

SAC, Honolulu

May 6, 1947

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
13th DISTRICT
HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet April 24, 1947, wherein you requested the Bureau to advise you what degree of coverage, if any, is desired of Paul Robeson's activities during the period of time that he is in Hawaii.

In this connection, for your information, it will be sufficient for you to advise the Bureau of the information appearing in the press concerning Robeson together with information received from your informants as to any contacts he makes with known members of the Communist Party.

~~100-12304-70~~

100-12304

JEM:bb

RECORDED | 100-12304-70
F B I
51 MAY 10 1947

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJB/clm

R53

250

May 10, 1947
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/82 BY SP5 RSC/KM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

In view of our relationship with Congressman Dirksen, I think the attached information should be furnished to him preferably by personal delivery on the part of someone such as Hugh Clegg, who knows him. All the information contained in the attached memorandum concerning Paul Robeson is public source material. There is the possibility that Congressman Dirksen's correspondent, [redacted] in Peoria, will quote this information as coming from the FBI. I think, consequently, in delivering the material to Congressman Dirksen, we should suggest that neither he nor his constituent should indicate the source from which this information was received.

Respectfully,

Edw. A. Tamm

Attachment
EAT

RECORDED

63 MAY 27 1947
5/10 Should be deleted out any letter from the FBI 5-8-47

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Pennington ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

Delivered to Dirksen with request that he personally deliver to Congress confidentially
6/10
EAT

May 9, 1947

PAUL ROBESON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RJS/CHM

Background

"Who's Who for 1946 and 1947" has the following biographical data concerning Robeson:

He is a concert singer and an actor. He was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on April 9, 1898, the son of William Drew Robeson and Anna Louisa (Bustill). He received his A.B. degree at Rutgers College in 1919, and LL.B. from Columbia University in 1923, an honorary L.H.D. at Hamilton College in 1940, an honorary M.A. at Rutgers University in 1932, an honorary L.H.D. at Moorehouse College, 1943, and an honorary doctor's degree in humane letters at Howard University in 1945. He married Eslanda Cardoza Goode on August 17, 1921. He has one son, Paul Robeson, Jr. From 1923 until the present time he has appeared in numerous stage plays. He is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa, the Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Tau Delta fraternities. Robeson was a four-letter man while at Rutgers University and was picked by Walter Camp on his All-American football team as an end. His home is in Enfield, Connecticut. He gives his New York address as, in care of Robert Rockmore, 10 East 40th Street, New York, New York.

The Current Biography for 1941, on page 717, has the following to say concerning Robeson:

"The racial problem is one that Robeson has studied thoroughly. It was racial discrimination as much as his own acting ability that caused him to give up his career as a lawyer. He sent his son to school in the USSR because he thought the boy could grow up normally there.....He frequently speaks out on political issues in which he feels his race is deeply involved. In the summer of 1940, he was opposing conscription, speaking for peace, later urging all Negroes in industry to join the United Automobile Workers of America in their Ford organizing drive, even later speaking and singing at benefits to aid Britain, China and the Soviet Union. He was called a radical."

Activities in Connection with Various Communist Front Organizations

The November 4, 1937, issue of the "Daily Worker," alleged official publication of the Communist Party, carried an article in which Robeson was quoted as saying, "When I step on to a stage in the future, I go on as a representative of the working class. I work with a consciousness of that in my mind." 100-12304-7- page 12

The "Daily Worker" of May 16, 1939, on page 1, pointed out that Robeson in an interview had stated that there was no discrimination in Soviet circles and that his son, who attended school in Russia, received a national award there. 100-12304-7, page 12

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G.I.R.-9

100-12304-7125

The "People's World," alleged publication of the Communist Party on the West Coast, in its issue of December 26, 1941, said that Robeson was the featured speaker before a "Defend America Rally" held in Los Angeles, California on December 25, 1941. There were approximately 1,000 Negroes present. The rally was sponsored by the National Negro Congress among other groups. Robeson in his speech contrasted his experience in Nazi Germany in 1934, when he was menaced by Hitler's Storm Troopers with the reception he received in Russia. He said that in the USSR he found a complete absence of racial discrimination of any form which inspired him to send his son there to be educated. He urged unity of action on the part of all allies to defeat Hitler. 100-12304-17

The "Sunday Worker" of March 22, 1942, on page 2, section 2, and in column 1, carried the following comment made by Robeson ".....There can be no more honest evidence of a sincere desire to defeat Fascism along with the sending of tanks and if possible aid to the Soviet Union than by the freeing of Earl Browder so that he may take his rightful place in the vanguard of the cohorts against Fascism." 100-12304-3

A mass rally "Salute to Our Russian Ally" was held November 8, 1942, in the Madison Square Garden, New York. Robeson was introduced by the master of ceremonies by saying that "the next voice to be heard is the voice of the anti-Fascist." The spotlights were turned on Robeson and he said, "I am an anti-Fascist. I am an American. I am a Negro." He then proceeded to read out loud a letter written by a twenty-seven year old Red Army soldier, who said that he was "continually marching westward to freedom." Robeson added that the soldier was "my friend and yours." He said every place he appeared in the United States and had mentioned friendship with Russia and had sung the "Red Army Song," the audience had literally "broken it up." 100-12304-7

The "People's Voice," Harlem newspaper, for January 23, 1943, carried an advertisement urging the release of Professor Morris U. Schappes, alleged Communist of the City College of New York, who had been convicted of perjury. Robeson is quoted in this advertisement as saying, "I want to be identified in every way with this movement.....to free Morris Schappes.....This responsibility is the first charge upon all of us to fight Fascism for freedom." 100-12304-31, pg 2

The "Michigan Chronicle" of February 6, 1943, reported an interview with Robeson in which he stated that there was no racial discrimination in Russia. He said the people there learned to love and work for their government because it belonged to them. He justified sending his son to Russia so he "could feel freedom." 100-12304-9

On April 6, 1943, it was reported that a pamphlet of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, listed Robeson as a sponsor. Conf. Informant N NYC Office; 100-12304-31

The "Daily Worker" of July 4, 1943, on page 1, in column 3, shows the subject's picture along with that of Lieutenant Colonel Itzik Feffer and Moscow, Russia, City Councilman Solomon Michaels, whom Robeson had welcomed to New York City at a reception held at the Soviet Consulate in New York.

The "Daily Worker" of July 8, 1943, listed Robeson as a singer at a mass meeting to be held on that day at the Polo Grounds in New York City honoring the two above-mentioned Russians. 100-12304-31, pg 3

The "Daily Worker" of October 7, 1943, on page 3, indicates that Robeson supported Benjamin Davis on the Communist Party ticket for the position of Councilman on the New York City Council at the "Davis for Victory Show" held at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, New York City.

100-12304-31 pg 4

The "Daily Worker" of March 17, 1944, reported a speech made by Robeson at the Sun Yat-Sen tribute meeting at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York City, March 12, 1944. Robeson is quoted as having said, "The picture of China's internal conflict as the Koumintang against the Chinese Communists is as false as Martin Dies' picture of his committee defending Congress and the Government against the American Communists." The subject said that China was fighting Fascism with one arm tied inasmuch as the Communist led Eighth Route and the new Fourth Army were not allowed to cooperate with the regular Chinese Army. 100-12304-31, pg 7.

The April 8, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker" said that tickets for the birthday party of the subject to be held on April 16, 1944, at the Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, New York, would be on sale at the Communist Political Association Bookshop and the Council on African Affairs, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, for \$1 to \$3 each. 100-12304-31

The "Daily Worker" of April 13, 1944, reflects an interview had with Robeson by Louise Mitchell. In this interview he is quoted as saying, "his birthday party was really to be a Council on African Affairs Party." He is quoted again as having said, "The postwar peace and prosperity rest on the constructive solutions of the problems of oppressed people everywhere." He said that the United States and Great Britain have realized that Mexico and South America want to be free, so, too, they will have to realize that 160 million Africans want equality. 100-12304-31, pg 7

The "Daily Worker" of April 16, 1944, in an article written by Samuel Putman on the life of the subject quotes the subject in describing his first visit to the USSR as having said, "How can I describe my feelings upon crossing the Soviet border. All I can say is that the moment I came there I realized that I had found what I had been seeking all my life. It was a new planet -- a new constellation. It filled me with such happiness as I have never known in my life."

100-12304-3, pg 8.

The magazine section of "The Worker" of April 16, 1944, in a story on Robeson's life said that he was an honorary member of the KKK; State, County and Municipal Workers of America, a predecessor to the present United Public Workers of America; the ILWU; and also a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. 100-12304-11

The "Daily Worker" of February 13, 1945, reports that Robeson spoke at a meeting of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California, at which time \$17,000 was raised. In his speech he is quoted as having said, "We are standing at the crossroads of history. Something is wrong when such Fascists as Hearst are allowed to mislead and misinform the American people. The American people do not entirely understand that we can have Fascism here unless we learn to use our productive resources for the benefit of all the people. We can't wait for Fascism to die out and the oppressed peoples of the world will not wait. We must understand that we have already entered a changed world. We must have those 60 million jobs that Wallace speaks of. We must clean out our own Fascists." 100-12304-31, pg 11

The "Daily Worker" of March 12, 1945, carried an article datelined in San Francisco on that same date in which Robeson is reported to have urged former President Roosevelt to end the deportation case against Harry Bridges. In his letter to the President, which was quoted, he said, "Harry Bridges has stood steadfastly against discrimination, steadfastly for equal treatment, and all this without regard to his own personal fortunes." 100-12304-31 pg 12

The "Daily Worker" of April 17, 1945, carried an article to the effect that the Council on African Affairs headed by him had submitted a memorandum to the delegates of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco, calling for the establishment of an International Colonial Commission in the proposed world organization. 100-12304-31, pg. 13

The "Daily Worker" of May 16, 1945, carried an article in which it was pointed out that Robeson was to appear on a program entitled "Salute to the GI's of the United Nations" to be held on May 31, 1945, under the auspices of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. The "Daily Worker" of June 1, 1945, said that Robeson sang Red Army songs at this meeting, which was held in Madison Square Garden, New York City.

The "Daily Worker" of September 30, 1945, said that Robeson had acted as Chairman of more than 1000 citizens in the Fine Arts field, who formed an organization known as the "Artists, Writers and Professional Division of the Ben J. Davis Non-Partisan Committee." The article quoted Robeson as having said, "His (Ben Davis) campaign belongs to the people, to all people -- white and negro, gentile and Jew, cutting across all boundaries and non-partisan politics, our Ben in the City Council. That means we're in there." 100-12304-40, pg 7

The "Daily Worker" of October 20, 1945, carried an article entitled, "Robeson Lauds Ben Davis for his Faith in his People." The article, among other things, stated that Robeson praised the Soviet Union for its destruction of Fascism and its fight against discrimination. 100-12304-40, pg. 9

The October 25, 1945, edition of the "Gazette" at Montreal, Canada, carried an article in which Robeson is quoted as having said, "If I have any followers, they will have to take what I have to say along with songs." The article continued and pointed out that the "burden of his propaganda is the saga of free men the world over." Robeson is quoted as having said that his "political opinions are well known." He said that he had urged the election of Fred Rose, Communist member of the Canadian Parliament. Of Franco, he said that he should hang, even if he is now supported by the United States, Great Britain and Canada. 100-12304-Sub A

The Pittsburgh "Courier" of October 27, 1945, carried an article which pointed out that Robeson was the thirtieth recipient of the "Spingarn Medal" annual award for outstanding achievement, presented by the NAACP. In his acceptance speech before several hundred notables in the Biltmore Hotel in New York, he voiced a frank and pronounced preference for Soviet principles, economic, political and social. He said, "The Soviet Union can't help it as a Nation and people if it is in the main stream of change." He warned against the rebuilding of Fascism, restoration of monarchies, and restoration of their estates to collaborators. He pointed out that the Russians have shown what backward peoples can accomplish in one generation of endeavor. He said, "Full employment in Russia is a fact and not a myth and discrimination is non-existent." 100-12304-35

The "People's Voice" of November 10, 1945, carried an article in which Robeson answered his Fascist critics. It was pointed out that in response to criticism of him in the Montreal "Gazette" for including in his concert a talk against Franco, he said, "They will have to take what I have to say along with my songs." 100-12304-40, pg 10

The "Daily Worker" of November 22, 1945, reports that he delivered an address at the Madison Square Garden in New York City on November 14, 1945, sponsored by the National Council of American Soviet Friendship on occasion of the 12th anniversary of the United States Soviet diplomatic relations. He said one of the greatest achievements of the USSR in 28 years was the attitude of democracy regardless of race, creed, color or nationality. He said there are no minorities there; instead, everyone is equal. 100-12304-Sub A

