

FBIHQ FILE

100-12304

SECTION : 17

PAUL ROBESON, SR.

*fu*

Date: 7/24/58  
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)  
From: Legat, Mexico (105-978)  
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C

*9/25/58*

Re Legat letter dated 6/13/58.

No further information has been received by this office that PAUL ROBESON intends to visit Mexico.

Extra copies of this communication are being furnished to the Bureau for transmittal to the New York office, 100-25857.

RUC.

*1A*  
4 - Bureau  
1 - Mexico City  
JTH:PAK  
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5R-19/HW

*ml*

RE: *PAUL ROBESON*  
DATE: *7-24-58*  
BY: *JTH*

EX-138-8  
REC.D - FBI

100-12304-533

JUL 31 1958

SUB CONTROL

67 AUG 5 1958 F53



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
American Embassy  
Paris 8, France

Date: July 29, 1958  
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)  
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)  
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJA/dw

ReBulet to State Department 7/11/58.

"L'Humanite", French Communist daily, on 7/21/58 printed a message from "the great colored American singer, PAUL ROBESON", which was read at the plenary session of the World Peace Council at Stockholm, Sweden, on 7/20/58 by Mrs. ANNA LOUISE STRONG. This statement read-as follows:

"You have come from all corners of the Earth, and you represent different political opinions, nations and cultures.

"Once more the noble words of JOLIOT-CURIE have resounded at Stockholm: 'The people themselves must impose the peace.' There is still time. The world must know that the colored people want to be masters of their destiny and of their resources.

"The warmongers must understand that the ratio of strength has changed radically. They must understand that the aspirations of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America can never, never be broken.

"I send you my best wishes for your labors. Millions and millions of people on this Earth are at your sides.

"With my deep affection.

REC-3 100-12304-534

"PAUL ROBESON."

23 AUG 5 1958

NBC 15 48 BH, 2F  
Bureau  
Paris  
ROL:CM  
(5)

325

AGENCY 212-212  
REQ. REC'D \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE FORW. 8-12-58  
HOW FORW. 1-25-58  
BY ahg/m

EX-139

77 AUG 12 1958

*Pro*

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Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

*Libs*  
AIRTEL

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

7/29/58

FROM SAC, WFO (100-19021)

PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.  
Is - C  
(OO: NY)

CINAL

Re WFO letter and report dated 7/16/58, advising that ROBESON was issued a passport on 6/25/58.

On 7/28/58, ROBERT D. JOENSON, Chief, Legal Section, Passport Office, Department of State, made available to SA [redacted] a foreign service dispatch which was not classified but marked "official use only." This dispatch from the American Consulate, Glasgow, dated 7/10/58, was captioned "Communist interest in possible visit of PAUL ROBESON to Scotland" and reflects that on 7/10/58, the Secretary of the Scottish Council of the Labour Party, WILLIAM MARSHAL, indicated that the National Union of Mineworkers, Scottish Area, whose leadership is Communist, was jubilant over the prospects of a possible visit to Scotland by ROBESON. The Consulate reported that the source making available the above information indicated that ROBESON had accepted an invitation from the Scottish Area leadership of the Mineworkers' Union to come here sometime in the near future.

Above is for information

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - New York (100-25957)
- 1 - WFO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5R/ldw

WGS:mw  
(6)

AIRTEL 8 11 AM 24 EX-128 REC-65

100-12304-535

REC'D - EBT

16 JUL 29 1958

*J. SM*  
*AG Re CP, USA*  
*8-4-58*  
*BR*

59 AUG 8 1958



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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Information pertained only to a third party 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.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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FBI Headquarters file 100-12304- Not Recorded

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 7/21/58

F  
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

"UNAVAILABLE SECTION"

SUBJECT: PAUL LE ROY ROBESON, wa.  
IS-C

*OK R*

Cards UTD  
Cards Sent 00  
8-6-58

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5K/g/HW

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) <u>Out of the Country</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address)		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		
Residence Address <i>of family</i> ADD: Travelling in Europe		

*TAB '00'*

100-12304 -  
NOT RECORDED  
4 JUL 23 1958

SUBV. CONTROL

*[Handwritten signature]*

JDF:ptk

52 AUG 7 1958

5



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
American Embassy  
Paris 8, France

*CF*  
*E/S*

Date: August 20, 1958  
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)  
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)  
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

*ROL*  
*5473*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 Rtg/dw

7/29/58. ReBulet to State Department 7/11/58 and Paris letter

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3 - Bureau  
1 - Paris  
ROL:CM  
(4)

66 SEP 3 1958

REC-21

100-12304-536

12 AUG 20 1958

EX-108

*b7D*

*mt*

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

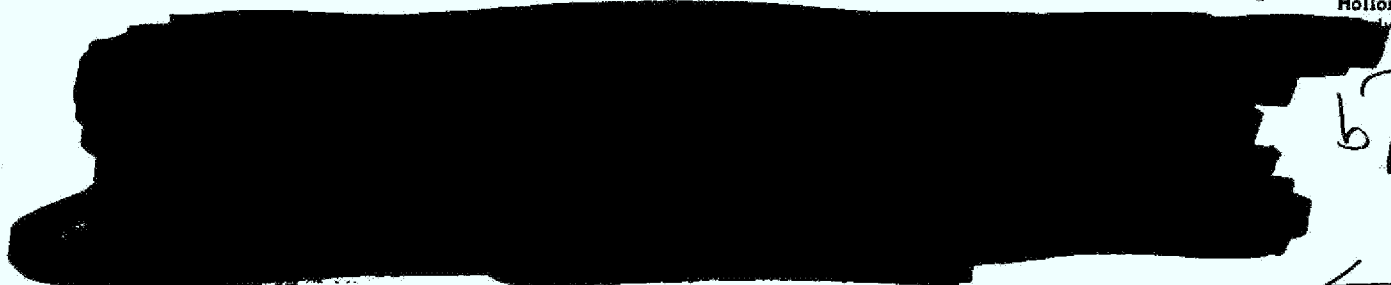
DATE: 8-23-58

*sw* FROM : LEGAT, BONN (105-720)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Rebulet to State Department 7-11, 1958.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_



This office will remain alert for information on the subject and will reports any data received.

P.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Bonn  
GAV:gav  
(3)

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DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 R/g/HW

*mf*

AGENCY 105-720  
 REQ. REC'D  
 DATE FORW. 7-23-58  
 HOW FORW. By mail  
 BY [Signature]

EX-126

100-12304-537

REC-61 11 SEP 3 1958

SUBV CONTROL  
*[Signature]*

5, 6 SEP 1958



FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S)

