FBIHQ FILE 100-12304 SECTION: 20







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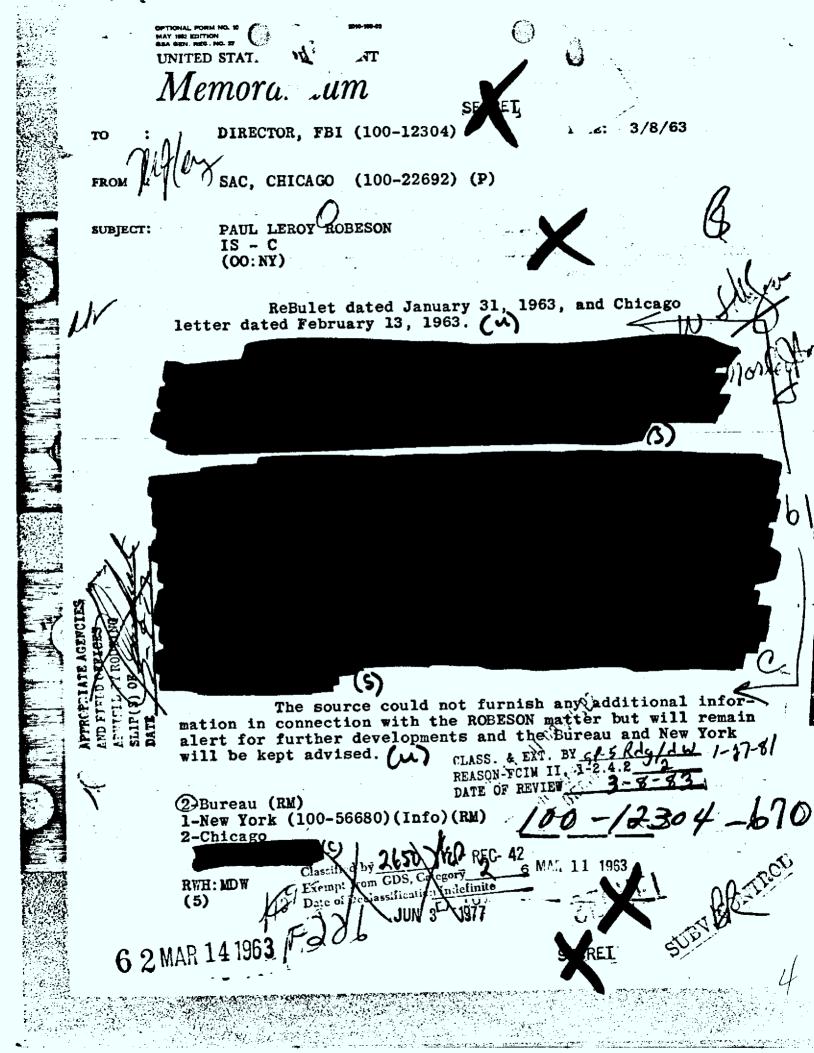
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FBI/BOJ



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MemorandumDIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304) SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857) PAUL LEROY ROBESON SUBJECT: SM - C (OO: NEW YORK) ReNYlet to Bureau, 2/13/63. (a) in the NY NY files on area, who are of security interest to the NYO, were reviewed to determine whether any information pertaining to this matter was reflected therein. None of the files reviewed reflected any information concerning the identity of class. & EXT. BY 59-56 REASON-FCIN II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW Classified by Exempt fro 2-Bureau (100-12304) (RM) 2-Washington Field (100-19021) (RM) 1-New York (100-25857) 12 APR 1 1963 REC- 28 VJA:arg EX-116 ?



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×	For your information: (b)()(c) cited to protect FBI investigative interests of third parties.
⋪	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  FBI Headquayters file 100-12304-671 (page 2)





WFO 100-19021

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No additional pertinent information was contained in the file.

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Office of Security, on 4/3/63, that contained on additional information concerning this matter.