The "Daily Worker" of January 10, 1946, carried an article in which it was pointed out that the subject, the Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, spoke at a meeting on January 7, 1946, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem for the purpose of raising relief funds for the people of Africa. 100-12304-40, pg 11

The Seattle "Star" of February 12, 1946, reported an interview with Robeson in which he said his son, Paul, Jr., attended school in Russia from the 8th through the 13th year. He said, "My son is definitely the product of Soviet education." He continued and said, "I am well satisfied. The Russian standards are extremely high." 100-12304-38

The "Daily Worker" of March 5, 1946, listed Robeson among those acting as sponsors of a "National Mobilization in Washington" movement to be held April 5 through 7, 1946, to "Win the United States back to a genuine anti-Fascist foreign program." 100-12304-40, pg 11

The "People's Voice" of March 30, 1946, reported that Robeson spoke before a mass meeting at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, California, that day which meeting was sponsored jointly by the Council on African Affairs and the "People's Daily World." Among other things, he called for aid and democratization for the colonial people of the world. 100-12304-Sub A

"The Worker" of September 1, 1946, said that the editors of "New Masses" had announced they would sponsor a production entitled, "Adventure Dramatic" at Carnegie Hall on September 22, 1946. Robeson reportedly would participate and combine his talents along with other artists in the stage production of "The Great Conspiracy Against Russia," by Albert Kahn and Michael Sayers. 100-12304-Sub A

The "People's Voice" of October 19, 1946, describes Robeson as Co-Chairman of the National Committee to Win the Peace, member of the Executive Committee of the Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions, Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, Chairman of the American Crusade to End Lynching. The same article reported that he was a witness before the Tenney Joint Legislative (California) Commission on Un-American Activities in Los Angeles, California, on October 7, 1946. When asked if he thought Russia in 1917 was the ideal country in which to test Marxism, he said, "No, I think the best country to test the principles of Marxism might be the America of today. Russia in 1917 was too poor." He said he was not a Communist but that ".....as a Negro" he was "inevitably attracted to the Anti-Fascist Movement....." -- 100-12304-Sub A

In the New York "Times" of October 8, 1946, this same information was reported and he is quoted as having said that "regardless of Russia's totalitarian features, it was a country which had established equality of peoples of black, white and yellow and where a derogatory use of the word 'Jew' brought a jail sentence." 100-12304-Sub A

The "Daily Worker" of October 11, 1946, in reporting this same information quoted Robeson as having told Senator Tenney that the existence of his Committee was evidence of the fact that Fascism still lives. He was asked if he was a Communist. He replied that he characterized himself as an

anti-Fascist. He said that he was not a Communist, but that he would choose it over the Republicans, explaining that "in my association with Communists throughout the World, I have found them to be the first people to die, the first to sacrifice, and the first to understand Fascism."

The "Daily Worker" of December 27, 1946, on page 5, said that he would be the principal speaker at a two-day conference to be held in Washington, D. C., on January 23, 1947, under the auspices of the American Crusade to End Lynching.

The "People's Voice" of February 1, 1947, on page two, carried an article in which it was stated that Robeson had told reporters in St. Louis, Missouri, that he was leaving the theater and the concert stage for the next two years to "talk up and down the Nation against race hatred and prejudice." The article pointed out that Robeson marched at the head of a picket line with about 30 members of the St. Louis Civil Rights Congress in front of the American Theater in St. Louis, Missouri, to protest its racial segregation practice.

The Los Angeles "Times" of March 17, 1947, pointed out that Robeson's concert at the Philharmonic Auditorium on the Saturday night before, followed the pattern of those set by him in recent years in that it was part recital and part political action. The article pointed out that from the remarks made by Robeson it was apparent that he had no intention of changing his routine. It added, "Those who pay to hear his eloquent singing will also have to endure his politicking."

Hedda Hopper in her column "Looking at Hollywood" in the Los Angeles "Times" of March 20, 1947, said, "When Paul Robeson sang the Communist 'People's Battle Song' here and dedicated it to Gerhard Eisler, some members of his audience walked out. Why one remained is beyond me. To sit idly listening to a man abusing the precious heritage of freedom given us by our Constitution in flaunting the preachings of our most dangerous enemy is inviting disaster. When such people as Robeson are attacked they scream 'persecution' and 'Fascism'-- the obvious dodge that our Red brethren attempt when cornered by people whom they've goaded out of lethargy. Yet they believe it perfectly right that they be allowed to attack the very foundations of our country -- simply because one of our principles provides freedom of speech."

The "Washington Post" for May 9, 1947, in an article entitled "New Veterans' Legislation Demanded as First Annual Communist Veterans Encampment Commemorates VE-Day" listed Paul Robeson as one of the feature speakers at a program held at Turner's Arena, Washington, D. C., on May 8, 1947. Among the other speakers who appeared before this group were William Z. Foster, Chairman of the Communist Party, and Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the Communist Party.

In the "Newsweek" magazine for May 12, 1947, on page 29, under an article entitled "Pacem From Pravda," the following information appears concerning Robeson:

"Paul Robeson: Affiliated with American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, China Air Council, American League for Peace and Democracy, American Peace Mobilization, Artists' Front to Win the War, Citizens' Committee for Harry Bridges, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, National Negro Congress, New Masses, New Theatre League, New Dance League, New Theatre, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Soviet Russia Today, Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, American Youth for Democracy, International Labor Defense, the Abraham Lincoln School, and the Washington Committee for Aid to China."



Pravda is gratified: Russia has so many warm friends in the United States

most members regarded it as primarily a gesture reflecting the prevailing economy-mindedness of the 80th Congress. They believe that if the Senate restores the slash, the House probably will agree to a compromise—around \$300,000,000.

LEFT: Sprinter

Henry Wallace announced last week that he was ready to make the supreme sacrifice. "I have no ambition for public office," he declared. However, he had a second thought on the matter: If the only way to advance the cause of world peace was for Henry Wallace to run for President in '48, "I would run as hard as I could."

Paeon From Pravda

Pravda last week counted Soviet Russia's many blessings one by one, and the results were gratifying. There was so much the Russians could be thankful for, the Moscow daily exulted, particularly their American friends. Pravda named them:

☛ Henry A. Wallace, Democratic Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida, and Elliott Roosevelt, whose pro-Soviet stand indicated "the mood of the broad masses of Americans."

☛ The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, "headed by the Protestant clergyman Melish."

☛ "Politicians like Melish [who] express the mood of many simple Americans."

☛ Johannes Steel, "the famous radio commentator."

☛ Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, Robert W. Kenny, Albert Einstein, former United States Ambassador to Moscow Joseph

E. Davies, Paul Robeson, "and many others," including Mollie Lieber.

Of all Russia's blessings, only Mollie Lieber had earned Pravda's accolade the hard way. Mrs. Lieber made no bones about it: She was an old-time Communist-party member and organizer. Born in Poland 30 years ago, she came to America when she was 12. "I was disillusioned shortly after arriving here," she declared last week. At 17, she was taking part in radical activities. She helped to organize the Young Communist League, in Illinois and nationally. She also helped to organize its successor, American Youth for Democracy, and is now co-chairman of the Illinois division.

Wallace, Pepper, and Elliott Roosevelt earned Pravda's accolade by their attacks on American foreign policy, and especially on the Truman Doctrine. The others earned it, however, primarily by lending their names to scores of Communist-front organizations, including the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which was first organized in 1920 as the Friends of the Soviet Union. During the war, the organization temporarily achieved considerable esteem and succeeded in enticing many anti-Communists to join. Since then, its propaganda against United States foreign policy has driven most of them out."

The record:

The Rev. William Howard Melish, associate rector of the Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Brooklyn, is chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Has been affiliated with the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, the Citizens Com-

mittee for Harry Bridges, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Has written for Communist publications, including New Masses and Soviet Russia Today.

Johannes Steel: Dropped as radio commentator by station WHN, he now publishes the pro-Soviet newsletter, Johannes Steel Report on World Affairs, and is foreign editor of the sympathetic Reader's Scope. As candidate for Congress of Communist-dominated American Labor party, he was endorsed by The Daily Worker and supported by 1,000 Communist doorbell-pushers.

Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, a sponsor of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Sponsored call to Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, dinner honoring Red Army, and Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Contributor to Soviet Russia Today. Worked closely with American Student Union and American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

Robert W. Kenny, former State Attorney General of California: Affiliated with Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo, American League for Peace and Democracy, Council for Pan American Democracy, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, National Lawyers Guild, League of American Writers, and Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Counsel for William Schneiderman, California state secretary of the Communist party.

Albert Einstein: Affiliated with American Friends of the Chinese People, Committee for Peace Through World Cooperation, Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, International Labor Defense, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, League of American Writers, Medical Bur

* Among those who quit: Sens. Leverett Saltonstall and Arthur Capper; President Earl T. Compton of M. I. T.; Judge L. C. Hand, and Harold L. Ickes.

Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, Soviet Russia Today, the Spanish Refugee Relief Campaign, and the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born.

Joseph E. Davies: Affiliated with National Council of American-Soviet Friendship and Congress of American-Soviet Friendship. Sent greetings to New Masses. Signed statement of National Federation for Constitutional Liberties hailing War Department order permitting Communists to become Army officers. Author of "Mission to Moscow," which glorified Soviet regime and justified totalitarianism.

Paul Robeson: Affiliated with American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, China Aid Council, American League for Peace and Democracy, American Peace Mobilization, Artists' Front to Win the War, Citizens' Committee for Harry Bridges, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, National Negro Congress, New Masses, New Theatre League, New Dance League, New Theatre, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Soviet Russia Today, Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, American Youth for Democracy, International Labor Defense, the Abraham Lincoln School, and the Washington Committee for Aid to China.

To Pravda, the activities of Russia's friends proved that "foreign democratic intellectuals have become more and more convinced that only by following the principles which the USSR is defending in the field of international relations can the leaders of science and culture be set free from the fate of the servants of imperialism."

Unfortunately, Pravda added, the "friends of the USSR do not have freedom of speech on the pages of newspapers, magazines, and books with great circulations, and sometimes these persons are even persecuted."

May Party Line

The party line stretched long and thin down Eighth Avenue in New York's swarming garment district. Sometimes there were embarrassing gaps in it. Sometimes there seemed to be fewer paraders than police—2,800 uniformed cops and a small army of detectives had been assigned to the route. At Union Square, the reviewing stand looked like a Sunday picnic. A mother rocked her baby carriage in the spring sunshine. Two small boys scrambled over the bleachers, whacking at each other with rolled-up banners. Girls posed for snapshots. It was May Day, 1947.

Thursday morning, before police, correspondents

from Tass, the official Soviet news agency, and thousands of office and factory workers en route to the 5 p.m. homeward subway crush, New York Communists and pro-Communist organizations marched in their annual show of strength. What The Daily Worker heralded as "united labor" turned out to be the old standbys—the National Maritime Union, the United Electrical Workers, and the International Fur and Leather Workers Union—all CIO and Communist-infiltrated. Only a few left-wing AFL contingents marched and they paid the price—by nightfall, the AFL ordered the three leaders who had sponsored participation in the parade suspended.

By far the greatest triumph of the day belonged to the Communist party itself. It ordered into the parade about 700 veterans, in uniform and wearing military decorations. They marched in perfect ranks chanting: "One-two-three-four. We don't want another war."

On placards, banners, and floats, the marchers announced where they stood:

☐ They were against military use of the atomic bomb, imperialism, the Taft-Hartley "slave" labor bill, Representatives Rankin and J. Parnell Thomas, Senators Taft and Bilbo, war talk, Red baiting, J. Edgar Hoover, President Truman's foreign policy, loans to Greece and

Turkey, Wall Street, and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

☐ They were for peace, independence of Puerto Rico, a Federal theater, the 35-hour week, housing, Soviet-American friendship, Gerhard Eisler, Henry A. Wallace, the Negro ballplayer Jackie Robinson, and the return of "one-cent bubble gum."

Communist spokesmen vied with each other in trying to cover up an all too apparent fact—May Day, 1947, was a flop compared with other years. Blatantly Ben Gold, Communist president of the Fur and Leather Workers Union, pronounced the parade the "best ever." William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist party, added: "This great demonstration is but a foretaste of the great demonstrations to come." The Daily Worker announced that 80,000 had marched. The police count: 27,500.