Date: 9/5/58

PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

REGISTERED MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

DATE: [Handwritten] Via AIRTEL

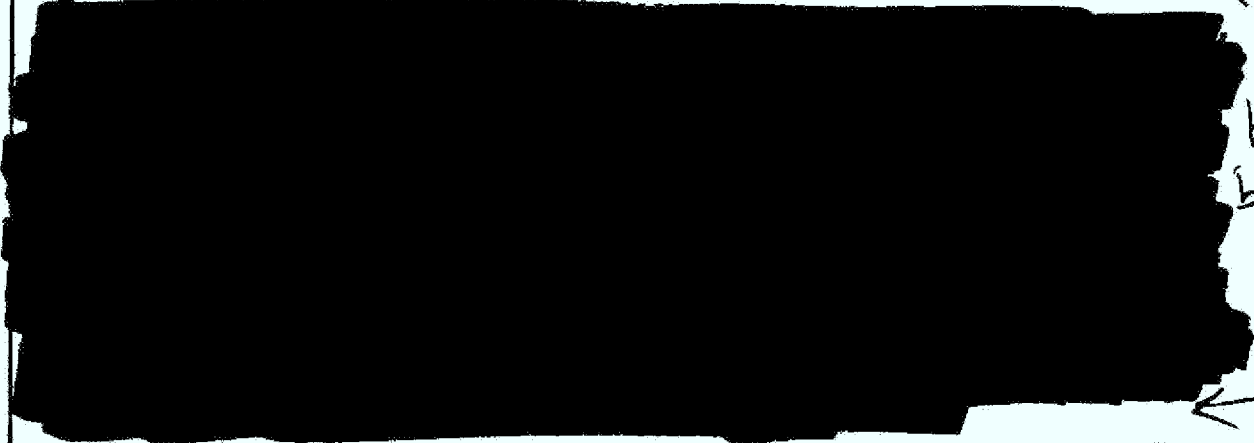
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (100-20853)  
RE : CP, USA, MARYLAND - D. C. DISTRICT  
BALTIMORE DIVISION  
PAUL ROBESON

IS - C  
CINAL

CLASS. & EXT. BY: sp-5R-1gllw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW: 1-16-91

*Interview*

*mb*



b1  
b7D

- 3 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - WFO (Info) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 3 - New York (REGISTERED MAIL)
  - 100- PAUL ROBESON
  - 100- ISLANDA ROBESON
  - 100- [Redacted]
- 3 - Baltimore
  - 100-20853 PAUL ROBESON
  - 100-19876 CINAL

100-12304-

NOT RECORDED  
152 SEP 11 1958

*H.P. 14*  
**SUB. CONT.**

RCN: (10)

SEP 6 1958  
REC'D

50 SEP 16 1958

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-3-61-1315

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: September 4, 1958

FROM : Legal Attache, London (100-1182)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R/g/dw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 1-4-88

Remylet 7/25/58. (u)

[REDACTED SECTION]

For the additional information of the Bureau, the following item was contained in the Summary of World Broadcasts by the British Broadcasting Company, dated 9/1/58:

"KHRUSHCHEV, 'who is resting on the south coast of the Crimea, visited the Nizhnyaya Oreanda sanatorium where he met Paul Robeson and his wife. He had 'a friendly and cordial talk' with them and, together with Robeson, attended a children's concert. (Tass in Russian for Abroad 8/29/58)." (u)

[REDACTED SECTION]

5 - Bureau  
1 - London  
CWB:1c  
-P-  
(6)

REC-76

100-12304-53

5 SEP 9 1958

Classified by 2650  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

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OTHERWISE

REC'D - FBI

AGENCY 200-224  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 9-11-58  
HOW FORW. 1050-25  
BY [Signature]

5 (7) SEP 12 1958

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

9

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 8, 1958

FROM : Legat, London

TOP SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
IS - C  
Bufile 100-12304

[Redacted]

IS - C  
Bufile 100-11687

[Redacted]

IS - C  
Bufile 100-18610

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R-15HW  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW

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OTHERWISE

Remylet 9/4/58, entitled "PAUL LEROY ROBESON; IS - C."

There are enclosed twelve copies of a memorandum dated [Redacted] setting forth information received from [Redacted]

and requested that the information not be disseminated outside the Bureau.

The Bureau will be kept advised of any information furnished this office [Redacted]

- 12 - Bureau (Encls. 12)
- 1 - [Redacted]
- 1 - [Redacted]
- 1 - [Redacted]
- 1 - [Redacted]
- CWB:mas
- (15)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF DATE

REC-14

100-12304-539

18 SEP 12 1958

COPIES DESTROYED

REC.D

TOP SECRET MATERIAL ATTACHED

AGENCY  
REQ REC'D  
DATE FORW.  
W FORW.

66 SEP 22 1958

CST

*Robeson*

*me [Redacted]*

1-16-81

1-16-91

*REC'D RECEIVED*

*REC-14*

*SEP 12 3 48 PM '58*

*SEP 16 11 33 AM '58*

*CONTROL FBI*

*RECEIVED*

100-11687

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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SECRET

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>NEW YORK</b>	Office of Origin <b>NEW YORK</b>	Date <b>9/15/58</b>	Investigative Period <b>3/21 - 9/8/58</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.</b>		Report made by <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Typed By: <b>mbb</b>
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	<b>1-16-81</b>

Synopsis:

**APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE**

**Class 8/4/58**

**9-15-58**

**Classified 2/19/59**

**Dissemination**

**ENDING KEY TO**

**25 to NYC 9/20/58 let 3**

**BL**

**Robeson travelling abroad; place of domicile remains 16 Jumel Terrace, NYC. ROBESON gave concerts in Oakland, California; Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; Los Angeles, California, and at Carnegie Hall, NYC, on 5/9 and 23/58. Appeared at function in Chicago on 4/9/58, sponsored by the Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship (CCASF). Sang in Los Angeles on 3/14/58, on behalf of "People's World." At a meeting of NEC, CP, USA, on 3/28, 29/58, NYC, BEN DAVIS stated ROBESON's passport difficulty is the CP's fight. In contact with Soviet and satellite nationals and/or establishments. CP has actively pushed the sale of ROBESON's**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE**

Approved <b>[Signature]</b>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: <b>4-Bureau (100-12304) (RM)</b> <b>3-New York (100-25857)</b>		<b>100-12304-540</b>	<b>REC-76</b>
AGENCY <b>Rad, NY, CIA</b>	AGENCY <b>Rad, NY, CIA</b>	<b>13 SEP 16 1958</b>	<b>EX-126</b>
REQ. REC'D	REQ. REC'D		
DATE FORW.	DATE FORW.		
HOW FORW.	HOW FORW.		
BY	BY		

58 OCT 1 1958

SECRET

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NY 100-25857

SYNOPSIS: (Continued)

book, "Here I Stand." NEHRU of India described ROBESON as a sufferer "in the cause for human dignity." East Germany, Bulgaria, China, England, France and other countries had ceremonies to celebrate the 60th birthday of ROBESON. Received passport #1145187 from State Department for travel in Europe and departed United States on 7/10/58, stated he would give concerts in Europe and mentioned Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. Refused to answer question in Great Britain as to whether he is or is not a Communist. In Moscow on 8/17/58, stated the Moscovites had inspired him with strength. Soviet Prime Minister KHRUSHCHEV from Moscow, 8/29/58, stated he had a "friendly and cordial talk with PAUL ROBESON."

- P\* -

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NY 100-25857

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NY 100-25857

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence

PAUL ROBESON left on a European concert tour on July 10, 1958. (See section II (F) below.)

[REDACTED] advised on September 5, 1958, that ROBESON's place of domicile in the United States continues as 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City.

b7D

B. Employment

Concerts

The "San Francisco News", San Francisco, California, final edition, issue of January 29, 1958, contained an article captioned, "Robeson Happier, Still Fighting." In this article it was stated:

"Paul Robeson is feeling better these days.

"The American Negro basso is still as lefty as ever, still in good voice, and doesn't 'regret a thing.'

"He pulled into town yesterday for his Feb. 9 concert in honor of Negro History

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NY 100-25857

"Week at the Oakland Auditorium Theater.

"The reason he's feeling better is that he thinks 'we in America and the Russians are beginning to learn we've got to live with each other.' And he cited the recent U.S.-Soviet cultural exchange agreement as evidence.