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Ŕ	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  FBT Headquay ters file 100-12304-673 (page 1)

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UNITED STATES Memore PIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304) CONFIDENTIAL DATE: ( April 19, 1963 sAC, CHICAGO (100-22692)(RUC) LE COX ROBSON PAUL LEROY ROBESONS NES SUBJECT: OO: NEW YORK Re Bureau letter dated 3/31/63, and Chicago letters dated 2/13/63, and 3/8/63, all captioned as above. Chicago has followed instant matter,

as suggested in referenced Bureau letter. Since submission of Chicago letter of March 8, 1963, no additional pertinent information in this matter has been received and accordingly, it is felt this case should be considered RUC. However, Chicago will continue to follow this matte

> 0-7 CHICAGO 4/20/63 - PAPEARES INTENDED TITLE REFERENCE TO PAUL LARDY ROBASON, FATHER OF PAUL RUBREDD, JR. - ALSO SHUULD BULBT REFERENCE BE 1/31/63. DOVISE

BY RIS PROMOTELY New York (100-95550)(RM) Chicago

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

(5) CLASS. & EXT. BY REASON-FOIM II. DATE OF REVIEW

RWH: Plb

100-12304-674

12 APR 22 1963

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54 AFZ 30 1953

UNITED STATES GG CRNMENT  $m{1}$ emorandum DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304) DATE: i - 30 53 SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857) (C) PAUL LEROY ROBESON SUBJECT: SM - C (OO:NY) ReNYlet to Bureau dated 3/29/63 and WFOlet to Bureau 4/12/63. (4) LEIG N Review of passport files at Washington, DC on reflects that both of these individuals are in possession of valid US passports. (u) England Current review has been made of NYO file, but no information has been received shedding any This information is reflected in to Bureau dated 4/12/63. CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-REASON-FCIM II. 1-2. - Bureau (100-12304)(RM) DATE OF REVIEW - Chicago (100-22692)(RM)(INFO - New York (100-137722) (100-119739 1 - New York REC 19 New York (100-25857 EX-112 VJA:mrk **(6)** to APR 29 m GDS, Chegery Exempt if 5 6 MAY 7 SECREI

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NY 100-25857.

that The speed from CGlet to Bureau dated 3/8/63 that The speed alerted to report any additional information in the above regard coming to his attention, if and when it is received

(5)

NYO is closing its file in this matter and it is suggested that Chicago do likewise until any additional information is received from specifically, identifying the parties involved.

The following confidential sources, NYO, were contacted negatively in this matter during March and April, 1963:14











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	Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies);
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#### THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy Paris 8, France

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Date:

May 9, 1963

DATE 1-17-81 BY SP. 5R10-1W

Director, FBI (100-12304)

From:

Legat, Paris (100-715)(P)

Subject:

PAUL LEROY ROBESON

IS - C

Set forth below is a text of an unclassified airgram dated May 4, 1963 to the Department of State, (information London), furnished the Paris Office on May 7, 1963 from the American Embassy, Paris, captioned "Whereabouts of Paul Robeson and His Present Attitude Toward USSR and Communism Disputed Between Le Figaro and L'Humanite."

"The present whereabouts of Paul Robeson, the American colored actor and singer, and his current attitude toward the Soviet Union and Communism were subjects of dispute between Le Figaro and L'Humanite on May 2 and 3.

"Le Figaro in an article by its authority on Communist affairs, who identifies himself with the sign XXX, reported on May 2 that Robeson had returned to the U.S. after having broken with the Soviet Union because of its cultural oppression of minorities. Mistakenly claiming that the American singer had resided in the USSR during the period 1948-1963 (in the earlier part of this period Robeson was unable to leave the U.S. because he had been denied a passport due to his identification with Communist causes), Le Figaro reported that Robeson 'had just returned to the United States completely disillusioned, aged, ruined and alone.' Le Figaro said the singer had explained his

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#### Paris 100-715

action as stemming from his disillusionment in the Soviet claim that all minorities in the USSR lived without the 'least restrictions' placed upon them. He supposedly said that in fact in the Soviet Union one tells the minorities that 'their culture is inferior to the new culture inspired by the Soviet state,' that 'the only great writers' are Soviets, and that western art is 'decadent.' Robeson supposedly reported that he was disabused because in the USSR he had found 'another form of oppression all the more dangerous because it was exercised in the name of a pretended liberation.'