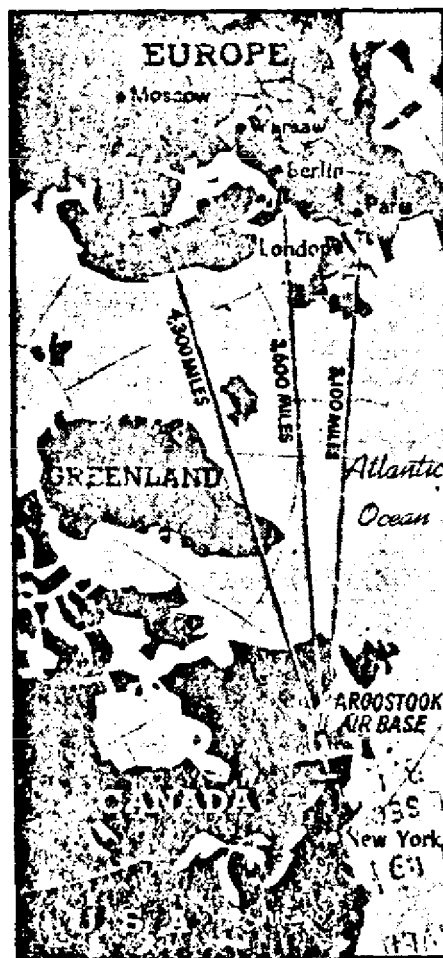
ARMY: Potato Air Base

Agriculturally, Aroostook County in Northern Maine could brag about its smooth-skinned potatoes that make it the nation's No. 1 spud producer. Commercially, it could boast of the astounding 355 bushels per acre which it converts into starch, alcohol, dehydrated potatoes, seed potatoes or fertilizer, or just lets rot under the government's price-support program. Botanically, the county—bigger than Connecticut and Rhode Island combined—had also been famous for its forests of magnificent white pines.

Militarily, it was another matter. Because Aroostook County is the closest spot in the United States to Europe, the Army Air Forces last week revealed it would build a \$14,000,000 base there for its longest-range bombers—the six-engined Consolidated B-36, the Boeing B-50, the Northrop B-35 Flying Wing, and its jet-powered version, the B-49. Their 5,000-mile radius would put Europe within six- to seven-hour range of the new Aroostook base.

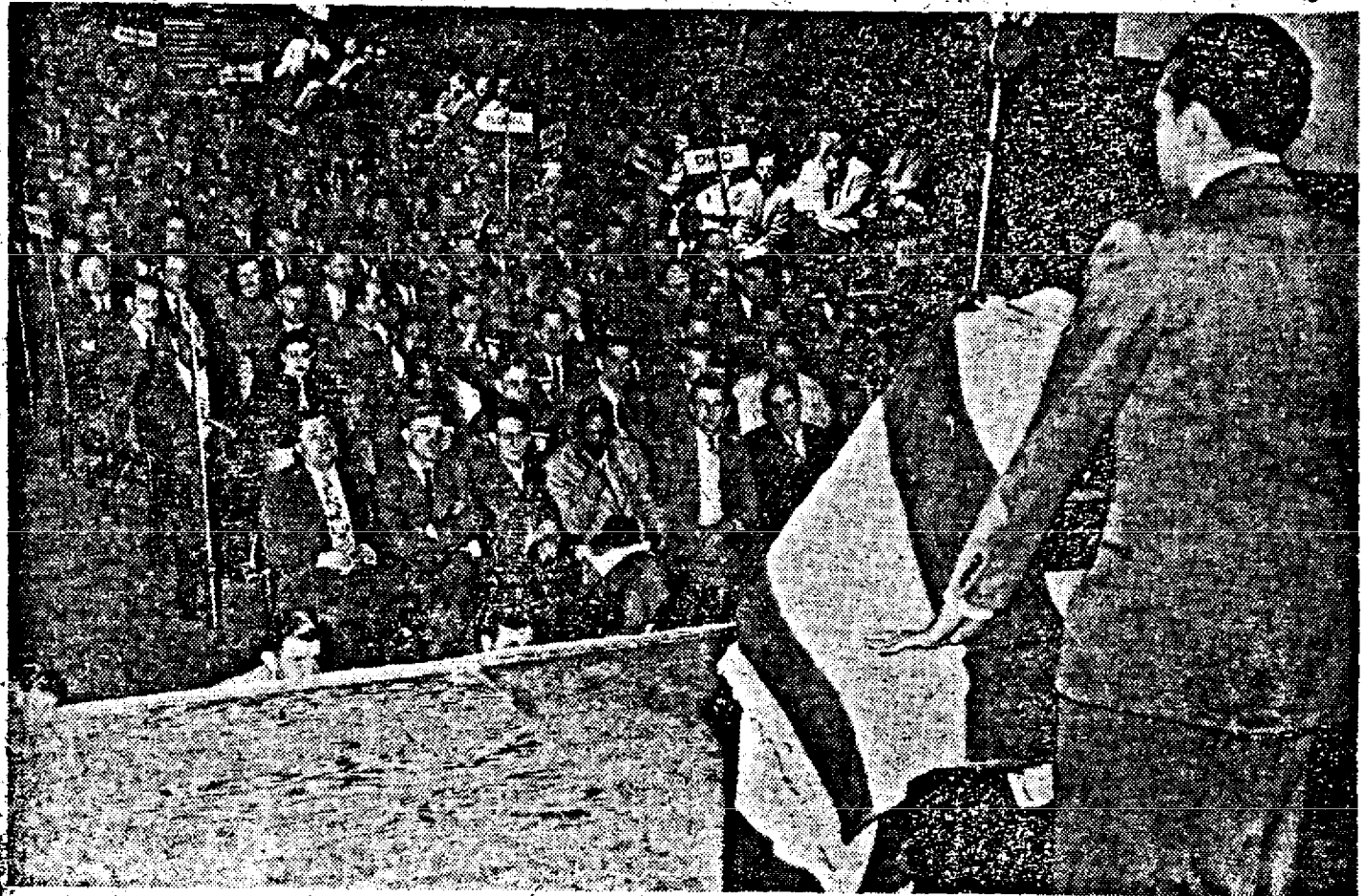
The chosen site on Aroostook's fog-free plateau was 7,200 rolling acres of potato and pine lands outside Limestone Village, only 4 miles from the Canadian border and 30 from the wartime air-ferry hub at Presque Isle. Because of the immense weight of the new super-bombers, the AAF figured it was easier to build the mammoth new 10,000-foot runway from scratch than to convert Presque Isle or any other field.

The AAF planned to break ground June 15, as soon as the spring thaws are over. Since Aroostook has a virtually sub-arctic climate, it would take two summers, perhaps three, to complete work. Only then would the field be ready to base two air groups of perhaps 30 bombers each. Presumably, a twin base for the AAF's over-the-Arctic air strategy would be built in the northwestern part of the country to match Aroostook's hot-test potato.



Aroostook: Six bomber bases to Europe

New Veterans' Legislation Demanded as First Annual Communist Veterans Encampment Commemorates VE-Day



In Turner's Arena yesterday, the first of a two-day Communist Veterans' Encampment is opened

Post Staff Photo

Between 400 and 500 Communists from various States, most of them veterans, commemorated V-E Day by gathering here yesterday for a two-day first annual Communist Veterans Encampment. Though a detail of Metropolitan police was on hand at Turner's Arena, where the Communist veterans met, they were not called upon even at a mass evening meet-

ing which climaxed the first day's "Encampment." Last night's program, which followed adoption of a resolution calling for new veterans' legislation, featured as speakers William Z. Foster, chairman of the Communist Party, Eugene Dennis, general secretary, and Paul Robeson. Keynote speaker at the opening session of the "Encampment" was Robert Thompson, chairman of the

New York State Communist Party, who declared the political group was "the only party to afford veterans an opportunity to gather from all parts of the country to express their views."

The Republican and Democratic parties, he added, "fear their record of broken promises, a record that is shameful and unmatched in perfidy in our country's annals." Plans of the group to visit Congressmen from their States ran to at least one snag yesterday as Senator Arthur Vandenberg (R., Mich.) and Representatives Harbo, and Shafer (R., Mich.) announced they would refuse to grant interviews with the Michigan

field units to assist veterans in filing claims.

4. Equal rights for Negro veterans in the VA hospitals and under GI Bill of Rights.

5. Increased VA services, veterans' and widows' pensions, and hospital facilities; National Service Life Insurance to be made permanent term insurance.

6. Changes in the GI Bill of Rights, including increases in subsistence payments and unemployment payments.

7. Federal and State soldiers' bonuses.

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DATE 11/2/16 BY SP-5 RJS/ELM

100-12304-71

ENCLOSURE

10-point veterans' program by the "Encampment"

1. An employment program including Federal public works, expanded job training, higher minimum wages, a shorter work week, improved health and safety conditions, compulsory employment of disabled veterans and Government operation of unused war plants.

2. A Federal program to provide 10 million homes in the next five years, cancellation of stringent controls over construction and materials and passage of Taft-Ellender-Wagner and other housing bills.

3. Cash payment of terminal leave to all veterans who have failed to file for

clipping is from Washington Post 1947

Blip

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812
Chicago 90, Illinois

PLEASE REFER TO
100-17965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 30, 1947

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA - BRIEF
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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OTHERWISE

Dear Sir:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] a highly confidential but reliable informant, advised that ALFRED WAGENKNECHT, First Vice-Chairman, District 8; WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Second Vice-Chairman, District 8; GIL GREEN, Chairman, District 8; and JIM KELLER, Organizer, were discussing the reaction of people in Peoria after the scheduled singing engagement of PAUL ROBESON was banned and he was refused the use of the Peoria Public Hall, which is operated by the city of Peoria, Illinois. b1

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, who it is known visited Peoria, advised those assembled that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever has before but that they expected violence. He said he has walked the streets of Berlin and that they are no worse than Peoria.

It is not known if PATTERSON referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people" or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria inasmuch as PATTERSON is a negro.

WAGENKNECHT asked PATTERSON if some of the boys had guns and PATTERSON said that everybody had a gun. DEFERRED RECORDING

Any further information brought to the attention of the informant will be immediately submitted to the Bureau and the Springfield and New York Offices. For the Bureau's information, the Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited PAUL ROBESON to appear again in Peoria at a future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to make a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism".

Very truly yours,

G. R. Mc Swain
Special Agent in Charge

Springfield

New York

100-3337

100-5912

100-3952

100-14632

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2, 2.1

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19 MAY 15 1947

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Date:

May 3, 1947

To:

Director of Intelligence
War Department General Staff
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Colonel L. R. Forney
Chief, Security Group

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF *Under Post*
DATE *6-30-77*

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL UNREST CREATED BY PAUL ROBESON'S
SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT PEORIA, ILLINOIS

It is believed that you will be interested in the following information.

The Daily Worker of April 19, 1947, reflects that a concert scheduled by Paul Robeson at Peoria, Illinois, was called off by the City Council. Paul Robeson, according to the article, in a telephone statement to the Council on African Affairs, New York City, assailed the Peoria City Council which had unanimously adopted a resolution condemning an appearance there of "any speaker or artist who is an avowed or active propagandist for un-American ideology." According to the article, Mayor Carl O. Friebe had reversed an earlier approval for the use of the City Hall which was to be used for the reception of Paul Robeson by a citizen's committee. The Mayor's reversal, according to the article, was based on his fear of "riots or disturbances." In a statement the Mayor had inferred that "Robeson is coming here for a fight" because the singer had told the press of threats he had received. According to this article Paul Robeson made the statement that he did "not intend to be bullied" and expressed conviction that "Peoria citizens, feeling as I do, will demonstrate their own feelings against the un-American assault in their own way."

Through a reliable and confidential source it was ascertained that on [redacted] special conference was held at the Communist Party Headquarters in Chicago which was participated in by leading Communists of the Chicago area, including Gilbert Green, Chairman of District No. 8 of the Communist Party, and William L. Patterson, negro, Second Vice Chairman of District No. 8. According to this informant, William L. Patterson, who, it is known, visited Peoria, Illinois, advised the other Communist officials present that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever had before and that they expected violence. Alfred Wagenknecht, First Vice Chairman of District No. 8, asked Patterson if some of the boys had guns and Patterson said that everybody had a gun.

It is not known if Patterson referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people," or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria, inasmuch as Patterson is a negro.

MAY 2 1947 P.M.

HOB:mod INVESTIGATION

60 MAY 27 1947

DECLASSIFIED BY *6080 Yed*

MAY 14 1977

Mr. Tolson
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Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Director of Intelligence
War Department General Staff

The Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited Paul Robeson to appear again in Peoria at some future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to make a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism."