"As for State Dept. troubles - he hasn't been able to get a passport for almost a decade because he won't sign a non-Communist affidavit - he says:

"'They're holding me up because they say I'll serve the Communist cause by:

'Preaching peace.

'Criticizing the U.S. for its treatment of Negroes.

'Working for the Council on African Affairs (first cited by the Justice Dept. as "subservice and Communist" in 1947).'"

The "San Francisco Chronicle", San Francisco, California, final edition, issue of February 5, 1958, contained an article captioned, "Paul Robeson --- More Music Than Politics". In this article it was stated:

"Paul Robeson has always been one of the most emotional of singers and about the

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NY 100-25857

"last person you would expect to hear talking about music in terms that might send an advanced musicologist back to his reference books.

"Returning to the concert circuit after six years of singing in churches and informal recitals, the 59-year-old basso will appear at the Oakland Auditorium Sunday afternoon. And after a lunch with Robeson last week at the Whitcomb Hotel - and a conversation loaded with such technical terms as 'pentatonic scale' and tritone intervals' - I could hardly help being convinced that he is more interested in musicology than in politics.

"The last year and a half has been a time of great discovery for me," said Robeson, who speaks with the same intensity as he sings and sometimes soars into melody to point an example. "It began when I first listened really closely to Bartok and found how he had devised a method that would harmonize the melodies of pentatonic Hungarian folk songs. All folk music is similar and I had been singing it all my life without realizing the technical base that makes a Negro spiritual of the same family as a Russian folk song or an old English madrigal. Bartok, Debussy and Mussorgsky taught me to hear all over again."

"Actually, folk songs, and all great music, are based on the melody of natural human speech. In my concert Sunday

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NY 100-25857

"I sing folk songs and read Shakespeare and, to me, the poetry and music become merely two sides of something that most closely resembles a Hebrew chant."

"After his Oakland appearance, Robeson plans to tour the U. S. and Latin America, and, if his passport restrictions are removed, he will go back to England (where he may do 'Othello'), Europe and the Soviet Union. He was frank on his feelings toward Russia. 'They are making great strides under great difficulties', he said. 'But the United States has also greatly advanced in the field of race relations.

"I am sorry now that I quit the concert stage because of politics. It happened six years ago in St. Louis when I was singing in a non-segregated hall across the street from a segregated theater that I had picketed with the NAACP the same afternoon. I told the audience I would stop singing until these two things were reconciled. They are not yet, but I see now that I should have gone on with my work."

"There is a whole new generation for me to perform before," said Robeson. "Any 'politics' in the future will be in my singing. A friend was shocked when I told him the only speeches Sunday would be Shakespeare and Shelley. Then I will sing French, Russian, Yiddish and Chinese

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NY 100-25857

"folk songs along with Negro spirituals.  
The audience can draw its own conclusion."

The "New York Times," New York City, New York, late city edition, issue of April 2, 1958, page 35, carried an article captioned, "Robeson Concert Off." In this article it was stated that GILBERT CLOONAN, Superintendent of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, had stated on April 1, 1958, that PAUL ROBESON's concert scheduled for April 21 was cancelled because it would not be consistent with the memorial character of the building.

"Variety" (a newspaper for show people) issue of April 9, 1958, contained an article captioned, "Church Extends Invitation to Paul Robeson After Vet Group Objects." This article made reference to the fact that the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, had cancelled a concert of ROBESON's on April 21, 1958.

In the article it is stated that Reverend CHARLES R. GORDON, Minister of the St. Matthew A.M.E. Zion Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, said he was "quite" disappointed that Allegheny County officials had called off the concert of April 21.

It was stated that GORDON emphasized that although he is not in agreement with the political views of ROBESON, he respected his right to be heard as an artist.

T-1 advised on April 14, 1958, that ROBESON on April 13, 1958, attended a meeting at 400

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~~SECRET~~

NY 100-25857

East 33rd Street, Chicago, Illinois, at which several Communist Party members were present. PAUL ROBESON discussed concerts that he had in California and cited one which was a complete failure because he had received adverse publicity in the newspapers and lacked support from unions and Negroes.

ROBESON stated he had a singing engagement in Haiti but he refused to go because he wanted to give another concert in California that would be successful.

ROBESON stated that prior to this second California concert he went to the Negro leaders in the trade unions movement and various ministers to get their support. He stated that some local politicians tried to disrupt the concert but failed and the concert was a success so much so that he had been asked to return in the fall.

ROBESON stated he felt that the Negro fight for civil rights is finally sinking into the minds of ministers, educators and the Negro people in general. He stated that this could also be said of middle-class whites.

"The Worker" issue of April 20, 1958, page four, column two, contained an article captioned, "Robeson Sings in Detroit, April 25." In this article it was stated that PAUL ROBESON would sing with the Hartford Avenue Baptist Church Choir on April 25 at 7:30 p.m. DETROIT, MICH.

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist weekly newspaper.

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NY 100-25857

██████████ advised on April 28, 1958, that PAUL ROBESON stated he had an important concert on May 15, 1958, in Los Angeles.

The "New York Daily News", final edition, issue of May 4, 1958, page one, section two, contained an article which stated that PAUL ROBESON would give two concerts at Carnegie Hall, New York City, on May 9 and 23, 1958.

The "New York Times", late city edition, issue of May 10, 1958, page 19, contained an article captioned, "Paul Robeson Sings, Lectures In First City Recital in 11 Years." In this article it was stated:

"About twenty policemen were stationed outside Carnegie Hall last night, where Paul Robeson was giving his first local recital in eleven years. Their presence was unnecessary. The audience, which completely filled the hall, was orderly, and there were no demonstrations outside. And so the police went home about 9:15 P.M.

"When Mr. Robeson made his appearance, he was greeted with a long standing ovation. Dressed in a dinner jacket, instead of the customary tails of recitalists, he remains a burly, imposing figure with tremendous dignity. He sang into a microphone and used a notebook with the texts of his songs.

██████████ advised on May 19, 1958, that the arrangements for ROBESON's concert of May 9 and 23, 1958,

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were made by ART D'LUGOFF. [redacted] noted that this is not an unusual action on the part of D'LUGOFF inasmuch as his business pertains to arranging concerts for artists.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that ART D'LUGOFF was considered a member of the CP in 1951 in Santa Barbara, California.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)

A. Activity of the CP and/or CP Front Organizations in Behalf of PAUL ROBESON

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\* Chicago Council of American Soviet Friendship (CCASF)

CHICAGO, ILL.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the CCASF, since its inception in Chicago in 1940's, has never failed to propagandize for Russia and the Russian way of life. This source further advised that the CCASF has been using speakers who were known to the source as members of the Communist Party since the first meetings in 1940's.

The source advised that the program of the CCASF has always included speakers, movies and pamphlets praising every aspect of Russia including its foreign policy and has been extremely critical of the United States domestic and foreign policies.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that PAUL ROBESON's 60th birthday celebration held on April

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9, 1958, at 32 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, was sponsored by the CCASF. About 750 persons attended this event [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ROBESON received two standing ovations and in his talk stated, "We should tell the world we want peace" and "We have got to stop nuclear tests." ROBESON stated "America could not be what it is today without the contributions of the American Liberals."

ROBESON related, "I stand here at this moment for this organization to fight for peace. There must be peace between the United States and the Soviet Union. There must be a summit conference. This has to do with saving the whole world. I have been in the Soviet Union. I have found human dignity and freedom from prejudice there but had to come back and fight for myself and the Negro."