"On May 3 L'Humanite denied Le Figaro's story, claiming that it had gotten information from its London correspondent that Robeson was in fact undergoing medical treatment in a clinic near the British capital. The wife of Robeson was reported to have said that 'my husband has not broken and has no intention of breaking with Communism.' Associates of Robeson were quoted to have said that he has no intention to visit the U.S. They allegedly asserted that if he does make a trip he would ooner go to Moscow, but that his state of health prevents im from undertaking any voyages."

"COMMENT: The rapidity with which L'Humanite denied Le Figaro's XXX account is noteworthy. Actually L'Humanite rarely refutes the claims in articles by XXX. The haste with which L'Humanite responded suggests that this time it may feel itself certain of its facts."



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FOREIGN SERVICE

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy

Paris 8, France

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**June 7, 1963** 

Director, FBI

Legat, Paris (100-715

IS - C

Bufile 100-12304

ESLANDA ROBESON

Bufile 100-399388

Re London letter to Bureau 5/22/63

In view of the information set forth in re London letter and that it is highly unlikely that the subjects will be visiting France in the near future no further action is being taken in this matter.

5 - Bureau (1 - Liaison) 2 - Legat, London (100-1182)(100-1666)(sent direct) 1 - Paris

LPK: 11

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#### Memorandum

Director, FBI (100-12304)

7-30-63

Legat, Bonn (105-720) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

PAUL LEROY ROBESON

and recognition.

Re Bonnlet dated 2-20-63.

MLS PAUL LERCY ROBESON "Neues Deutschland," published in East Berlin, reported on 7-9-63, that Eslanda Robeson, the well-known freedom fighter and wife of the popular Negro singer, Paul Robeson, had been awarded the German Peace Medal by the Peace Council of the German Democratic Republic for her service to peace and international understanding. Mrs. Robeson expressed heartfelt thanks for this award

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by routing slip for

5 - Bureau

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DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

(100-399388) vo

DATE:

SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857

(100-5668ò) l

SUBJECT:

PAUL LEROY ROBESON aka

IS-C

(00: NEW YORK)

ESLANDA ROBESON aka

SM-C

(00: NEW YORK) MRS Paul Leroy Robeson

Re Legat letter dated 5/22/63.

The NY Times, a daily NY newspaper, in an article published on 8/26/63, captioned "ROBESON TO REST IN EAST GERMANY" reflects that PAUL ROBESON with his wife and a friend, boarded a Polish airline flight today, and flew to East Berlin. The article recorded that HARRY FRANCIS, a friend of ROBESON, stated that ROBESON made the journey to the German Democratic Republic where he will have a general medical checkup followed by a holiday in one of East Germanys beautiful spas. The flight came after information had been reported by the "Sunday Telegraph" concerning an attempt which was to be made to "smuggle" the 65 year old singer to a Soviet-bloc capital "to keep him quiet" because he had "broken with Moscow". HARRY FRANCIS, who accompanied ROBESON to the London airport, where he boarded the plane for East Berlin, stated that reports of "smuggling" and ROBESON disillusion with Moscow, were " sheer nonsense".

The NY Post, a daily NY newspaper, dated 8/26/63, contains an article captioned "ROBESON IN E. BERLIN" which reflects that PAUL ROBESON was in East Berlin today for rest and medical breatment. The article mentioned that his agent HAROLD DAVISON said that charges that ROBESON was "smuggled" behind the Iron Curtain were rediculous and that he will return in four or five weeks.