If any additional information concerning the above is obtained, it will be furnished to you immediately.

cc: Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 23 1947

TELETYPE

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
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Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASH FROM NEW YORK 14 23 6-15 PM

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

~~CONF. INFO~~ [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT MAX YERGAN AND PAUL ROBESON INTEND TO DEPART FROM US ON MAY TWENTY FOUR FORTY SEVEN APPARENTLY FOR PANAMA CANAL ZONE. METHOD OF TRAVEL OR ITINERARY UNKNOWN. IT WAS INDICATED A RECEPTION WAS HELD FOR THEM AT HOME OF DR. CECIL MARQUEZ, FOUR ONE SEVEN WEST ONE FOUR THREE STREET, NYC, NIGHT OF MAY TWENTY SECOND, SPONSORED BY UNITED SONS OF CANAL ZONE. MARQUEZ IS NEGRO WEST INDIAN PHYSICIAN WHO HAS ACTED AS HOST TO VARIOUS POLITICIANS AND LABOR LEADERS FROM WEST INDIES ONE HAVING BEEN NORMAN W. MANLEY-LEADER OF PEOPLES NATIONALIST PARTY, JAMAICA, B. W. I. PURPOSE OF TRIP UNKNOWN BUT PROBABLY IN LINE WITH ROBESONS PRESENT POLICY OF PUBLIC APPEARANCES FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES AND RELATED TO WEST INDIAN ACTIVITIES IN CANAL ZONE. [REDACTED] FOR INFO.

b1
G.I.R. 9

CREDIT

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 KSG/CLW
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
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32 MAY 24 1947

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58 JUN 10 1947

266

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. J. C. STRICKLAND

FROM : Mr. L. Whitson

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
PAUL ROBESON PHOTOGRAPH

DATE: 5/22/47

Attached is a photostatic copy of pages 29 and 30 of "Newsweek" for May 12, 1947, containing the photograph of the subject and comments regarding favorable remarks made of him in "Pravda."

Attachment

LW:edm

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100-12304-74
MAY 26 1947

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JUN 12 1947

357

Mr. Tolson _____
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Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Lamford _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

C.I.R.-3

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Pravda is gratified: Russia has so many warm friends in the United States

most members regarded it as primarily a gesture reflecting the prevailing economy-mindedness of the 80th Congress. They believe that if the Senate restores the slash, the House probably will agree to a compromise—around \$300,000,000.

LEFT: Sprinter

Henry Wallace announced last week that he was ready to make the supreme sacrifice. "I have no ambition for public office," he declared. However, he had a second thought on the matter: If the only way to advance the cause of world peace was for Henry Wallace to run for President in '48, "I would run as hard as I could."

Paeon From Pravda

Pravda last week counted Soviet Russia's many blessings one by one, and the results were gratifying. There was so much the Russians could be thankful for, the Moscow daily exulted, particularly their American friends. Pravda named them:

☛ Henry A. Wallace, Democratic Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida, and Elliott Roosevelt, whose pro-Soviet stand indicated "the mood of the broad masses of Americans."

☛ The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, "headed by the Protestant clergyman Melish."

☛ "Politicians like Melish [who] express the mood of many simple Americans."

☛ Johannes Steel, "the famous radio commentator."

☛ Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, Robert W. Kenny, Albert Einstein, former United States Ambassador to Moscow Joseph

E. Davies, Paul Robeson, "and many others," including Mollie Lieber.

Of all Russia's blessings, only Mollie Lieber had earned Pravda's accolade the hard way. Mrs. Lieber made no bones about it: She was an old-time Communist-party member and organizer. Born in Poland 30 years ago, she came to America when she was 12. "I was disillusioned shortly after arriving here," she declared last week. At 17, she was taking part in radical activities. She helped to organize the Young Communist League, in Illinois and nationally. She also helped to organize its successor, American Youth for Democracy, and is now co-chairman of the Illinois division.

Wallace, Pepper, and Elliott Roosevelt earned Pravda's accolade by their attacks on American foreign policy, and especially on the Truman Doctrine. The others earned it, however, primarily by lending their names to scores of Communist-front organizations, including the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which was first organized in 1920 as the Friends of the Soviet Union. During the war, the organization temporarily achieved considerable esteem and succeeded in enticing many anti-Communists to join. Since then, its propaganda against United States foreign policy has driven most of them out.*

The record:

The Rev. William Howard Melish, associate rector of the Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Brooklyn, is chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Has been affiliated with the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, the Citizens Com-

mittee for Harry Bridges, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Has written for Communist publications, including New Masses and Soviet Russia Today.

Johannes Steel: Dropped as radio commentator by station WHN, he now publishes the pro-Soviet newsletter, Johannes Steel Report on World Affairs, and is foreign editor of the sympathetic Reader's Scope. As candidate for Congress of Communist-dominated American Labor party, he was endorsed by The Daily Worker and supported by 1,000 Communist doorbell-pushers.

Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, a sponsor of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Sponsored call to Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, dinner honoring Red Army, and Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Contributor to Soviet Russia Today. Worked closely with American Student Union and American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

Robert W. Kenny, former State Attorney General of California: Affiliated with Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo, American League for Peace and Democracy, Council for Pan American Democracy, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, National Lawyers Guild, League of American Writers, and Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Counsel for William Schneiderman, California state secretary of the Communist party.

Albert Einstein: Affiliated with American Friends of the Chinese People, Committee for Peace Through World Cooperation, Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, International Labor Defense, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, League of American Writers, Medical Bureau and North American

* Among those who quit: Sen. Leverett Saltonstall and Arthur Capper, President Karl T. Compton of M. I. T., Judge Learned Hand, and Harold L. Ickes.

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100-12304-77

Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, Soviet Russia Today, the Spanish Refugee Relief Campaign, and the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born.

Joseph E. Davies: Affiliated with National Council of American-Soviet Friendship and Congress of American-Soviet Friendship. Sent greetings to New Masses. Signed statement of National Federation for Constitutional Liberties hailing War Department order permitting Communists to become Army officers. Author of "Mission to Moscow," which glorified Soviet regime and justified totalitarianism.

Paul Robeson: Affiliated with American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, China Aid Council, American League for Peace and Democracy, American Peace Mobilization, Artists' Front to Win the War, Citizens' Committee for Harry Bridges, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, National Negro Congress, New Masses, New Theatre League, New Dance League, New Theatre, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Soviet Russia Today, Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, American Youth for Democracy, International Labor Defense, the Abraham Lincoln School, and the Washington Committee for Aid to China.

To Pravda, the activities of Russia's friends proved that "foreign democratic intellectuals have become more and more convinced that only by following the principles which the USSR is defending in the field of international relations can the leaders of science and culture be set free from the fate of the servants of imperialism."

Unfortunately, Pravda added, the "friends of the USSR do not have freedom of speech on the pages of newspapers, magazines, and books with great circulations, and sometimes these persons are even persecuted."

May Party Line

The party line stretched long and thin down Eighth Avenue in New York's swarming garment district. Sometimes there were embarrassing gaps in it. Sometimes there seemed to be fewer paraders than police—2,800 uniformed cops and a small army of detectives had been assigned to the route. At Union Square, the reviewing stand looked like a Sunday picnic. A mother rocked her baby carriage in the spring sunshine. Two small boys scrambled over the bleachers, whacking at each other with rolled-up banners. Girls posed for snapshots. It was May Day, 1947.

Thus last Thursday, before police, newsmen, including two correspondents

from Tass, the official Soviet news agency, and thousands of office and factory workers en route to the 5 p.m. homeward subway crush, New York Communists and pro-Communist organizations marched in their annual show of strength. What The Daily Worker heralded as "united labor" turned out to be the old standbys—the National Maritime Union, the United Electrical Workers, and the International Fur and Leather Workers Union—all CIO and Communist-infiltrated. Only a few left-wing AFL contingents marched and they paid the price—by nightfall, the AFL ordered the three leaders who had sponsored participation in the parade suspended.

By far the greatest triumph of the day belonged to the Communist party itself. It ordered into the parade about 700 veterans, in uniform and wearing military decorations. They marched in perfect ranks chanting: "One-two-three-four. We don't want another war."

On placards, banners, and floats, the marchers announced where they stood:

¶ They were against military use of the atomic bomb, imperialism, the Taft-Hartley "slave" labor bill, Representatives Rankin and J. Parnell Thomas, Senators Taft and Bilbo, war talk, Red baiting, J. Edgar Hoover, President Truman's foreign policy, loans to Greece and

Turkey, Wall Street, and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

¶ They were for peace, independence of Puerto Rico, a Federal theater, the 35-hour week, housing, Soviet-American friendship, Gerhard Eisler, Henry A. Wallace, the Negro ballplayer Jackie Robinson, and the return of "one-cent bubble gum."

Communist spokesmen vied with each other in trying to cover up an all too apparent fact—May Day, 1947, was a flop compared with other years. Blatantly, Ben Gold, Communist president of the Fur and Leather Workers Union, pronounced the parade the "best ever." William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist party, added: "This great demonstration is but a foretaste of the great demonstrations to come." The Daily Worker announced that 80,000 had marched. The police count: 27,500.

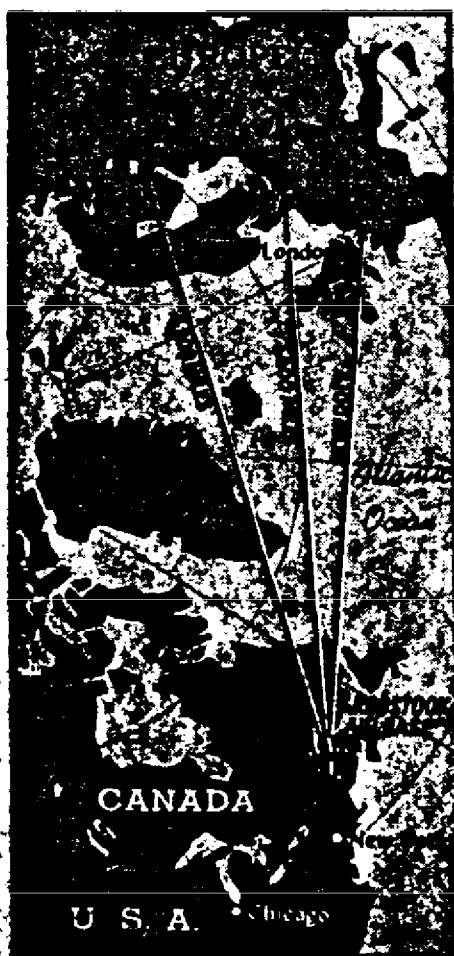
ARMY: Potato Air Base

Agriculturally, Aroostook County in Northern Maine could brag about its smooth-skinned potatoes that make it the nation's No. 1 spud producer. Commercially, it could boast of the astounding 355 bushels per acre which it converts into starch, alcohol, dehydrated potatoes, seed potatoes or fertilizer, or just lets rot under the government's price-support program. Botanically, the county—bigger than Connecticut and Rhode Island combined—had also been famous for its forests of magnificent white pines.

Militarily, it was another matter. Because Aroostook County is the closest spot in the United States to Europe, the Army Air Forces last week revealed it would build a \$14,000,000 base there for its longest-range bombers—the six-engined Consolidated B-36, the Boeing B-50, the Northrop B-35 Flying Wing, and its jet-powered version, the B-49. Their 5,000-mile radius would put Europe within six- to seven-hour range of the new Aroostook base.

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Aroostook: Six bomber hours to Europe

100-12304-74

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 26 1947

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Mr. Rosen
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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 16 26 606 PM

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

PAUL ROBESON, ISC. REMYTEL FIVE TWENTY THREE FORTYSEVEN ADVISING PROB-
ABLE DEPARTURE SUBJECT AND MAX YERGAN FOR PANAMA ON FIVE TWENTY
FOUR FORTY SEVEN. RELIABLE SOURCE HAS ADVISED MAX YERGAN DEPARTED
FOR PANAMA FIVE TWENTY FOUR FORTY SEVEN AS INDICATED, TO BE GONE ONE
MONTH. HE REQUESTED AND RECD LETTER OF IDENTIFICATION FROM CORN
EXCHANGE BANK, NYC ADDRESSED TO CONSUL GENERAL OF GUATEMALA. SOURCE
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TO BE CONSUL GENERAL OF GUATEMALA LOCATED IN PANAMA. SUBMITTED FOR INF
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F B I

29 MAY 27 1947

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/elm

63 JUN 4 1947

cc: Mr Ladd

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SAC, New Haven

May 27, 1947

Director, FBI

ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, was.