"People's World"

The "People's World" is a West Coast Communist newspaper.

[REDACTED] advised on March 14, 1958, that the 20th birthday celebration of the "People's World" was held at the Embassy Auditorium, 847 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California, on March 14, 1958.

PAUL ROBESON spoke and sang at this meeting. After concluding his singing, ROBESON stated he hopes this country will be the America we want. He stated he stands firm for a true America with an understanding of all kinds of ideals in the world

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stating that if he was ever on trial himself he will stand as a believer in Marxism. He stated that he stands as a firm friend never to leave the side of the socialist people all over the world.

Comments of New York State and CP  
Leadership

██████████ advised on March 28, 1958 and March 29, 1958, that a meeting of the National Executive Committee (NEC), CP, USA, was held in New York City on those dates. b7D

The informant stated that during the course of this meeting, BEN DAVIS spoke concerning PAUL ROBESON and characterized him as one of the great figures of the world. DAVIS stated that he had written a review of ROBESON's book as a commentary on its tremendous political significance and on the impact the book has today on the national community. DAVIS also stated that ROBESON's passport difficulty is the Party's fight.

Referring again to PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand," DAVIS stated that this book is getting a tremendous reception here and internationally. He said the book itself is a fine document, brilliant piece of writing and an application of Marxism on the part of ROBESON that is fearless.

██████████ also advised on June 17, 1958, that there was a meeting of the NEC, CP, USA, on that date at CP Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, New York City. b7D

BEN DAVIS spoke at this meeting and stated that all the emphasis that the Party has

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put on ROBESON is going to prove to be money in the bank for the Party and money in the bank for the Negro people.

~~✓~~ [redacted] advised on [redacted] that [redacted] a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA, stated that PAUL ROBESON, in his book, stated that he is not a Communist but [redacted] stated that the Party understands him.

B. Communist Party Associates

[redacted] advised on February 28, 1958, that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT had stated he had just finished PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand," and he stated in this connection that what is needed now is a re-birth of nationalism among Negroes.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a CP meeting was held on [redacted] at [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT spoke and commented on PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand." He stated that here is one of the greatest contributions to the Negro movement. It is the most violent appraisal of the Negro on the American scene. Whether you agree or disagree with ROBESON, you have to admit he has an honest approach.

LIGHTFOOT stated that he wanted 3,000 copies of this book sold by the CP with 1,000 copies being purchased by Party members and friends.

[redacted] advised on April 24, 1958, that WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, Chairman Emeritus of the CP, USA,

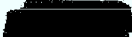
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in contact with PAUL ROBESON, stated, "Your book in its clear fighting support will do much to clarify the question. I venture to assert it will do a leading service to the Negro people in the fight to light up and make clear the typical road the Negro people have to travel in fighting for their own national liberation .... gradually working their way to socialism."

 advised on May 25, 1958, that BEN DAVIS on that date was in contact with ROBESON. During the ensuing conversation, DAVIS congratulated ROBESON on his second concert at Carnegie Hall, May 23, 1958, and stated that he was sorry that he had not been there. ROBESON stated that the second concert was much better than the first one and that he was "in excellent voice." ROBESON remarked that he is astounded at the success of the concert and that it opens up entire new vistas for him. He stated that he put the Negro up on an intellectual plane. b7D

BEN DAVIS enthusiastically told ROBESON of the wonderful emphasis he has made and the fact that ROBESON is proving that the Negro is an intellectual and showing the wonders of African music.

C. Contacts With Soviet or Satellite  
Officials and/or Establishments

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[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] advised on June 27, 1958, that ROBESON, during June, 1958, prepared the following message for transmittal to the Soviet Union:

"Warmest greetings on this day dedicated to the youth.

"All through the years the activities of the youth have been of deepest concern.

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"As you know, my son was a young pioneer, and proudly recalls his stay in the Soviet land.

"Deepest gratitude to you all, for your persevering struggle in the sacred cause of peace for all nations, for all peoples. All success to you in your unremitting labors."

On June 27, 1958, the informant <sup>also</sup> furnished information that ROBESON has prepared the following message for ~~transmission~~ <sup>transmission</sup> to the Soviet Union:

"Clearly the meeting of the Congress for Disarmament and International Cooperation is of profound importance.

"All peoples of the most diverse opinions must find common ground in the cause of world peace and the preservation of human kind.

"The recent activities of tens of millions of peoples all over the world testify to the peoples will to find peace and quickly.

"This is increasingly true in various sections of the United States, with leading participation by many distinguished scientists, public figures, and powerful organizations.

"So all success to the Stockholm

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"conference in these trying times and thanks to you for your consecrated struggle in this most urgent of humanity's needs.

"Warmest greetings, PAUL ROBESON."

D. Activity of the Communist Party  
Concerning the Distribution of  
ROBESON's Book, "Here I Stand"

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at the Southern California CP District meeting held on March 9, 1958, at Los Angeles, California, it was reported that the CP in that area, through its leaders, stated that it is very important that they support PAUL ROBESON's book and that they should utilize ROBESON while he is on the Pacific Coast.

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[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the Harlem Region CP intended to hold a Regional Committee meeting on either March 21 or 24, 1958, at Bermuda Hall, New York City, to promote the sale of ROBESON's book.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at a CP meeting held in Chicago on [redacted] CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA, spoke at the meeting and stated that his main point in asking for the floor was to promote the sale of ROBESON's book. He stated that this book must be sold in every store in the south side of Chicago and he desired every person present to pledge to sell at least ten copies.

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LIGHTFOOT stated to read ROBESON's book is to be convinced that the Marxist stand that

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ROBESON has taken on the Negro question is the correct position.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a meeting of the [redacted] CP was held on [redacted] at [redacted] New York City. The informant stated that BENJAMIN DAVIS, New York State CP Chairman, was the featured speaker at this meeting and he described the recently published book of PAUL ROBESON as "a magnificent weapon, a magnificent cultural and political event." He stated that this book would be a weapon for the CP to go through in the fight for civil rights and for peace and to wake up the whole campaign for ROBESON to get his passport. DAVIS stated the CP should try to "shoot" on the sale of 3,000 volumes of the book.

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[redacted]

[redacted] advised on April 7, 1958, that a New York State Board meeting was held on that date at CP Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, New York City. At this meeting BILL ALBERTSON spoke on the importance of PAUL ROBESON's book and suggested selling 25,000 copies, since he sees it as the basis for once again reestablishing them in the Negro peoples movement.

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ALBERTSON said the book would be sold to the Party and the State for sixty cents a copy and he suggested that the State CP sell it to the County CP for sixty-five cents and that they in turn sell it for a dollar.

WILLIAM WEINSTONE also spoke at this meeting and stated that the comrades must not underestimate the importance of ROBESON's book.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that a CP conference on the Negro question was held by the [redacted] Communist Party on [redacted] in New York City.

BEN DAVIS spoke at this meeting at length on PAUL ROBESON's book which he said clearly outlined a complete program in mass work. DAVIS stated that ROBESON's book should be accepted as Party policy on the Negro question and should be endorsed by the conference.

DAVIS stated that there were 100,000 copies of this book in print and that 25,000 were to be distributed in the New York area. He stated that it was the duty of each club and section to take as many of these books as possible and see that they were sold and distributed widely.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that it was announced at a meeting of the CP Harlem Tenants Club on [redacted] that the first edition of PAUL ROBESON's book had been sold out. It was stated that this book had received a wonderful response all over the country.