- Bureau

New York

FB:mvl

SEP. 4 1963

FD-122 (Rev. 4-17-63) OPTIONAL FORM NO. 18 MAY 1742 EDITION

8010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

#### Memorandum

: Director, FBI (Bufile-	100-12304	DATE:	10/7/63	O Live
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UNITED STATE

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#### Memorandum

John July

Director, FBI (Bufile- 100-12304

DATE:

10/7/63

FROM

SAC. NEW YORK (100-25857)

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 00

SUBJECT:

PAUL LE ROY ROBESON aka

"UNAVAILABLE SECTION"

SM-C (00:

(3)

NEW YORK)

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):

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Þ	The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  FBT Headquay fers file 100-12304-684

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FBI/DOJ

	() i
Routing Stip FD-4 (Rev. 10-13-58) TO	Date 12/19/63 100-12304-686
Director	FILE #
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ASAC	
Agent	ALL INFURMATION CONTAINED
se	DATE IZAD ZI DV. a z z l l v l
StenoClerk	·
Ulerk	ACTION DESIRED
Acknowledge	Open Case
AssignReassign Bring file Call me	Prepare lead cards Prepare tickler Recharge serials
Correct Deadline	Return assignment/sard
Deadline passed Delinquent	Return serials Search and return
Discontinue Expedite	See me Serials
File For information	Submit new charge-out
Initial & return Leads need attention	Submit report by
	(b)
	routing slip 12/13/63. et 11/29/63.
Enclosure error. Please cor	es to Bureau indicated in rect Bureau copies.
	SAC LINGA
See reverse side	Office London
	37



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12/19/63

1 - Mr. Haack 1 - Mr. Floyd

Airtel

SACs, New York (Enclosures-2) Washington Field (Enclosures-2)

Director, FBI (100-12304)

PAUL LEROY SECURITY MATTER - C

According to an article in the 12/19/63 edition of the "Washington Post" under the date line "Berlin, December 18," Robeson and his wife, Eslanda, have left Germany en route to the United States for the Christmas holidays. In this connection there are enclosed for New York and Washington Field Office two copies of the above article.

New York immediately endeavor to determine details of subject's arrival in this country and ascertain the extent of his activities while in the United States, including the expected duration of his stay in this country. Washington Field Office check passport records for any additional details available concerning Robeson and his wife.

New York and Washington Field Office afford this matter immediate attention and furnish results to the Bureau suitable for dissemination. Keep the Bureau promptly advised of developments.

NOTE:

Subject, a well-known Negro singer, and his wife are on the Security Index. He resided in Solvent several years since 1958 before going to East Berlin several months ago. Prior to leaving this country he was actively engaged in communist ectivities in this country

TOTAL TOP ALL CARE	, country,
WHF: cad	RECT 100-12304-189
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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

#### Robeson, Abroad Since '58, and Wife Leave Berlin for Christmas in U.S.

BERLIN, Dec. 18 (AP) Robeson, 66, went to East him a passport for failure to American Negro singer Paul Berlin at the end of August sign a non-Communist affi-Robeson and his wife Eslanda for medical treatment at the davit. The law has since been united States to spend Christ- invitation of the East German amended to give the State mas with their family, the of Peace Council, ADN said, and Department that right.

civil rights."

[statutory authority to deny ceding 12 months.]

ficial East German news improvement in his health has [As an American citizen,

ficial East German news agency ADN reported today.

The agency said they left by air from the Schoenefeld Airport, outside East Berlin. His route was unspecified.

The Robesons were in Communist East Germany while Robeson was undergoing treatment in an East Berlin clinic, ADN said.

The agency described Robeson as "leading representative of the colored population of the U.S.A. fighting for their civil rights."

Improvement in his health has a Robeson will have no problem. Robeson will have no problem entering the United States, a State Department spokesman said.

The Robesons were in Communist front or ganizations, has been abroad leave, however, he will probably have to apply for a new passport, since his old one presumably has expired. He was finally issued one after the U.S.A. fighting for their civil rights."