SECURITY MATTER - C

Your File: 100-8032

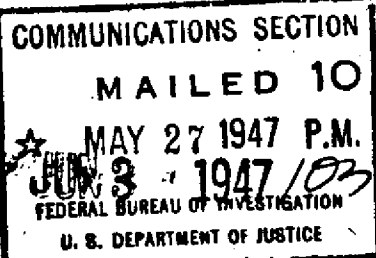
In accordance with your recommendation, the Security Index Card relative to the captioned individual has been cancelled and you are authorized to place your copy thereof in the investigative case file.

100-12304 ✓

JEM:jd

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*JL
Jem*



THESE DAYS

I WENT into Paul Robeson's difficulties in Peoria with considerable care and found that no race or color prejudices were involved. The opposition to Robeson arose from an antagonism to communism. The basis for opposition was of Robeson's own making. In the "New Africa," for December 1945, Robeson said:

"In this new enlivening and fast-changing world, the Soviet Union I believe to be in the very forefront of the battle to obtain real (not imaginary) freedom for the many—not the few."

Ben Davis Jr., Negro Communist leader, quotes Robeson in "Soviet Russia Today," August 1938, as saying:

"The Soviet Union is the only country I've ever been in where I've felt completely at ease. I've lived in England and America and I've almost circled the globe—but for myself, wife, and son, the Soviet Union is our future home."

ROBESON has a way of making speeches during his concerts, speeches which support the Communist position. Also, as encores, he often sings Communist songs. It was because of this general situation that on April 15, 1947, the Peoria Star published in a column written by Gomer Bath an item, "Artist or Propagandist"—which started the rumpus. Bath wrote:

"When he sang recently in Los Angeles, he angered and insulted his audience by including in the program the Communist 'Peoples' Battle Song.' He insulted all America further by publicly dedicating the song to Gerhard Eisler, America's No. 1 Red, as reported by syndicated columnist Jimmy Fidler."

The next day Peoria was the scene of great excitement. Allen Cannon, sponsor of the concert, announced that he would indefinitely postpone the concert because the sales were bad, some of those who had bought tickets turning them back.

Meanwhile, Milo W. Nelson, council member representing the 1st ward, introduced a resolution denouncing Robeson as "an avowed and active propagandist for un-American ideologies."

The resolution was passed by a rising vote. Robeson's concert was to have been held at the Shrine mosque. When his local representative canceled the concert, the mayor of Peoria offered a room in the city hall for a reception.

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY

Because of protests by the American Legion and others, this offer was withdrawn by Mayor Carl O. Triebel.

Robeson came to Peoria by motor car from Decatur, Ill. Dr. Max Yergan, national president of the National Negro congress, which is regarded as a fellow-traveler organization, flew to Peoria to be with Robeson. He found that seven of the eight Negro ministers on the reception committee had resigned. He wrote:

"We then tried to get the local CIO hall, but found that even this sanctuary of labor was closed to us."

THE first story that appeared nationally on this subject was not sent out by any reporter from Peoria, but was telephoned by Paul Robeson to the Council on African Affairs in New York. This was published in New York City newspapers and was picked up by a press service for national distribution. Subsequently, generally accurate news reports came from Peoria, but the issue had been beclouded by the earlier press release of the Council on African Affairs. The impression was created that mob rule governed Peoria.

Max Yergan, writing in the Brooklyn Voice, sought to recreate that tone: "... You could sense the tenseness. Hate filled the countenances of airport loungers as they glared at me..." His headline reads: "Murder Was in Their Hearts." Subsequently, Peoria ministers offered Robeson a hall for a concert and reception. This has not been accepted.

MY CONCLUSION is that Paul Robeson could have sung, even if to only a handful. He could have appeared at the Shrine mosque, even if under police protection. His manager canceled the engagement. Furthermore, if Robeson chooses to be both singer and propagandist, that is his risk. Those who favor causes must risk the consequences of opposition. Better men than Paul Robeson have been thrown to the lions. If the cause is worthy, the martyrdom is worthy. Robeson, however, has no right even to imply or to permit the untruth to be circulated that when he is opposed as one favoring Soviet Russia or the Communists, he is opposed as an artist or a Negro. That was not true in Peoria.

(Copyright, 1947, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
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R56/CLM

MAY 22 1947

Times Herald
Page 15

41 MAY 20 1947

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a good summary
on Robeson so don't
let it get lost

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100-12304
FBI

5 JUN 6 1947

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- ☐ 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 State, 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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C. A. Hazelwood
Abolitionist & Socialist
808 THIRD AVENUE

Peoria, Illinois

Sept. 12, 1947

56223

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have been charged with being a fellow traveler of Communism, in the city of Peoria, and the State of Illinois.

This accusation is the outgrowth of my believing in the principles of Democracy, which embraces the "Four Freedoms and the Civil Rights of man."

Enclosed you will find the facts, which have led to these charges being placed against me. I have been accused of being a Communist because I believed Paul Robeson had a right to sing to the people of this city and I believed he had a right to defend himself against the derogatory statements that have been made against him. These accusations have been made by the American Legion in this city. I am Commander of the all Negro Post here and I ask that your Bureau investigate us and also myself, and give us a definite statement as to your findings, so that we may wipe this stupid incident from our records.

I am asking that you present us with a definite statement as to whether or not Paul Robeson is or is not a Communist. We have all of the information concerning alleged accusations against him, but we want to know if he is listed in your files as a Communist.

I feel that any good American who has fought for the freedom of mankind does not want to be accused of such acts, when he knows only one country and will gladly sacrifice his life that all men might be free.

I am asking for this investigation and your statements at the earliest possible date, so that we might clarify this case. I await your reply and will gladly give you any other information necessary.

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ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE
COPIES DESTROYED
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9/15/47

RECORDED
Respectfully,
CLIFFORD A. HAZELWOOD

100-12304
114
B
18
1947
Clifford A. Hazelwood
Veteran World War I

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/00 BY SP-5 RSG/MLM

56224

City Hall Denied Robeson

Continued from Page 1

dividuals and not as members of various organizations with which they are affiliated.

Mr. Martin is a district official of the United Farm Equipment Workers (CIO), but he said the union is no way involved in the current controversy.

Hazelwood In Statement

Another committee member, Clifford Hazelwood, also said he acted as an individual and not in his capacity of commander of Roy B. Tisdell Post, American Legion. In a typewritten statement, Mr. Hazelwood said:

"As vice president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People it has been stated that Mr. Robeson's appearance here is to clarify his position as to his alleged Communist activities, and he is appearing on the basis of his constitutional right.

"Mr. Hazelwood states that if Mr. Robeson is guilty of subversive propaganda or any movement of any nature to overthrow the government, he (Hazelwood) as a defender of the Constitution, is against Robeson, or any other American citizen who might be

guilty of such movements, and at the first monthly meeting of Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537 will insist on this post drafting necessary resolutions to the courts that these matters be investigated thoroughly and that Mr. Robeson be dealt with as any other individual who would overthrow the government."

Criticizes Council

Announcement that Robeson would come to Peoria despite the storms of protest here came from the singer himself in a press interview last night in Champaign where he gave a concert on the University of Illinois campus.

Robeson was quoted as saying that he had received some threats of violence from Peoria, and he criticized what he termed the "Fascist technique" of the Peoria city council.

Basis for this was the council resolution passed last Tuesday voicing disapproval of the appearance here of any speaker or artist who is an avowed and active propagandist for un-American ideologies "regardless of artistic attainment, race, or any other consideration."

"I am not easily frightened."

Robeson was quoted as saying. "I will go to Peoria with adequate protection."

Robeson also was reported as saying that he will go to Davenport, Ia., where one of his scheduled concerts also was recently called off.

ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

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ENCLOSURE

100-12304-84

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Mr. Clifford Maxwell
908 Third Avenue
Peoria, Illinois
September 6, 1947

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am a World War I veteran, having served from April 29, 1917 to July 7, 1919, in the United States Army. I have an Honorable Discharge, with my character rated as excellent, I might add that I also have a 50% disability-service connected.

During the last six months, from April through September, I have been accused of being a Communist and a Communistic sympathizer. These charges are not true and I wish to innumerate the facts leading to these accusations:

1. In March of this year, a Mr. Cannon, who is a music instructor at Bradley University, entered my office to place an ad in my newspaper. The ad was concerning the appearance of Paul Robeson in a concert at the Shrine Mosque on April 18th.

2. On April 15th, Mr. Gomer Bath, a local columnist, wrote an article branding Mr. Robeson as a Communist, and from there on the battle began to take shape.

100-12304-84

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3. The concert was cancelled on April 16th, because the City Council had adopted a resolution expressing their disapproval of Robeson's concert April 18th. Also at that time a Russian Gospel Singer was to appear here on April 17th at a Youth For Christ Rally, but no comment was made about his appearance.

4. On April 17th, the Chambers of the City Council were granted for Mr. Robeson's appearance to a Citizen's Committee. I had received an invitation to sit in on this committee and acting as Vice-President of the National Association For The Advancement Of Colored People, and believing that a definite violation of Civil Rights was involved, I sat in on the meeting, which was made up of citizens who really wanted to hear Mr. Robeson sing.

5. The Mayor and several of the Aldermen were willing to allow the Chambers to be used for Mr. Robeson's appearance, but on the night of April 17th the Peoria Post of the American Legion passed a resolution condemning Robeson's appearance. I, Commander of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537, the Negro American Legion Post in the city, stated to the press that my post was not at all involved in the matter and that I was acting in the capacity of Vice-President of the N. A. A.C. P. (I have the clippings to substantiate my statement)

6. Then on April 18th the Mayor rescinded his approval of use of the Council Chambers. Mr. Robeson did come to Peoria, but did not give the scheduled concert. All during this time Roy B. Tisdell Post #537 had remained silent on the issue.

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7. Saturday, April 26th, a resolution accusing me of Communist activities and ideologies was drawn by Mr. Carl Phillips, past Commander of Peoria Post #2 and presented it to five members of the Executive Board of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537.

8. Sunday, April 27th, the proposed resolution was adopted by the five me whose names appear in the attached clipping, (Exhibit 4) without having been voted upon by the membership.

9. At the next meeting of the Post which took place on the first Thursday in May—the resolution was denounced by the membership and a new one denouncing Communism and any other "isms", other than Americanism. Copies were presented to the press, but were not printed.

10. A vote by the membership was taken on Mr. Phillips' resolution and the count was 40 against it and the same five men of the Executive Board were the only one's who voted for it.

11. During this upheaval the Ministerial Alliance, a group comprising all of the Ministers in the City of Peoria, presented a resolution to the Mayor and the City Council condemning their action toward Mr. Robeson, and asked that he be invited to Peoria for a concert sometime in the near future.

12. On August 7th, I was re-elected Commander of Tisdell Post for the fourth time and third consecutive time. The election was padded, however, with the opposition bringing in nine members of the post for re-instatement, who were permitted to vote.

A True and Exact copy of the Resolution drawn by the membership
of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537.

May 1, 1947

RESOLUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS BE UPHOLD IN THE CITY OF PEORIA

(ANY FURTHER RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ROY
B. TISDELL POST NO. 537, BE DECLARED NULL AND VOID BY THE MEMBERSHIP
OF SAID POST.)

WHEREAS, the preamble of the American Legion to the Constitution asks
us: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States
of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpet-
uate a one-hundred per cent Americanism; To preserve the mem-
ories and incidents of our associations in the great wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligations to the commu-
nity; state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the
classes and the masses; To make right the master of might;
To promote peace and good will on earth; To safeguard and
transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and
democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our Comradeship by our
devotion to mutual helpfulness. We find the Commander, Cliff-
ord A. Hazelwood, acted for another organization, not con-
nected with us in any way, and

WHEREAS, we, the membership of Tisdell Post No. 537, stand against any
form of un-American activities, and

WHEREAS, we believe in maintaining the four freedoms, Freedom from fear;
Freedom of press; religion and want to all citizens, and

WHEREAS, we believe in the Bill of Rights which allows to every citizen
freedom of speech and assemblage, and

WHEREAS, we believe in the Constitution of the United States and its
amendments and to the spirit and letter in which they were
written, and

WE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537, Depart-
ment of Illinois, will be represented collect-
ively in speech and action; not by any one per-
son or any group of persons without authority
of said Post.

Isreal Allen, Chairman Resolution
Committee
C.A. Hazelwood, Commander
Willis Jordan, Adjutant

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This is a true and exact copy of the Resolution drawn by members of Roy.
B. Tisdell Post No. 537....made by me, DOROTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary Public
in and for the County of PEORIA; State of ILLINOIS. My commission expires
May 13, 1950

Dorothy A. Mitchell (SEAL)
Notary Public, Ill.