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[redacted] advised on May 28, 1958, that a meeting of the Industrial Board, Industrial Division, New York State CP, was held at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Avenue, New York City, on May 28, 1958. At this meeting, one of the speakers described ROBESON's book as "a manifesto of the Negro people." The speaker stated that ROBESON's book is the formula for the accomplishment of the alliance between the Negro people and the labor movement. The goal of the Communist Party is to guarantee the sale of 100,000 copies of ROBESON's book primarily in the Negro community. The Industrial Division of the CP has a goal of 40,000 books.

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The speaker commented that the most important thing the Party can do to advertise unity of the Negroes and the white people and in the struggle for Negro rights is to promote the sale of ROBESON's book.

[redacted] on [redacted] furnished a copy of a letter prepared by JAMES JACKSON, a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA, which letter was directed "To All Districts", relative to ROBESON's book. This letter is set forth as follows:

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"July 25, 1958

"TO ALL DISTRICTS

"Dear Friends:

"Paul Robeson in London is everywhere received with that sort of acclaim usually reserved by Britons for members of

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"the royal family.

"The echoes of Robeson abroad will continue to make news in our country's press for months to come. If you read the Negro press you are already aware that he is the object of a full dress "rediscovery." The Afro-American has carried two successive editorial cartoons, lengthy editorials and feature articles of appreciation of him and the principles for which he stands.

"All this means that the possibilities for extending the sale of his book are greater than ever. The most heartfelt reception has been accorded booksellers who cover the entrances to the numerous church conventions which are taking place in many cities during the summer months. All the college summer schools provide a market for eager purchasers. News stalls which may have turned down handling the book when it was first made available now accept it for sale. Let us continue to promote the sale of the book HERE I STAND during the remaining summer weeks -- whether at home or on vacation.

"The publishers announce new and attractive wholesale terms:

"Orders direct to OTHELLO ASSOCIATES,  
INC.,  
P. O. Box 283,  
Manhattanville  
Station  
New York 27, N. Y.

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"will be filled on day of receipt of order  
and cash, at the rate of

50 ¢ per copy for the  
\$1.00 edition in lots  
of 100 or more with  
shipping costs being  
absorbed by the  
publisher.

"Orders in lots of less than 100  
will continue at the same cost to the  
wholesaler -- that is at 60¢ per copy.

"Please make a big and prompt  
investment in this project now.

"Sincerely yours,

"JJ/el

"JAMES E. JACKSON

E. Activity in Connection with  
ROBESON's 60th Birthday  
Celebration

The "New York Mirror" of March 22, 1958,  
in its editorial that NEHRU of India was lending  
support in India to an unusual campaign, that of  
"whooping it up for American signer PAUL ROBESON in  
a celebration of ROBESON's 60th birthday, April 9th."

NEHRU also described ROBESON as a

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sufferer in the cause for human dignity.

██████████ advised on March 27, 1958, that on that date, a New York State Staff meeting took place at CP Headquarters, New York City. b7D

At this meeting BEN DAVIS suggested that one of the things that the Party concentrate on was ROBESON's birthday celebration on April 9, 1958.

The "New York Times", late city edition, issue of April 2, 1958, page 35, contained the following article:

"BERLIN, April 1 (Reuters)

"Neues Deutschland, East German Communist newspaper, said today that a Paul Robeson Society has been founded in East Germany and plans to hold a ceremony on April 9, the sixtieth birthday of the singer.

"The aim of the society is to help Mr. Robeson get a passport so he can accept the 'numerous invitations from abroad,' Neues Deutschland said."

"The Worker" issue of April 27, 1958, page seven, column two, contained an editorial captioned, "Celebrations in Bulgaria." It stated:

"SOFIA (by cable): The biggest concert hall in Bulgaria was filled at the concert honoring Paul Robeson on his

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"sixtieth birthday April 9.

"Peoples' Artist, Mikhail Popov, well-known basso of the Sofia National Opera said, "Paul Robeson has devoted his art to the triumph of peace and friendship among people."

"George Pirinsky, vice president of the Bulgarian Peace Committee spoke on significant moments of Robeson's life in the fight for peace and democracy. Pirinsky said, 'Today when in London and New Delhi, Moscow, Berlin, Sofia and Prague men in all walks of life and professions celebrate Robeson's 60th anniversary, the Bulgarian peace fighters appreciate his contribution to the fight for peace, democracy and social progress. Robeson's name and voice has spread the world over, inspiring crusaders against racist discrimination.'

"Robeson's birthday was also honored in other Bulgarian cities like Plovidid, Bourgas, Rousse. Many message were sent to the great American artist."

"The Worker" of April 27, 1958, page six, column three, contained an article written by ROBESON's wife, ESLANDA ROBESON, captioned, "How World Greeted Paul Robeson." This article stated:

"Throughout seven long years of persecution Paul Robeson has been sustained by the knowledge that many people in many places, near and far, have continued

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"to respect him and remain steadfastly loyal to him as an artist and as a man.

"These people, whose number runs into hundreds of millions, have assured Paul from time to time that they consider him a great artist and a courageous human being. They have been indignant because the U. S. Department of State continues to deny him his right to travel, preventing them from hearing him sing and act. They have, upon occasion, arranged trans-Atlantic telephone concerts in order to hear his 'live' voice.

"This year, friends, neighbors, colleagues and admirers all over the world decided to honor Paul Robeson by celebrating his 60th birthday (April 9th). Formal and informal Paul Robeson Birthday Committees were organized in Australia, Bulgaria, Ceylon, China, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the USSR and the USA.

"On or about April 9th these Committees held concerts, meetings, radio and television programs in which distinguished academicians, scientists, theatre and film personalities took part. Together with many groups and individuals, they sent Paul Robeson cables, telegrams, letters, cards and presents for his birthday. These continue to pour in,

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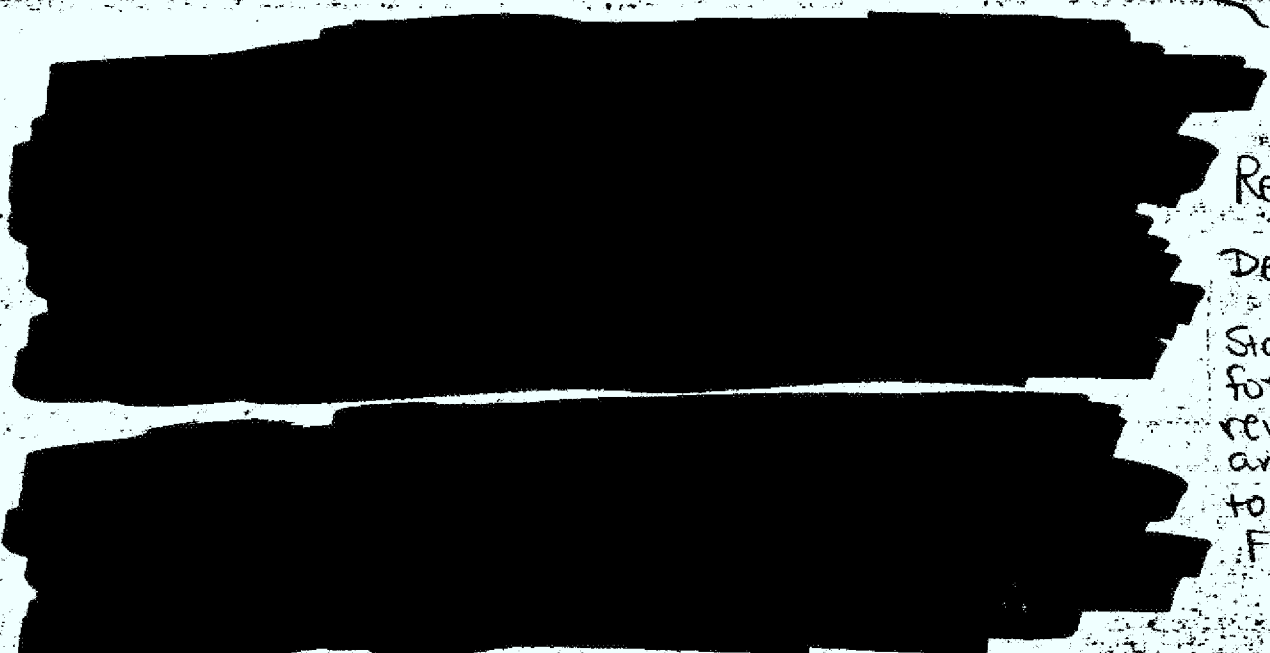


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"more than a week after the birthday.