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

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED** HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1- 27-81 BY 51-5R-19/10

The Washington Post and
Times Herald
The Washington Daily News
The Evening Star
New York Herald Tribune
New York Journal-American
New York Mirror
New York Daily News
New York Post
The New York Times
The Worker
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
People's World
People's World

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION DEC 22/1933

Mr. G Mir Tele. Room Miss Holmes Miss Gandy.

PW 10-31 DEFERRED 12-22-63

TO DIRECTOR /100-12304/

FROM SAC, NEW YORK /100-25857/

PAUL LEROY ROBESON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED 1P HEREIN IS UNCLASSIE

DASH-C. SECURITY MATTER-COMMUNIST

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE INS, NYC, JOHN F. KENNEDY AIRPORT, NYC,

ADVISED TODAY THAT PAUL ROBESON AND WIFE, ESLANDA ROBESON ARRIVED NYC VIA BOAC FLIGHT FIVE ZERO FIVE AT THREE FORTY PM THIS DATE.

DESTINATION GIVEN WAS ONE SIX JUMEL TERRACE, NEW YORK THIRTY TWO, THIS IS FORMER RESIDENCE OF SUBJECT IN NYO NEW YORK.

END AND ACK PLS

WA RDR EX-105 10-34 PM NY R 4

MR. BELLIGHT FOR THE DIRECTOR

3



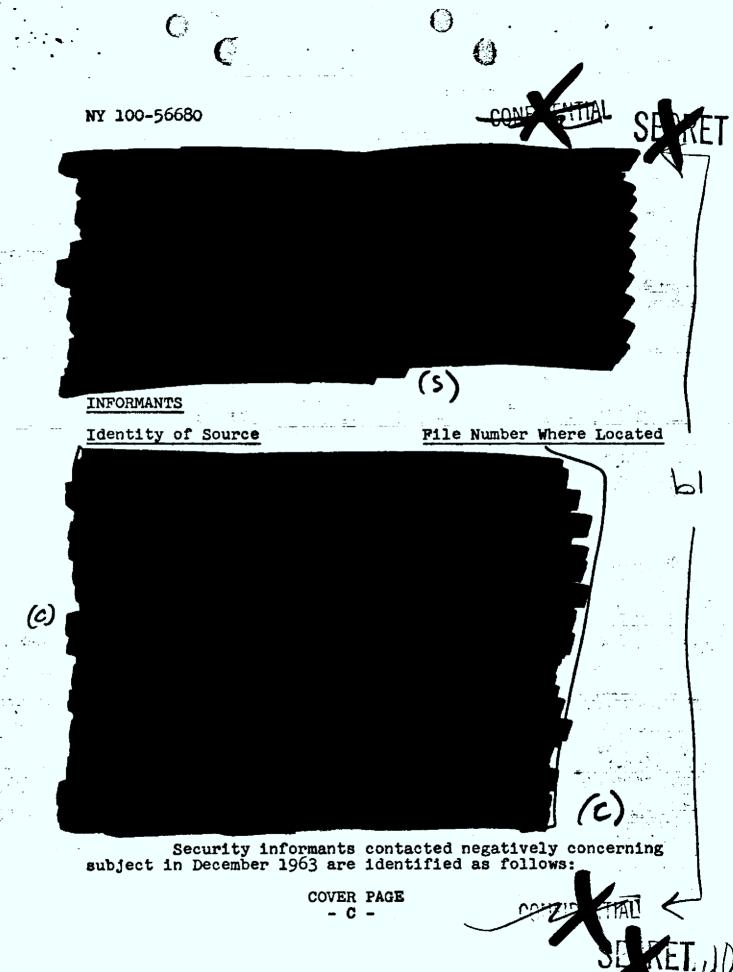
SECULI

No employment change is being made in subject's Security Index card from her customary occupation of writer, for the reason that the occupation shown herein namely roving correspondent for "New World Review" is not considered to be an exclusive employment.