13. On August 8th, the State Commander temporarily revoked the Charter of Tiedall Post on the findings and recommendation of a Committee appointed by him, using Article XI, Section 26 of the Legion Constitution as a basis for his action.

14. The Legion Home was padlocked and all of our material assets were confiscated and once again I was being prosecuted and called a Communist.

I went to the State Legion meeting to present my case before the Executive Committee, but I was not allowed to speak.

I am asking for this investigation not only for myself, but this entire Post has been branded as Communistic, which is a lie. Neither I nor the boys are inclined to be Communistic in any way, but are firm believers of a Democratic form of government.

I am asking to be investigated by your Bureau, so that I might have some definite proof as to my complete innocence.

On September 26th, I am to have a trial by American Legion officials and I am asking some action on this matter.

Here are the only organizations I have ever participated in:

3 Times on Republican ticket for Supervisor

Exhaulted Ruler of Elks-5 years

Member-20 years

Knights of Pythians

" 27 "

Chancellor Commander-3 years

Mason-Blue Lodge

" 25 "

Consistory

" 5 "

Prelate-1 year

" 1 "

Shrine

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Director U.S.O. Board

Member-2 Years

Community Fund Drive

" 2 "

Vice-President N.A.A.C.P.

" 1 "

Organizer of Tisdell Post)
Charter Member

Adjutant

" 4 "

Commander ('35-'36... '45-'46... '46-'47)

Commander Elect ('47-'48)

Member Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Chairman of Trustee Board

" 3 "

Vice-Chairman North Side Community Center

Innerguard State Association-Elks (Elected for 1 year)

Chairman of Civil Liberties-Elks

Big Brother(Under Judge Vonocan)

I feel there has been a great miscarriage of justice here,
and my and Roy B. Tisdell Post #537's only salvation lies in your investi-
gation which will clear my name in the eyes of the public and will once
again open our Legion home.

Respectfully,

Clifford A. Hazelwood
Clifford A. Hazelwood
COMMANDER OF ROY B. TISDELL
POST #537

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May 12, 1947

Mr. Wm. C. Mundt-Adjt.
Department of Illinois
Bloomington, Illinois

Dear Comrade:

Enclosed are the particulars in the Robeson case in Peoria, Illinois, of which Roy B. Tisdell Post #537 had no part.

But due to the action of five men on the Executive Board it was involved in the matter, without the sanction of the Post.

I was questioned because of my holding an executive position in another organization, the N.A.A.C.P. I wish this matter to be called to the attention of the National Commander, that I might be exonerated or acquitted and no longer accused of being a "red", because of my defense of democracy.

Tisdell Post had no part in this matter and the question is:

Do I have a right to belong to other organizations and remain Commander of this post?

I await your early reply.

Respectfully,
ROY B. TISDELL POST #537

C.A. Hazelwood
COMMANDER

P.S. Please cancel the other order for 1,500 poppies.

CAH/1

The above is a true and exact copy, drawn by me DOROTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary Public in the City of Peoria, County of Peoria, State of Illinois. My commission expires May 13, 1950.

SEAL

Dorothy A. Mitchell Notary Public

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A True and Exact copy of the Resolution drawn by Mr. Phillips
for five members of the Executive Board of Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537.

April 26, 1947

1. WHEREAS, the Commander of Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537,
The American Legion has within the past few days supported, encouraged
and aided an advocate and sympathizer of Communism, and

WHEREAS, this action by the Commander of this Post was without
the approval of said Post and is directly contrary to the principles of
Americanism as advocated by The American Legion, NOW THEREFORE

2. BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of Roy B. Tisdell
Post No. 537, The American Legion, that we disapprove, repudiate and
condemn all such action by the Commander of this Post as not representing
the beliefs of this Committee and the principles of this Post, and

3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we reaffirm our vigorous
opposition to Communism and all other subversive doctrines and to their
advocates their supporters and sympathizers.

This is taken from the original copy of the resolution drawn by Mr.
Phillips for members of the Executive Board of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537...
made by me, DONOTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary Public in and for the County
of DEORIA, State of ILLINOIS. My commission expires May 13, 1948.

Donoth A. Mitchell (SEAL)
Sept. 6, 1947

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STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
) ss.
COUNTY OF PEORIA. }

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, CURTIS CAVITT, a member of ROY B. TISDELL POST # 537,
AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS, and a member of the EXECUTIVE
BOARD;

Do hereby swear and depose that I was at the home of one
DR. E. P. BOULDIN on the night of APRIL 26th A.D., when one CARL E. PHILLIPS,
drew this said resolution and submitted it to the five men present for their
approval.

Curtis Cavitt
SIGNED

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
) ss.
COUNTY OF PEORIA. }

Personally appeared before me, DOROTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary
Public in and for the said County aforesaid, CURTIS CAVITT, who acknowledged
that he has read the above and foregoing instrument and has signed it with
full knowledge of its contents and purport.

Dorothy A. Mitchell 281
NOTARY PUBLIC

DATE-SEPTEMBER 6, 1947

THE PEOPLE'S SIDE OF THE ROBESON INCIDENT

A gifted Negro artist, Paul Robeson, one of the greatest singers of our age, came to Peoria. But the people of Peoria were denied the right to hear him sing. Paul Robeson is not only a great singer, he is also a fine warm cultured personality. A big man in body, mind and soul.

At college, Paul Robeson was an honor student and an All-American end on the Rutgers football team. As singer and actor he has had outstanding success on the stage, screen and radio. He is a well-traveled man who sings in many languages. Because of his ability to sing the songs and reach the hearts of the common man all over the world, he has earned the titles of "Citizen of the World" and "Singer of People's Songs". This man has sung in the biggest auditoriums around the globe. He has put his great talents at the service of his own people and of the toilers. So he has sung to soldiers at the battle front and to workers in their union halls and on the picket lines. Perhaps that is why the powers that be would allow Paul Robeson no place in Peoria to sing his golden songs, except the small living room of a worker's home.

WHY?

WHY?

WHY?

Citizens of Peoria, we must ask: WHY were we denied the right to hear Paul Robeson sing?

WHY was a great American artist denied civil rights and civil courtesy in our city?

WHO organized the Hitler-like campaign of terrorism against this noted representative of the Negro people?

What vested interests were able to turn our Mayor and other city authorities into spineless jellyfish, using their law enforcement powers not to protect Paul Robeson from threats of violence, but to collaborate with the lawless elements who made the threats?

WHO, behind the scenes, decided that we were not intelligent enough to judge for ourselves the merits of Mr. Robeson's offerings.

THESE ARE THE FACTS

Paul Robeson was engaged to sing at the Shrine Mosque on Friday, April 18, 1947. His concert was arranged by Allen Cannon, part time music instructor at Bradley College. It was one of a series of concerts promoted for the sake of profit and to bring noted singers and choruses to Peoria. Previous concerts had received good publicity and are reported to have been very successful and profitable.

But from the first announcements of the Robeson concert there were rumblings of opposition, coming in the main from people connected with and influenced by some of Peoria's big industries. A kill-with-silence policy of press and radio was combined with a whispering campaign to limit the sale of tickets. Up to a few days before the concert this was apparently considered adequate to guar-

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antee a failure. It was then that a group of Peoria citizens, aware of the insidious use of race prejudice, red baiting and anti-labor propaganda being used to limit the sale of tickets, undertook to popularize the concert and to guarantee its success. We wanted to see Paul Robeson in the flesh and hear him sing.

But the sponsor, admittedly worried about losing his job and accompanied by the wife of a Caterpillar public relations director, went to Champaign where they talked Mr. Robeson's manager into cancelling the concert.

It was also on Tuesday, April 15th, that Gomer Bath, columnist for the Peoria Star, wrote his first vicious column attacking Mr. Robeson as a Communist or fellow traveler.

And on the same Tuesday, significantly enough, Milo Nelson, 1st Ward Alderman, introduced a resolution to the City Council with the avowed intention of barring Paul Robeson from public appearance in Peoria. Alderman Nelson's resolution and prepared remarks used the same smear technique as the above mentioned Star columnist and many people are wondering WHO wrote the resolution for the 1st Ward Alderman. Without discussion or debate the resolution was railroaded through. The next day when people started to call their Alderman, these city fathers began to wonder what had been put over on them.

On Wednesday, April 16th, we who issue this statement, met together as a Citizen's Committee to preserve Civil Liberties and Rights in Peoria. We recognized that the unconstitutional means and threats of violence being used to bar Mr. Robeson from public appearance must be challenged. There are few progressive independent thinking people who have not been branded "red" at some time or other since Hitler developed this technique to destroy democracy and bring Nazi-fascism to a large part of Europe. Anti-Communism using smear campaign and lawless threats of violence can destroy all our democratic rights - and that is fascism.

After this meeting, three people went to Champaign where Mr. Robeson had sung to an overflow audience to the University of Illinois campus. They urged him to come to Peoria and help maintain democratic American traditions by fighting for his civil rights.

All public meeting places were barred by insidious pressure. Various churches, both Negro and white, were contacted, but because of the hysteria of threats, of race violence, intimidation and other coercive measures, coming from the City administration, the ministers and officers of these churches were intimidated and refuse use of their facilities to Robeson. However, we find that now the air is cleared, the Peoria Ministerial Association at its regular meeting, expressed their disapproval through a resolution, against the action taken of Robeson appearing in Peoria.

On Thursday, April 17th, 11 members of this committee met with Mayor Triebel, demanding that space in the City Hall - traditionally open to all groups of citizens - be granted for us to welcome Paul Robeson. The Mayor finally agreed, if concurrence could be secured from a majority of the City Council. When con-

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tacted, a majority of the same alderman who had been stampeded at the City Council meeting, reversed themselves in favor of permitting a City Hall reception for Mr. Robeson on Friday, the day he had been scheduled to appear at the Shrine Mosque.

The forces of repression went to work Thursday night and Friday morning. Violence against Robeson and the Negro people was threatened. Our wavering Mayor, lacking courage to enforce civil rights as he is sworn to do, went back on his promise to this committee. Could it be that the Mayor agreed with the sentiments of those who expressed intention of violence? Be that as it may, instead of enforcing the law against those who threatened violence, he read the so-called Riot Act against those who were being threatened with unlawful attack. A meeting in City Hall or anywhere else was banned.

Despite threats of violence, insults and slander, Paul Robeson came to Peoria. The people were denied a place to meet him and hear him sing. He was refused time on radio station WMBD, the only Peoria radio outlet in the evening. Hundreds of people who hoped he might appear at the City Hall, were gathered there on Friday night. They were given a full exhibition of the police reserves, called out by Mayor Triebel - not to uphold the law, but to make sure that the lawful rights of free speech and free assemblage would not be exercised.

In the living room of Ajay Martin, a Caterpillar worker now serving as a union official, a few people were fortunate enough to meet Mr. Robeson. There he sang a couple of the songs which have delighted great audiences in all the free parts of the world. There he was interviewed by the press.

Paul Robeson own words are the best description of what he found in Peoria: "I've been all over the world" he said, "and the only times I have seen hysteria reach these heights was in Spain under Franco and in Germany under Hitler - this is a sure sign that Fascism is around the corner in our Country".

He promised to return saying "I personally will return again, and there will be others too. This most flagrant violation of civil rights will not go unchallenged."

THIS BLOT MUST BE WIPED FROM THE RECORD OF PEORIA.

We ask all fair-minded citizens to get in touch by phone, letter or personal visit - with their alderman and the Mayor, demanding that the resolution adopted by the City Council on April 15th be rescinded as unconstitutional and contrary to American democracy.

We urge all organization of the people - unions, veterans posts, civic groups, etc., to pass resolutions both to the City Council and to press and radio condemning their actions which provoked the atmosphere of terror against Mr. Robeson and the Negro people.

We suggest that veterans and other citizens remind American Legion Post #2 that when their members lend themselves to campaigns of violence against civil rights, they endanger the very liberties in our country for which they fought abroad.

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To trade unionists we call attention that Paul Robeson has always supported organized labor. But those who fought his appearance in Peoria are the same people who - fascist-like - would destroy labor's right to free organization and free collective bargaining.

To restore the fair name of our city, we must do everything in our power to secure the return of Paul Robeson to Peoria for a public appearance at the earliest possible date. This must be done to convince the world that Peoria is still part of a democratic America.

* * * * *

It is too bad that we have to go outside of our city for a progressive and rational editorial concerning the Robeson case. But that being the case, we hear with reprint parts of an editorial from the Chicago Sun of Sunday, April 20th.

EFFECTS OF THE WITCH HUNT

It was bound to happen. If Paul Robeson had not been prevented from singing in Peoria, he probably would have been banned some place else. Peoria in proscribing a concert because of the singer's political views, was only reflecting the hysteria of the hysteria of the witch hunt that is sweeping the nation.