"Telephone calls and greetings came to our home from Accra, Armavir, Azerbaijan, Berlin, Bombay, Brooklyn, Bucharest, Budapest, Calcutta, Detroit, Kalinin, Kazan, Kiev, Kingston, Leningrad, London, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Moscow, New Delhi, New Haven, New York, Odesa, Peking, Paris, Port-au-Prince, Prague, Reykjavik (Iceland), Rostov, San Diego, Sofia, South Norwalk, Stalingrad, Stockholm, Sydney, Tashkent, Tiflis, Tokyo, Ulan Bator, ((Mongolia), Vienna, Vilnius, Warsaw, Washington, D.C., and many other places."



Referred  
to  
Department  
of  
State  
for their  
review  
and return  
to the  
FBI

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Referred to  
the Dept.  
of State  
for their  
review and  
return to  
the FBI

██████████ advised on May 6, 1958, that a meeting of the Regional Council of the Industrial Division, New York State CP, was held on that date at the New York Palace Theatre, 111 East Houston Street, New York City. One of the topics of discussion at this meeting was a report on PAUL ROBESON's birthday celebration.

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"The Worker" of June 15, 1958, page six, column one, contains an article captioned, "Peking Letter." In this article it is stated:

"Paul Robeson's 60th birthday was celebrated in China as an event of major international significance. For two days preceding his birthday and on the day itself the national radio network played recordings of his songs. On April 9th, the entire cultural page of China's leading newspaper, the People's Daily, was devoted to articles about Paul - there were five of them - as well as a poem in his honor, plus a

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"cartoon of a mighty figure of Paul singing of peace, while little policemen frantically and vainly build a clapnet barricade around his feet.

"In Peking's new and beautiful Capital Theatre, a rally meeting was staged that lasted over three hours. On the presidium sat some of the top figures in China's intellectual world ~~X~~ Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the All-China Federation of Writers and Artists; ~~X~~ Chu Tu-man, head of the Chinese People's Association of Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; and several of China's foremost dramatists and musicians."

CHINA

"There were speeches and a chorus singing a song composed for the occasion, comparing Paul to a lion who could not be caged. After the congratulatory cables being sent that afternoon were read aloud, there was a showing of the special film short Paul had made in conjunction with Earl Robinson. Both artists were very well received, with the audience bursting into applause after nearly every number."

F. Activity in Connection with Foreign Travel

The "New York Times" issue of June 26, 1958, page twenty-two, column four, contains an article

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captioned, "Robeson To Leave For Britain Soon," by LOUIS CALTA. This article is set forth as follows:

"Paul Robeson, who for the last eight years has been denied a passport, will be able to leave for London within a fortnight to fulfill stage, concert and television commitments there.

"News of the actor-singer's imminent departure was made known yesterday by his lawyer, Leonard B. Boudin." Mr. Boudin said that officials of the Passport Office of the State Department in Washington informed him yesterday morning that the document would be 'issued to Mr. Robeson as quickly as possible or in about five days.'

"Mr. Robeson's plans include discussions with British producers about a London presentation of 'Othello,' with himself in the title role, and conferences with Harold Davison, Ltd., a theatrical, band and concert agency. He last appeared on the London stage in 1936 in a play called 'Toussaint L'Ouverture.'

"There is a possibility that the performer also will appear at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre in Stratford-on-Avon. Last February Mr. Robeson had sought a 'limited' passport to appear at the celebrated theatre as Gower in 'Pericles.'

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"However, the State Department refused to process Mr. Robeson's application. A recent Supreme Court decision voided State Department regulations denying passports to persons of allegedly doubtful loyalty. On Tuesday the State Department announced that the performer, among other rejected applicants, would shortly receive his passport."

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that [redacted] in an official report [redacted] of the CP through leading CP members, [redacted] was identified as a CP member. The informant further stated [redacted] to have been associated with Communist friends.

The Passport Office, Department of State, advised in June, 1958, that PAUL ROBESON was being issued Passport Number 1145187 to travel to Europe for the purpose of singing and acting.

[redacted] advised on July 10, 1958, that BENJAMIN DAVIS was visited on that date at his residence by LLOYD BROWN, a member of the National Committee of the CP, USA. During this visit, DAVIS and BROWN discussed the fact that ROBESON had left the country and expressed their delight on the fact that he was able to leave.

DAVIS commented that if it had been left to the President of the United States they would not have let ROBESON go abroad.

The "New York Times", late city edition,

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section one, page eight, column five, dated July 11, 1958, contained the following article captioned, "Robeson Off to Europe After an 8-Year Battle." The article is set forth as follows:

"Paul Robeson, who had been barred for eight years from leaving the country because he refused to sign a nonCommunist affidavit for a passport, left for London yesterday to start a series of concerts.

"The singer received his passport recently after the Supreme Court had invalidated the State Department's requirement for the affidavit. Departing from New York International Airport at Idlewild, Queens, Mr. Robeson said he would give concerts in Europe, including Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union.

"Mr. Robeson was asked if he planned to stay abroad. He replied: 'This is my land. My grandfather and father were born here, too, and I don't plan to leave it.'"

"L'Humanite", French Communist daily, on July 21, 1958, printed a message from "the great colored American singer, PAUL ROBESON," which was read at the plenary session of the World Peace Council at Stockholm, Sweden, on July 20, 1958, by Mrs. ANNA LOUISE STRONG. This statement read as follows:

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"You have come from all corners of the Earth, and you represent different political opinions, nations and cultures.

"Once more the noble words of Joliot-Curie have resounded at Stockholm: 'The people themselves must impose the peace.' There is still time. The world must know that the colored people want to be masters of their destiny and of their resources.

"The warmongers must understand that the ratio of strength has changed radically. They must understand that the aspirations of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America can never, never be broken.

"I send you my best wishes for your labors. Millions and millions of people on this Earth are at your sides.

"With my deep affection.

"PAUL ROBESON."

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The "New York Herald Tribune", page seven, July 12, 1958, issue contained an article captioned, "Robeson, In Britain, Balks at 'Red' Query." This article is set forth as follows:

"LONDON, July 11. -

"Paul Robeson bounced down out of a trans-Atlantic air liner at London Airport today, beaming and smiling and singing snatches of 'Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,' but a little later things clouded over when he was asked at a press conference whether he is a Communist.

"There are certain questions one does not have to answer," he said. "I know you are friendly, but this is the essence of our constitutional right. I stand on my right not to answer. I could ask you the same question and you would not have to answer it."