COVER PAGE



34







## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FB1/DOJ

ı.	Subject's name is included in the Security Lex.
2. 3.	The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.  Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and
٠.	Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4.	X A suitable photograph X is is not available.
5.	Subject is employed in a key facility andis charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies
	are
6.	This report is classified Confid tial hecause
	(state reason)
	and the company of t The company of the company of
7.	Subject previously interviewed (dates)
•	X Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)
	Resides abroad
•	
1	
8.	This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria
0.	and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending
	cancellation of the Security Index card.
9•	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) No evidence has
	been received indicating that subject has abandoned
	her CP sympathies or associates. In a recent newspaper article, subject denied that her husband
	PAUL ROBESON had broken with the CP and she
	identified herself with "Our Soviet and Socialists
	Friends". She traveled to East Berlin in August 1963 and continues to be identified with CP front groups.
	with actionings as as amountained upon by result Droghes
10.	X Subject's SI card is X is not tabled Detcom. X Subject's activities do X do not warrant Detcom
	tabbing.
	COVER PAGE

48

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STICE



Copy to:

Report of: Date:

12/19/63

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File #:

100-56680

Title:

ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON

THE INFORMATION CONTINUED HEREIN IS VALUE SHOWN IN

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

OTHERWISE.

Synopsis:

of American Soviet Friendship as of April 1963. Subject included in staff of "New World Review", as a "roving correspondent" as of August 1963. On 7/9/63, subject reportedly was awarded the German Peace Medal by the Peace Council of the German Democratic Republic.

- C -

#### DETAILS

CT.ASS. & EXT. BY 5/-5/-15/-16/-10 PRASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-2 DATE OF REVIEW 12-19-93

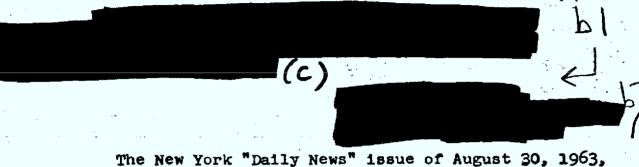
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#### I BACKGROUND

A- Foreign Travel



The New York "Daily News" issue of August 30, 1963, page forty-four set forth comments of a newspaper reporter concerning the flight of PAUL ROBESON and ESLANDA ROBESON to East Germany in August 1963. The following is excerpted from the newspaper article:

Despite subsequent reports from East Berlin, London newspapermen found the circumstances of his departure from London to be suspicious. They pointed out that his fiery 65-year-old wife joined with Red Poland's ambassador to England, Dr. Rodzinski, to smuggle Robeson from a London hospital for nervous diseases to a Polim Ilyushin plane that sped him across the Iron Curtain to East Berlin.

"If, as some of us suspect, Paul Robeson never again will emerge from behind the Iron Curtain, this is a description by veteran British newsman John Osman of Robeson aboard the Ilyushin plane. 'He sat like an effigy in his seat next to a plane window. In flight, I introduced myself to Mr. Robeson, who smiled charmingly and seemed about to talk to me. Angrily, his wife, who told me that she knew judo and would happily use it to keep people away from her "completely exhausted" husband, demanded I leave Paul and return to my own seat. Paul looked on stolidly, sat silently as his wife gave orders. Osman had wangled passage aboard the plane. He saw that the Robesons were met at East Berlin's Schoenfeld Airport by uniformed officials and whisked away in a dark car."



CONF ENTIAL

Revved to B - Foreign Residence

the Dept of the Army .

C2)

and return to the FBI

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#### C - Occupation

According to the August 1963 issue of "New World Review", ESLANDA ROBESON is a "roving correspondent" for this publication.

The "New World Review" is characterized in the appendix.

### II AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY MOVEMENT

### A - National Council of American-Soviet Friendship

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A letter head of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (NCASF) listed as among the Board of Directors of the NCASF the subject, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON.

A rally of the NCASF was held on November 26, 1962 at Carnegie Hall, New York City attended by approximately fifteen hundred persons. During the program an announcement

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was read that PAUL and ESLANDA ROBESON had sent greetings to the rally.