After all, there is not too great a distance between "stopping Communism" by arming right-wing governments all over the world, and "stopping Communism" by silencing a great singer. Once you subject government employees to the kind of "loyalty" test which casts suspicion on every person who ever harbored a progressive thought, it is easy to demand that artists present a certificate of intellectual decontamination, something like the Aryanization license Hitler used to require, before being allowed to perform.

When dissent is regarded as disloyalty, when the non-conformist thought is considered a subversive thought, then it follows that treason will be suspected in a singer's voice, and betrayal in an artistic performance.

* * * * *

We think it is time for the people of Peoria and the people of America to come to their senses. The universal red hunt is a vicious thing not because of what it may do to the hunted, but because of what it does to the hunters. Just as Hitlerism degraded the German People, so this mad preoccupation with a Red "menace" can only impair the American people's self-respect, their intellectual integrity, their confidence in the truly boundless strength of democracy, their dignity as freemen.

What kind of citizenship is it that judges every man's actions by secret speculation on his place in the political spectrum. What kind of Americanism is it that weighs men not by their worth but by their political convictions? What kind of democracy is it that

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assesses those convictions not by whether they are right or wrong, but by whether they are "Communist"?

The problem is one for the whole nation, not progressives alone. Somehow we must convince ourselves that it is neither expedient nor democratic to try to "stop Communism" by backing Fascism suppressing free speech, establishing thought control, or banning Paul Robeson's voice.

10.
SAC, New York

July 23, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

100-12304-83

RECORDED

EX-34

For your information there is attached a photostatic copy of a communication delivered by the State Department to the Bureau concerning the subject.

56225

Enclosure

JEM:dbb

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5BJC/MP

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ JUL 24 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

68 AUG 23 1947

16,788

TRANSLATION FROM THE SPANISH

TEN THOUSAND PERSONS HEAR ROBESON LAST NIGHT

Some ten thousand people were in attendance last night at the National Stadium to hear the famous North American baritone, Paul Robeson, whose visit to the Isthmus has caused much comment since it has been said that his trip is connected with Communist propaganda. Here the exponent of the colored race appears shaking hands with President Jimenez at the close of the concert, Don Arcadio Aguilera, General Secretary of the President, also being present. In spite of predictions the concert was free from any Communist or union propaganda.

Translated by:

6/5/47
jas

b7c

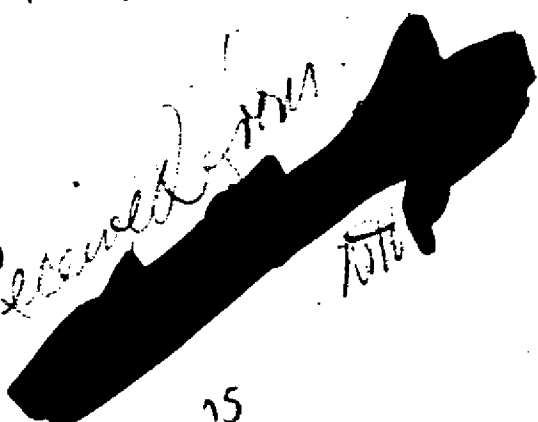
COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-58
A-12

G.I.R. 5

Handwritten signatures and initials

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EX-74

Recalled


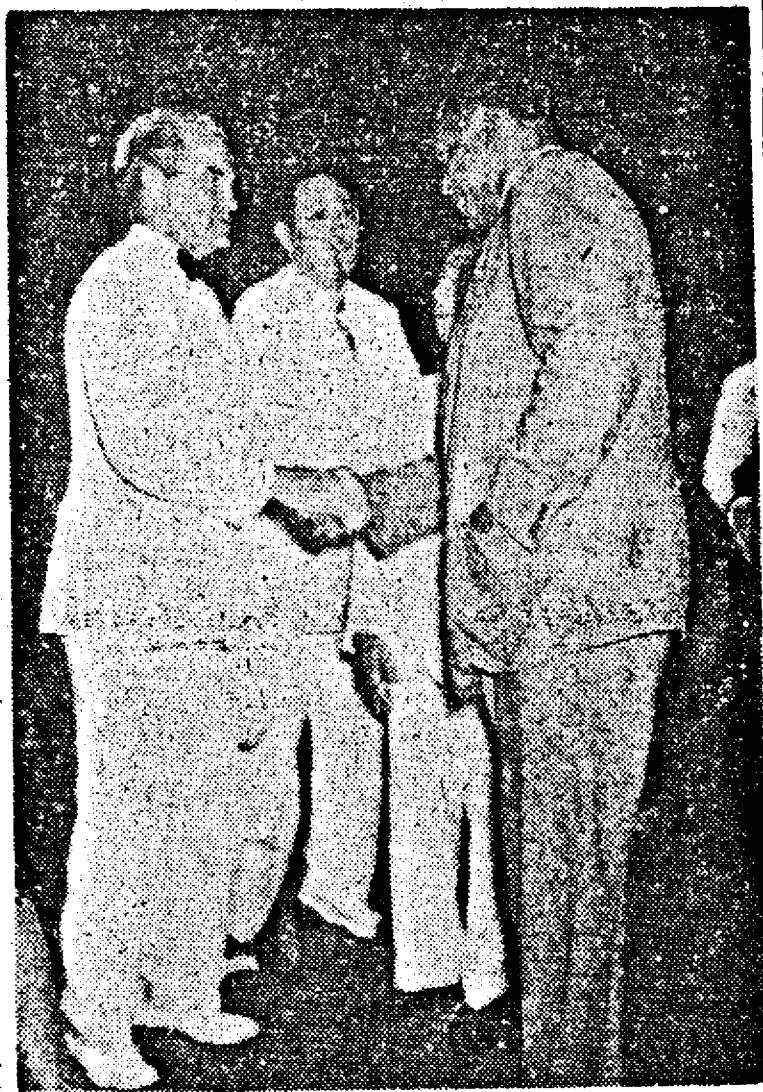
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&
INDEXED
101

EX-74

100-12304-77
F B I
1 JUN 28 1947

5291

Diez mil personas oyeron a Robeson anoche



Unas diez mil personas se dieron cita anoche en el Estadio Nacional para escuchar al famoso baritono norteamericano Paul Robeson, cuya visita al Istmo ha sido muy comentada, pues se decia que el viaje estaba relacionado con la propaganda comunista. Aquí aparece el exponente de la raza de color estrechando la mano del Presidente Jiménez al terminar el concierto, pudiendo verse allí también al Secretario General de la Presidencia, don Arcadio Aguilera. No obstante las predicciones el concierto estuvo libre de toda propaganda comunista o sindicalista.

Canal Officials Conspicuous By Absence at Paul Robeson Recital

An audience of about 10,000 people headed by President Enrique Jiménez and members of his Cabinet, last night heard Paul Robeson, world-famous American Negro baritone, who appeared in Panama's Olympic Stadium.

Conspicuously absent from the performance sponsored by the CIO-United Public Workers were Canal Zone officials, many of whom received complimentary tickets.

Robeson's program began with old European ballads, then included a group of the classics: "Lord God of Abraham" from "Elijah" by Mendelssohn and two Moussorskys selections, an excerpt from "Boris Godounoff" and "After the Battle."

Here his program was interrupted by a shout from the audience calling for "Ol' Man River."

Robeson graciously interrupted his scheduled selections to sing the popular favorite and after a thunderous applause repeated the same song.

His third group of presentations were Negro folk songs some of which his accompanist,

Lawrence Brown, sang with him.

Most popular with the audience were Robeson's encores. They included "Water Boy," "Deep River," "Scandalize My Name," "No Matter What You Say, I Still Suit Me," "Let My People Go," and "The House I Live In."

To close his program, Robeson recited the dying soliloquy of Othello, the play in which he aroused the enthusiasm of London in 1930 and in which he played for two years in the United States in New York and on the road.

Carlos Grant, a Canal Zone violinist, played during the second intermission of Robeson's program at the request of the artist because of his interest in young musicians.

The expected "propaganda" which was to come with Robeson's appearance under CIO sponsorship was included but not by speech-making.

His selections, particularly "After the Battle," "Water Boy," and "The House I Live In," represented his plea for peace and equality of human rights.

PANAMA-AMERICAN, May 28th. 1947

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100-12304-77

ENCLOSURE

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FROM

5-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

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Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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Note and Return _____
For Your Recommendation _____
What are the facts? _____
Remarks: _____

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Act. Committee
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DATE 11/21/80

SP-5 RSD/clm

100-12304-99

ENCLOSURE

295

May 7, 1947

PAUL ROBESON

G. I. R. - 8

Background:

Who's Who for 1946 and 1947, has the following biographical data concerning Robeson:

He is a concert singer and an actor. He was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on April 9, 1898, the son of William Drew Robeson and Anna Louisa (Bustill). He received his A. B. degree at Rutgers College in 1919, and LL.B. from Columbia University in 1923, an honorary L.H.D. at Hamilton College in 1940, an honorary M.A. at Rutgers University in 1932, an honorary L.H.D. at Moorehouse College, 1943, and an honorary doctor's degree in humane letters at Howard University in 1945. He married Eslanda Cardoza Goode on August 17, 1921. He has one son, Paul Robeson, Jr. From 1923 until the present time he has appeared in numerous stage plays. He is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa, the Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Tau Delta fraternities. Robeson was a four-letter man while at Rutgers University and was picked by Walter Camp on his All-American football team as an end. His home is in Enfield, Connecticut. He gives his New York address as, in care of Robert Rockmore, 10 East 40th Street, New York, New York.

The Current Biography for 1941, on page 717, has the following to say concerning Robeson:

"The racial problem is one that Robeson has studied thoroughly. It was racial discrimination as much as his own acting ability that caused him to give up his career as a lawyer. He sent his son to school in the USSR because he thought the boy could grow up normally there.....He frequently speaks out on political issues in which he feels his race is deeply involved. In the summer of 1940, he was opposing conscription, speaking for peace, later urging all Negroes in industry to join the United Automobile Workers of America in their Ford organizing drive, even later speaking and singing at benefits to aid Britain, China and the Soviet Union. He was called a radical."

Activities in Connection with Various Communist Front Organizations:

The November 4, 1937, issue of the Daily Worker, alleged official publication of the Communist Party, carried an article in which Robeson was quoted as saying, "When I step on to a stage in the future, I go on as a representative of the working class. I work with a consciousness of that in my mind."

100-12304-7, pg 12

The Daily Worker of May 16, 1939, on page 1, printed out that Robeson in an interview had stated that there was no discrimination in Soviet circles and that his son, who attended school in Russia, received a cultural advantage there.

100-12304-7 pg 12

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

16 1947

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The People's World, alleged publication of the Communist Party West Coast, in its issue of December 26, 1941, said that Robeson the featured speaker before a "Defend America Rally" held in Los Angeles, California on December 25, 1941. There were approximately 1,000 Negroes present. The rally was sponsored by the National Negro Congress among other groups. Robeson in his speech contrasted his experience in Nazi Germany in 1934, when he was menaced by Hitler's Storm Troopers with the reception he received in Russia. He said that in the USSR he found a complete absence of racial discrimination of any form which inspired him to send his son there to be educated. He urged unity of action on the part of all allies to defeat Hitler. 100-12304-17

The Sunday Worker of March 22, 1942, on page 2, section 2, and in column 1, there appeared the following comment made by Robeson "..... There can be no more honest evidence of a sincere desire to defeat Fascism along with the sending of tanks and if possible aid to the Soviet Union than by the freeing of Earl Browder so that he may take his rightful place in the vanguard of the cohorts against Fascism." 100-12304-3

A mass rally "Salute to Our Russian Ally" was held November 8, 1942, in the Madison Square Garden, New York. Robeson was introduced by the master of ceremonies by saying that "the next voice to be heard is the voice of the anti-Fascist". The spotlights were turned on Robeson and he said, "I am an anti-Fascist. I am an American. I am a Negro." He then proceeded to read out loud a letter written by a twenty-seven year old Red Army soldier, who said that he was "continually marching westward to freedom." Robeson added that the soldier was "my friend and yours". He said every place he appeared in the United States and had mentioned friendship with Russia and had sung the "Red Army song", the audience had literally "broken it up". 100-12304-7

The People's Voice, Harlem newspaper, for January 23, 1943, carried an advertisement urging the release of Professor Morris U. Schappes, alleged Communist of the City College of New York, who had been convicted of perjury. Robeson is quoted in this advertisement as saying, "I want to be identified in every way with this movement..... to free Morris Schappes..... This responsibility is the first charge upon all of us to fight Fascism for freedom." 100-12304-31, pg 2

The Michigan Chronicle of February 6, 1943, reported an interview with Robeson in which he stated that there was no racial discrimination in Russia. He said the people there learned to love and work for their government because it belonged to them. He justified sending his son to Russia so he "could feel freedom". 100-12304-9

On April 6, 1943, it was reported that a pamphlet of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated listed Robeson as a sponsor.

