watson
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watson:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 sks
373638

Reference is made to the request from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] for a check of FBI files relative to approximately
130 individuals in connection with a seminar which is to be held
on Monday, June 14, 1965.

Attached is a memorandum listing some 37
individuals concerning whom the FBI has no identifiable
derogatory information in the central files or the files of the
Identification Division. Also enclosed are five memoranda
regarding individuals included in this name check request. The
balance of the names in connection with this request will be
submitted as they are completed.

Sincerely yours,

177-78164-238
NOT RECORDED
128 JUN 15 1965

Enclosures (6)

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct)
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

NOTE: To be delivered by liaison by Mr. DeLoach's Office.
ELC:sas (10)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Encl.
1-1
4-1

FBI
READING ROOM

JUN 10 2 26 PM '65

H

JUN 14 1965

97922-5-29

ORIGINAL FILED IN

FBI
READING ROOM
JUN 10 10 16 AM '65

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

58 JUN 24 1965

June 10, 1965

MARIAN ANDERSON
also known as **MRS. ORPHEUS HODGE**
FISHER

Marian Fisher

As a result of a request from the Department of State on April 30, 1958, this Bureau conducted an applicant-type investigation concerning Marian Anderson who was being considered for a Presidential appointment to a top-level position in the Department of State. The results of this investigation were contained in a summary memorandum, a copy of which was sent to the White House on June 13, 1958, and a copy is enclosed with this memorandum. (77-78164-35)

Subsequent to this investigation, FBI files reveal that in the May 30, 1960, issue of "The Washington Daily News," there was an article regarding a speech made by Premier Fidel Castro at Havana the previous evening. There was also a photograph in "The Daily News" showing Premier Castro talking with the singer, Marian Anderson, after a recent telecast. (109-12-210-A 5-30-60, Washington Daily News)

Information was received at the Bureau in July, 1959, that Marian Anderson, along with a number of other prominent individuals, was included on the mailing list of an organization known as Gensuikyo, American name, Japan Council for Prohibition of Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. This organization has been described by a source as a communist-infiltrated organization in Japan. (105-62469-14, 34)

The fingerprint files of the FBI Identification Division contain no arrest data identifiable with captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Enclosure

ELC:jol
(10)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ENCLOSURE

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/7/97 BY SP5 *[signature]*
#373638

77-78164-38

NAME CHECK

February 21, 1966

Summary
MARIAN ANDERSON
Born: February 17, 1902
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Reference your request for information concerning the captioned subsequent to our memorandum dated June 13, 1958.

Our files reveal, in addition to the information furnished in the referenced memorandum, that on May 30, 1960, the "Washington Daily News" contained an article regarding a speech made by Premier Fidel Castro at Havana. A photograph accompanied this article showing Premier Castro talking with the singer, Marian Anderson, who was presented on a TV concert prior to Castro's speech.

Information was also received by this Bureau in July, 1959, that Marian Anderson, along with a number of other prominent individuals, was included on the mailing list of an organization known as Genyikyo, American name, Japan Council for Prohibition of Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. This organization has been described as a communist-infiltrated organization in Japan. (77-78164-57)

Original and 1 - USIA
Request received - 2/8/66

QMB
cld
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 J/KS
#373638

gHS
REC-3
EX 105

77-78164-39
FEB 24 1966

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. This reply is result of check of FBI investigative files. To check arrest records, request must be submitted to FBI Identification Division. Fingerprints are necessary for positive check.

66 MAR 2 1966

100

4-22b Rev. (11-17-59)

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Anderson, Marion
R# B Date 2/9 Searcher Number 338
Prod: 77

FILE NUMBER

FEB 1 1966
SERIAL

77-78164 55 11/30/64

77-78164 I

77-78164-37 I (Summ) 13-15-64

35 6-13-58

62-60527-43698 2-26-55

FEB 7 1966 41532 2-1-55

30411 2-28-56

62-60527-42857 VBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5-6/BS
#373238

b7c

b7c

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Anderson, Marion

Supervisor _____

Room _____

R# 621Date 2/9

Searcher

Initial 338Prod. 673

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

Marion Elina Blanche (Bu)SIMarion E.Anderson, Marion, Single61-10149-147Mrs Orpheus HodgeSMarion (var)NRFischer, Orpheus Hodge MrsSIFischer, Orpheus Mrs62-101087-AWash Star9-18-58Orpheus Hodge Fischer22-78164-21338100-158341-9, 10Fischer, Marion Elina BlancheFEB 17 1966SFischer, Mrs Orpheus HodgeSIFischer, Marion Elina BlancheSP30