CONFL

The same information concerning sending of greetings to the NCASF rally was reported by on

#### "New World Review"

The August 1963 issue of the "New World Review" identified the staff of this publication and set forth the following pertaining to subject:

"ESLANDA ROBESON, our roving correspondent"

#### Miscellaneous

"The Worker" an east coast Communist newspaper issue of November 26, 1961, page one carried an article entitled, "Dr. W. E. B. DU BOIS joins the Communist Party. The article related that Dr. W. E. B. DU BOIS had joined the Communist Party, United States of America about November 1961.





"The National Guardian", issue of June 6, 1963, page two carried an article datelined London, England concerning PAUL ROBESON and signed by ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON. The following is excerpted from the article:

"Several people, among them some news reporters, have been inquiring about articles alleged to have been written by my husband, Paul Robeson. The articles appeared last January in an American newspaper. They are pure fabrication.

"He has not, 'changed his political views' in any way, as has been alleged in the articles. On the contrary, there has been no interruption of his warm friendship and close contact with our Soviet and socialist friends. That this friendship is mutual was shown recently on his 65th birthday, April 9, by the heart-warming avalanche of cables, telegrams, letters, cards, gifts and overseas telephone calls of congratulations and good wishes from friends, organizations, trade unions, artists, musicians, government leaders and civic leaders in the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Cuba and other socialist countries.

"The only people who sometimes wishfully think that he will change his mind are some Americans who are deeply sunk in their anti-communist hysteria."

"The National Guardian" is characterized in the appendix.

"Neues Deutschland", newspaper published in Bast Berlin, Germany reported on July 9, 1963 that ESLANDA ROBESON had been awarded the German Peace Medal by the Peace Council of the German Democratic Republic. Mrs. ROBESON allegedly expressed heart-felt thanks for this award and recognition.



l.

#### APPENDIX



#### "NATIONAL GUARDIAN"

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of December 1, 1961, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

#### "National Guardian

"1. 'established by the American Labor
Party in 1947 as a "progressive"
weekly \* \* \*. Although it denies
having any affiliation with the
Communist Party, it has manifested
itself from the beginning as a virtual
official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities,
Report, Trial by Treason: The National
Committee to Secure Justice for the
ROSENBERGS and MORTON SOBELL, August 25,
1956, p. 12.)"





#### III MISCELLANEOUS

Security informants familiar generally with Communist Party activities in the Metropolitan area of New York City, advised in December 1963 that they had no additional information to furnish concerning ESLANDA ROBESON.



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1.

#### AFPENDIX

#### "NEW WORLD REVIEW"

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of December 1, 1961, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "New World Review":

#### " New World Review

- 'Soviet Russia Today commenced as the official organ of Friends of the Soviet "1. Union. \* \* \* It and its successor (New World Review) have a continuous record of over 22 years of uninterrupted publication and admittedly have operated in respondent's (the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc.) interest and are used as educational media by respondent. Soviet Russia Today was 'succeeded in the early 1950's by New World Review. Jessica Smith, a member of the Board of Directors of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc., 'was also shown to be long-time member and functionary in the (Communist) Party, as well as in the Party-controlled Friends of the Soviet Union. She has been continuously the editor of Soviet Russia Today and its successor New World Review for years.' (Subversive Activities Control Foard, Docket No. 104-53, Report and Order with respect to the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc., February 7, 1956, pp. 20 and 22.)
- "2. The Communist Party 'is regularly putting out' the New World Review, which is a 'monthly propaganda organ on the Soviet Union, Red China, and the Communist satellites, published in New York.'
  (Committee on Un-American Activities, Annual Report for 1958, House Report 187, March 9, 1959, p. 9.)



2.

#### APPENDIX

#### "NEW WORLD REVIEW" (CONT'D)

"3. Cited as an organization specializing in pro-Soviet propaganda. It was formerly known as Soviet Russia Today.
(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 90.)"