"The questioner persisted that it would not matter in Great Britain if he did answer it - to which Mr. Robeson replied: 'It does in our country, and it is not a friendly question.'

"Otherwise, with more than 100 persons on hand to cheer him at the airport and a lot of friendly newspaper

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"comment on his return to Britain after having been denied a passport for eight years, his comments were all happy ones.

"He said he intends to tour Britain, the continent of Europe and the Soviet Union and then return to the United States.

"Denied a passport for several years, he obtained one recently after the United States Supreme Court ruled that the State Department had no right to refuse passports because of a person's associations."



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The "New York Times", late city edition, issue of August 16, 1958, page ten, contained an article captioned, "Robeson in Moscow." This article is set forth as follows:

"Singer Welcomed at Airport  
on Arrival for Tour

"London, Aug. 15 (Reuters)

"Paul Robeson, American singer,

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"arrived with his wife Eslanda, in Moscow by air today, Tass, the Soviet news agency, said.

"At the Vnukovo Airport near Moscow he was met by his Moscow friends, leaders of the Soviet Peace Defenders Committee, artists, musicians and journalists. He was welcomed by Nikolai A. Mikhailov, Soviet Minister of Culture.

"After the throng began to applaud, Mr. Robeson dropped his two suitcases and hat to clap his hands in time with the welcomers - a Slavic custom.

"Mr. Robeson will give concerts in Moscow, which he last visited nine years ago, and in various cities of the Central Asian republics, Tass said.

"The singer is expected to give his first concert Sunday at Moscow's Palace of Sports, which seats 14,000. He will fly to Paris after two weeks of engagements, but is expected to return later for a tour of Soviet cities."

"New York Daily News", final edition, August 18, 1958, page six, contains an article captioned, "Robeson to Reds: You Inspired Mr." This article stated as follows:

"London, Aug. 17 (Reuters)

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"Singer Paul Robeson told Muscovites today that they had inspired him with strength. He gave a concert and speech in Lenin Stadium. The program was broadcast by Moscow radio. 'I am here because you have been helping me, have been inspiring me with strength,' he said in Russian.

The "New York Times," late city edition, August 18, 1958, page six, contained an article captioned, "Robeson, in Russia, Cites Soviet Amity." This article is set forth as follows:

"Moscow, Aug. 17 (AP)

"Paul Robeson called on the Soviet people today to fight for freedom. He did not specify what freedom or for whom, but he spoke and sang in general terms of man's right to be free.

"When I read in America about the sputnik,' he told a concert audience here, 'my thoughts went out to my friends, the peoples of the Soviet Union whose minds and hands have created this miracle, opening up to mankind the boundless expanse of the cosmos.'

"The American Negro singer is idolized in the Soviet Union for his voice as well as his Left-wing views. He was introduced to a packed house of 12,000 persons at the Moscow Sports Palace as the Soviet Union's 'great and dear friend' and as a fighter for peace

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NY 100-25857

"and friendship throughout the world."

"It was Mr. Robeson's first concert appearance in the Soviet Union since he visited here nine years ago. He has said he intends to make a singing tour of many Soviet cities before returning to the United States in October."

The "New York Herald Tribune", late city edition, issue of August 30, 1958, page seven, contains an article captioned, "Khrushchev Sees Robeson." This article is set forth below:

"Moscow, Aug. 29 (UPI)

"Soviet Prime Minister Nikita S. Khrushchev had a 'friendly and cordial talk' with American singer Paul Robeson in the Crimean resort of Yalta, the Moscow radio reported today.

"Mr. Khrushchev, who is on a vacation, met Mr. Robeson and his wife, Eslanda, in the Nizhnyaya Oreanda health sanatorium. Mr. Robeson sang for Soviet pioneers at the Artek camp the same evening in a performance attended by Mr. Khrushchev. The broadcast did not say when the meeting took place."

III. MISCELLANEOUS

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NY 100-25857

~~Chicago Citizens Committee~~

CHICAGO 221

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the Chicago Citizens Committee was organized by ISH FLORY, 51 formerly known as a Communist Party member in the south side of Chicago. It is not known whether FLORY is a Communist Party member. b7D

The Chicago Citizens Committee was formed for the purpose of sponsoring a recital that was given by PAUL ROBESON at the Parkway Ballroom on April 13, 1958. This was a "one shot deal" and it is not believed that there will be any further functions sponsored by this Committee.

It is not possible to say that this was a Communist organization or dominated Committee since there were various individuals on the Committee who are prominent Negroes in Chicago who are known to be anti-Communist.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that on April 13, 1958, a reception was held by the Chicago Citizens Committee for PAUL ROBESON at the Parkway Community Ballroom, Chicago, Illinois. b7D

PAUL ROBESON spoke at this reception regarding Communists. He stated our worse enemy is our own Government and not the Communists. He remarked the Secretary of State could not choose his, ROBESON, friends for him. He stated that he likes Soviets and Red China. ROBESON stated he does not care for the Chinese of Formosa.

ROBESON described CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT as a good man and a friend of his.

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NY 100-25857

He urged those present to see to it that LIGHTFOOT walks the streets as a free man whenever he chooses.

The informant stated that ROBESON's talk was clearly anti-United States Government with emphasis on criticism of President EISENHOWER and Secretary of State DULLES.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that at the affair in honor of PAUL ROBESON held at the Parkway Ballroom, Chicago, Illinois, on April 15, 1958, PAUL ROBESON spoke and reaffirmed his intention of continuing his fight for his people and for his passport. He urged all present to fight for their rights as individuals in spite of the fact that many fighters for Negro rights were falsely labeled Communists. b7D

ROBESON stated that he looked forward to the time when people like CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT would walk the streets a free man. He stated that LIGHTFOOT and his followers were not trying to overthrow the government but were simply struggling for the rights of the Negro people.

ROBESON deplored the political attitude where free people were denied the right to hold the political belief of their own choice.

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"PEOPLES WORLD" (Formerly "Daily People's World")

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of January 2, 1957, to supersede the Guide published on May 14, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning "People's World":

1. "The official organ of the Communist Party on the west coast." (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 95; also cited in Annual Report, H. R. 1, January 3, 1941, p. 10.)"

- P\* -

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

INMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 9/15/58

*WJK*

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON, was.  
IS - C

Enclosed herewith are four copies of the report of SA [redacted] and four copies of a letterhead memorandum reflecting the reliability of informants, dated and captioned as above.

REFERENCES

- 3/20/58. Report of SA [redacted] at New York, Bureau airtel to New York, May 12, 1958. New York letter to Bureau, June 18, 1958. Report of SA [redacted] July 22, 1958, 1-16-81 at WFO.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SA-5 Rld/dw  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-2-93  
DATE OF REVIEW [redacted]

ADMINISTRATIVE

Subject's wife, ESLANDA GOGDE ROBESON, New York file 100-56680, Bufile 100-12304, is carried on the Security Index of the New York Office.

[redacted]

ROBESON is a key figure of the New York Office.

2-Bureau (100-12304) (Encls. 8) (RM)  
3-New York (100-25857)

JW:mbb  
(5) REC.D 181

ENCLOSURE  
REC-76  
FBI REC-76

100-12304-541

SEP 16 1958

DEC 30 11 33 AM '58

58 OCT 1 1958

RECEIVED  
MAY 24 1958

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

Referenced Bureau airtel above stated that attempts should be made to determine whether the CP would benefit financially as a result of the campaign by the CP on behalf of the sale of ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand." Investigation in this regard is set forth as follows:

(c) [redacted] a source close to [redacted] is contacted on a continuing basis and has furnished no information which indicates that the CP has benefited financially by the sale of ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand."