~~SECRET~~

July 14, 1970

BY LIAISON

DECLASSIFIED BY SPS JCL/KS
ON 12/17/97
#373638

Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield
Deputy Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

b7C Reference is made to your name check request concerning [REDACTED] and some other individuals.

b7C Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

b7C ~~MRS. ORPHEUS HOOGE FISHER~~
[REDACTED]
Mr. and Mrs. Orpheus Fisher
[REDACTED]

This letter of transmittal may be declassified when the enclosure bearing a classification is removed.

Sincerely yours, *[Signature]*

MCT-22

REC-10

77-78164-40

NOT RECORDED
145 JUL 19 1970

Enclosures (15)

1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosures (sent direct)
1 - Mr. Gale - Enclosures (sent direct)

~~SECRET~~

JCF:mcb (7) *[Signature]*
55 JUL 28 1970

JUL 16 1970

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIGINAL FILED IN 77-75704-322

July 14, 1970

MR. AND MRS. ORPHEUS FISHER

ORPHEUS HODGE FISHER
SUMMARY

X SUMMARY
Mrs. Orpheus Hodge Fisher, who you advised resides with her husband at Marianna Farm, Joe's Hill Road, Danbury, Connecticut, and is known professionally as Marian Anderson, was the subject of an applicant-type investigation conducted by the FBI during 1958. The results of that inquiry were summarized in a communication dated June 13, 1958, a copy of which is attached. (77-78164) CUBA

This Bureau received information during July, 1959, that the name of Marian Anderson, along with the names of a number of other prominent individuals, was included on the mailing list of an organization known as Gensuikyo, also known as the Japan Council for Prohibition of Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs. Gensuikyo has been described as a communist-infiltrated organization in Japan.

The May 30, 1960, issue of "The Washington Daily News" contained an article regarding a speech made by Premier Fidel Castro at Havana. A photograph accompanied the article showing Premier Castro talking with the singer, Marian Anderson, who was presented on a television concert prior to Castro's speech.

The central files of the FBI contain no additional pertinent information identifiable with captioned individuals.

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with captioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JLB

#373438

Enclosure

NOTE: Per request of Alexander P. Butterfield, Deputy Assistant to the President

LMG:dkg

(7)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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

APR 7 1976

MARION ANDERSON

~~MARION ANDERSON~~
Captioned individual, who you advised was born February 17, 1902, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was the subject of a White House name check in 1970 under her married name of Mrs. Orpheus Fisher. A copy of the FBI memorandum dated July 14, 1970, concerning Mr. and Mrs. Orpheus Fisher and FBI summary memorandum dated June 13, 1958, concerning Marian Anderson are attached.

(77-78164-35, 40)

The central files of the FBI, including the records of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning the captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Enclosures (2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/17/97 BY SP5 JCL/KS
373638

EJK:jml
(4)

NOTE: Per request of [REDACTED] Staff Assistant
(Security), The White House.

IM:jml
(4)

ST. 115

REC-52 77-78164-41

3 APR 13 1976

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Admin. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

7/7

1970

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☐ Return to _____
 Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Fisher, Orpheus
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address Maryanna Farm
100 Hill Rd
 Localities Danbury Conn.
 R. 6 Date 7/7 Searcher Initials 531
 Prod. 4

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<u>77-78164-21</u>	
<u>62-101087-4</u>	<u>9/18/58</u>
<u>Orpheus Dodge</u>	
<u>100-158341-10, 9,</u>	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/17/97 BY SPS JEL
373638

F345
JUL 7 1970

P31

7-654

4-22 (Rev. 1-28-75)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Section

_____, 19____

☐ Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.
☐ Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg.
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☐ Return to _____

Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☒ Main Sums References Only
recent Secs

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject Anderson, Maria

Birthdate & Place _____

Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____ Date 4/1 Searcher Initials 589

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

77-78164

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/19/97 BY SP5 JCL

373638