(c) [redacted] a source close to [redacted] CP members, is contacted on a continuing basis and has furnished no information which indicates that the CP has benefited financially from the sale of ROBESON's book.

(c) and (c) [redacted] sources close to [redacted] CP, USA, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, are contacted on a continuing basis, and also furnished no information which indicates the CP has benefited financially from the sale of ROBESON's book.

The following information is set forth in this cover letter because of the phonetic pronunciation of some of the information received:

(c) [redacted] advised on April 21, 1958, that WILLIAM Z. FOSTER was visited at his residence on that date by WILLIAM WEINSTONE. During the course of the ensuing conversation, WEINSTONE stated that PAUL

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NY 100-25857

ROBESON is for the following standards for Negro equality:

1. Full citizenship here and now;
2. Development of "Negro" (phonetic) political action;
3. A Negro peoples convention for a common "fund" (phonetic);
4. Leadership which is free of white supervision;
5. A leadership that does not bend its knee to "good" white folk.

Continuing, WEINSTONE said that he thinks that ROBESON underestimates the question in the South and does not call outright for the working class to lead the struggle. He stated ROBESON places the most weight to the churches.

[REDACTED] reported on May 18, 1958, that LLOYD BROWN and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., both members of the National Committee of the CP, USA, conferred briefly at DAVIS' residence on that date. b1

Evidently referring to PAUL ROBESON and ROBESON's book, BROWN said next week in both "The Courier" and "Afro" that "we" will have another of "our" ads. He said he had a new heading, that being "Ike says later, Paul now." DAVIS indicated this was a very good heading.

BROWN said someone had told him that

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NY 100-25857

the "Negro Summit Conference" was inspired by "this thing." DAVIS said this shows "that when we begin to move, even though we don't participate, it forces others to move."

BROWN stated that in the "New York Age" that week, (A. PHILLIP) RANDOLPH's speech is reported and the speech is right out of the book (ROBESON's ?) on the subject of white allies. BROWN said he (RANDOLPH) says there is only one place where Negro leadership is to be responsible to the Negro masses and "our fate is in our own hands." BROWN commented that the procedure seems to be to take over the ideas of the left. DAVIS replied, "We're very happy for them to do that."

BROWN went on to say that "even old ADAM (CLAYTON POWELL)" has come out with some statements. DAVIS, in referring to POWELL, said he is red-baiting less and less and that this is very important. DAVIS continued that POWELL has stated in the papers that "next to the Communists, he is the most persecuted person" and that POWELL has also said "whether these demonstrations in South America were Communist inspired or not...." DAVIS commented that these things are very important.

Continuing, DAVIS said he felt some more of "that stuff" came out of the book (ROBESON's) and that the book is going to be like TOM PAINE's "Common Sense" as far as Negroes are concerned. DAVIS said he would like to get a couple of special spots for the book - one involves PAUL sending an autographed copy; the other is how "they" can get books from "our people."

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NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
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T-1 [redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

T-2 [redacted] (c)

[redacted]

100-25857-3682

T-3 [redacted] (c)

b1  
b7C  
b7D

T-4 [redacted] (c)

T-5 [redacted] (c)

T-6 [redacted] (c)

100-25857-3519

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5/11

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NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
T-7 [REDACTED] (c)		✓		LA 100-1763D
T-8 Deleted				
T-9 [REDACTED] (c)	[REDACTED]			
T-10 [REDACTED] (c)	[REDACTED]			[REDACTED] (c)
T-11 [REDACTED] (c)	[REDACTED]			
T-12 [REDACTED] (c)	[REDACTED]			[REDACTED] (c)

b1  
b7D

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NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
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T-13

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

T-14

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

T-15

[REDACTED] (c)

b1  
b7-D

T-16

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

T-17

[REDACTED] (c)

T-18

[REDACTED] (c)

100-25857-3299

T-19

[REDACTED] (c)

100-25857-3292

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NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
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T-20  
[REDACTED] (c) ✓

T-21  
[REDACTED] (c) ✓

T-22  
[REDACTED] (c) [REDACTED]

T-23  
[REDACTED] (c) [REDACTED]

T-24  
[REDACTED] (c)

T-25  
[REDACTED] (c)

T-26  
[REDACTED] (c)

T-27  
Foreign Service  
Dispatch,  
The Dept. of  
State,  
Washington, D.C.

100-25857-  
3594

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NY 100-25857

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And Description Of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
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T-28 [REDACTED] (C)

T-29 [REDACTED] (C)

T-30 [REDACTED] (C)

T-31 [REDACTED] (C)

T-32 [REDACTED] (C)

T-33 [REDACTED] (C)

T-34 [REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-3897

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

b1  
b7C  
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will remain alert for information concerning the return of ROBESON to the United States and upon his return, will closely follow and report his activities. ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

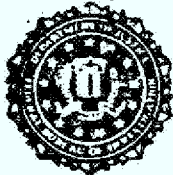
1.  Subject's name is included in the Security Index
2.  The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3.  Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4.  A suitable photograph  is  is not available.
5.  Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6.  Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are \_\_\_\_\_
7.  This report is classified ~~secret~~ because (state reason) \_\_\_\_\_

8.  Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) not in country.

9.  This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10.  This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

ROBESON was National Chairman of the Council on African Affairs until its dissolution in June, 1955. ROBESON also has close contacts with National leaders of the CP, USA. Further during visit abroad he met with NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV.

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United States Department of Justice  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 New York, New York  
 September 15, 1958

Re: Paul Leroy Robeson, with aliases  
 Internal Security - C

All informants mentioned in the report of  
 Special Agent [redacted] dated and captioned as above,  
 have furnished reliable information in the past, except  
 [redacted] who were in a position to furnish reliable  
 information.

b7C  
 b7D

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-16-81 BY SP-5 RJA/HW

06 0446 0448  
 AGENCY Rob, State, CIA  
 REQ. REC'D  
 DATE FORW. 10-7-58  
 HOW FORW. AS  
 BY [signature]

~~06 0446 0448~~  
 AGENCY ~~Rob, State, CIA~~  
 REQ. REC'D  
 DATE FORW. ~~9-26-58~~  
 HOW FORW. ~~AS~~  
 BY ~~[signature]~~

100-12304-541  
 ENCLOSURE

64



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 9/16/58

FROM : LEGAT, BONN (105-720)

~~CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL ATTACHED~~

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

9-1  
Enc  
9-1

Reylet 8/23/58.

Enclosed are one copy for the Bureau and one copy for London of [redacted]

Refer to the Dept of the Army for their review and direct response to you

The enclosed is being furnished to record the contact of the subject in England.

P.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc-1)
- 1 - London (Enc-1) (For information - sent direct)
- (3) GAV:tlc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-16-81 BY SP5R1/Juh  
tia

AGENCY ccny  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 10-1-58  
HOW FORW. 105-720  
BY [signature]

~~CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL ATTACHED~~  
EX-128  
REC-54

100-12304-542

25 SEP 24 1958

ENCLOSURE  
REC-54

EX-128

5 OCT 2 1958

~~SUBV CONTROL~~

[signature]  
NAT Sec (info)

65

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ 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) Department of the Army, 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:  
FBI Headquarters file 100-12304-542 (Enclosure)

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

66