Conf. Informant N New York City Office; 100-12304-31

The Daily Worker of July 4, 1943, on page 1, in column 3, show the subject's picture along with that of Lieutenant Colonel Itzik Feffe, and Moscow, Russia, City Councilman, Solomon Michaels, whom Robeson had welcomed to New York City at a reception held at the Soviet Consulate in New York City.

The Daily Worker of July 8, 1943, listed Robeson as a singer at a mass meeting to be held on that day at the Polo grounds in New York City honoring the two above mentioned Russians. 100-12304-31, pg 3

The Daily Worker of October 7, 1943, on page 3, indicates that Robeson supported Benjamin Davis on the Communist Party ticket for the position of Councilman on the New York City Council at the "Davis for Victory Show" held at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, New York City. 100-12304-31 pg 6

The Daily Worker of March 17, 1944, reported a speech made by Robeson at the Sun Yat-Sen tribute meeting at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York City, March 12, 1944. Robeson is quoted as having said, "The picture of China's internal conflict as the Kowmintang against the Chinese Communists is as false as Martin Dies' picture of his committee defending Congress and the Government against the American Communists." The subject said that China was fighting Fascism with one arm tied inasmuch as the Communist led Eighth Route and the new Fourth Army were not allowed to cooperate with the regular Chinese Army. 100-12304-31, pg 7

The April 5, 1944, issue of the Daily Worker said that tickets for the birthday party of the subject to be held on April 16, 1944, at the Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, New York would be on sale at the Communist Political Association Bookshop and the Council on African Affairs, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, for \$1 to \$3 each. 100-12304-31

The Daily Worker of April 13, 1944, reflects an interview had with Robeson by Louise Mitchell. In this interview he is quoted as saying, "his birthday party was really to be a Council on African Affairs Party." He is quoted again as having said, "The post war peace and prosperity rest on the constructive solutions of the problems of oppressed people everywhere." He said that the United States and Great Britain have realized that Mexico and South America want to be free, so, too, they will have to realize that 160 million Africans want equality. 100-12304-31, pg 7

The Daily Worker of April 16, 1944, in an article written by Samuel Putman on the life of the subject quotes the subject in describing his first visit to the USSR as having said, "How can I describe my feelings upon crossing the Soviet border. All I can say is that the moment I came there I realized that I had found what I had been seeking all my life. It was a new planet -- a new constellation. It filled me with such happiness as I have never known in my life." 100-12304-3, pg 8.

The magazine section of The Worker of April 16, 1944, in a story on Robeson's life said that he was an honorary member of the NWU; State, County and Municipal Workers of America, a predecessor to the present United Public Workers of America; the ILWU; and also a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. 100-12304-11

The Daily Worker of February 13, 1945, reports that Robeson spoke at a meeting of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California at which time \$17,000 was raised. In his speech he is quoted as having said, "We are standing at the cross roads of history. Something is wrong when such Fascists as Hearst are allowed to mislead and misinform the American people. The American people do not entirely understand that we can have Fascism here unless we learn to use our productive resources for the benefit of all the people. We can't wait for Fascism to die out and the oppressed peoples of the world will not wait. We must understand that we have already entered a changed world. We must have those 60 million jobs that Wallace speaks of. We must clean out our own Fascists." 100-12304-31, pg 11

The Daily Worker of March 12, 1945, carried an article datelined in San Francisco on that same date in which Robeson is reported to have urged former President Roosevelt to end the deportation case against Harry Bridges. In his letter to the President, which was quoted, he said, "Harry Bridges has stood steadfastly against discrimination, steadfastly for equal treatment, and all this without regard to his own personal fortunes." 100-12304-31 pg 12

The Daily Worker of April 17, 1945, carried an article to the effect that the Council on African Affairs headed by him had submitted a memorandum to the delegates of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco, calling for the establishment of an International Colonial Commission in the proposed world organization. 100-12304-31, pg. 13

The Daily Worker of May 16, 1945, carried an article in which it was pointed out that Robeson was to appear on a program entitled "Salute to the GI's of the United Nations" to be held on May 31, 1945, under the auspices of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. The Daily Worker of June 1, 1945, said that Robeson sang Red Army songs at this meeting, which was held in Madison Square Garden, New York City. 100-12304-40, pg 3

The Daily Worker of September 30, 1945, said that Robeson had acted as chairman of more than 1000 citizens in the Fine Arts field, who formed an organization known as the "Artists, Writers and Professional Division of the Ben J. Davis Non-Partisan Committee". The article quoted Robeson as having said, "His (Ben Davis) campaign belongs to the people, to all people — white and negro, gentile and Jew, cutting across all boundaries and non-partisan politics, our Ben in the City Council. That means we're in there". 100-12304-40, pg 7

The Daily Worker of October 20, 1945, carried an article entitled, "Robeson Lauds Ben Davis for his Faith in his People". The article, among other things, stated that Robeson praised the Soviet Union for its destruction of Fascism and its fight against discrimination. 100-12304-40, pg. 9

The October 25, 1945, edition of the Gazette at Montreal, Canada, carried an article in which Robeson is quoted as having said, "If I have any followers, they will have to take what I have to say along with songs." The article continued and pointed out that the "burden of his propaganda is the saga of free men the world over." Robeson is quoted as having said that his "political opinions are well known." He said that he had urged the election of Fred Rose, Communist member of the Canadian Parliament. Of Franco, he said that he should hang, even if he is now supported by the United States, Great Britain and Canada. 100-12304-Sub A

The Pittsburgh Courier of October 27, 1945, carried an article which pointed out that Robeson was the thirtieth recipient of the "Spingarn Medal" annual award for outstanding achievement, presented by the NAACP. In his acceptance speech before several hundred notables in the Biltmore Hotel in New York, he voiced a frank and pronounced preference for Soviet principles, economic, political and social. He said, "The Soviet Union can't help it as a Nation and people if it is in the main stream of change." He warned against the rebuilding of Fascism, restoration of monarchies, and restoration of their estates to collaborators. He pointed out that the Russians have shown what backward peoples can accomplish in one generation of endeavor. He said, "Full employment in Russia is a fact and not a myth and discrimination is non-existent." 100-12304-35

The Peoples Voice of November 10, 1945, carried an article in which Robeson answered his Fascist critics. It was pointed out that in response to criticism of him in the Montreal Gazette for including in his concert a talk against Franco, he said, "They will have to take what I have to say along with my songs". 100-12304-40, pg 10

The Daily Worker of November 22, 1945, reports that he delivered an address at the Madison Square Garden in New York City on November 11, 1945, sponsored by the National Council of American Soviet Friendship on occasion of the 12th anniversary of the United States Soviet diplomatic relations. He said one of the greatest achievements of the USSR in 28 years was the attempt of democracy regardless of race, creed, color or nationality. He said there are no minorities there; instead, everyone is equal. 100-12304-Sub A

The Daily Worker of January 10, 1946, carried an article in which it was pointed out that the subject, the Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, spoke at a meeting on January 7, 1946, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem for the purpose of raising relief funds for the people of Africa. 100-12304-40, pg 11.

The Seattle Star of February 12, 1946, reported an interview with Robeson in which he said his son, Paul, Jr., attended school in Russia from the 8th through the 13th year. He said, "My son is definitely the product of Soviet education". He continued and said, "I am well satisfied. The Russian standards are extremely high."

100-12304-38

The Daily Worker of March 5, 1946, listed Robeson among those acting as sponsors of a "National Mobilization in Washington" movement to be held April 5, through 7, 1946, to "Win the United States back to a genuine anti-Fascist foreign program."

100-12304-40, pg 11

The Peoples Voice of March 30, 1946, reported that Robeson spoke before a mass meeting at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, California that day at a meeting sponsored jointly by a Council on African Affairs and the Peoples Daily World. Among other things, he called for aid and democratization for the colonial people of the world.

100-12304-Sub A

The Worker of September 1, 1946, said that the editors of New Masses had announced they would sponsor a production entitled, "Adventure Dramatic" at Carnegie Hall on September 22, 1946. Robeson reportedly would participate and combine his talents along with other artists in the stage production of "The Great Conspiracy Against Russia", by Albert Kahn and Michael Sayers.

100-12304-Sub A

The Peoples Voice of October 19, 1946, describes Robeson as Co-Chairman of the National Committee to Win the Peace, member of the Executive Committee of the Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions, Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, Chairman of the American Crusade to End Lynching. The same article reported that he was a witness before the Tenney Joint Legislative (California) Commission on Un-American Activities in Los Angeles, California on October 7, 1946. When asked if he thought Russia in 1917 was the ideal country in which to test Marxism, he said, "No, I think the best country to test the principles of Marxism might be the America of today. Russia in 1917 was too poor." He said he was not a Communist but that ".....as a Negro" he was "inevitably attracted to the Anti-Fascist Movement....."

100-12304-Sub A

In the New York Times of October 8, 1946, this same information was reported and he is quoted as having said that "regardless of Russia's totalitarian features, it was a country which had established equality of peoples of black, white and yellow and where a derogatory use of the word 'Jew' brought a jail sentence."

100-12304-Sub A

The Daily Worker of October 11, 1946, in reporting this same information quoted Robeson as having told Senator Tenney that the existence of his Committee was evidence of the fact that Fascism still lives. He was asked if he was a Communist. He replied that he characterized himself as an

anti-Fascist. He said that he was not a Communist, but that he would choose it over the Republicans, explaining that "in my association with Communist, throughout the World I have found them to be the first people to die, the first to sacrifice and the first to understand Fascism."

100-12304-Sub A
The Daily Worker of December 27, 1946, on page 5, said that he would be the principal speaker at a two-day conference to be held in Washington, D. C. on January 23, 1947, under the auspices of the American Crusade to End Lynching. 100-12304-Sub A

The Peoples Voice of February 1, 1947, on page two, carried an article in which it was stated that Robeson had told reporters in St. Louis, Missouri that he was leaving the theater and the concert stage for the next two years to "talk up and down the Nation against race hatred and prejudice." The article pointed out that Robeson marched at the head of a picket line with about 30 members of the St. Louis Civil Rights Congress in front of the American Theater in St. Louis, Missouri to protest its racial segregation practice. 100-12304-Sub A

The Los Angeles Times of March 17, 1947, pointed out that Robeson's concert at the Philharmonic Auditorium on the Saturday night before, followed the pattern of those set by him in recent years in that it was part recital and part political action. The article pointed out that from the remarks made by Robeson it was apparent that he had no intention of changing his routine. It added "Those who pay to hear his eloquent singing will also have to endure his politicking."

Hedda Hopper in her column "Looking at Hollywood" in the Los Angeles Times of March 20, 1947, said, "When Paul Robeson sang the Communist 'People's Battle Song' here and dedicated it to Gerhardt Eisler, some members of his audience walked out. Why one remained is beyond me. To sit idly listening to a man abusing the precious heritage of freedom given us by our Constitution in flaunting the preachings of our most dangerous enemy is inviting disaster. When such people as Robeson are attacked they scream 'persecution' and 'Fascism'—the obvious dodge that our Red brethren attempt when cornered by people whom they've goaded out of lethargy. Yet they believe it perfectly right that they be allowed to attack the very foundations of our country — simply because one of our principles provides freedom of speech."

LA Times

3-17-47

Robeson Has Own Method

Paul Robeson's concert at Philharmonic Auditorium Saturday night followed the pattern of those set by the Negro bass in recent years, in that it was part recital and part political-action rally.

From the remarks made by Robeson it is evident that this brilliant musician has no intention of changing his routine. Those who pay to hear his eloquent singing will also have to endure his politticking.

Distorting 'Mikes'

This reviewer likes neither manifestoes nor mechanical contrivances as by-products of a musical recital. It is impossible to judge Robeson's voice today by the same critical yardstick with which one measures his confreres on the concert platform, for he uses microphones and amplifiers, thus falsifying volume and distorting intonation.

Robeson claims he does this to ease the strain on his voice, but the fact remains that he is the only major recitalist so to indulge himself. One result of this distortion is that his magnificent voice frequently sounds strainedly granular in passages sung at full volume, and that his very deep tones lack natural resonance.

Varied Successes

The most effective numbers of his program, from the standpoint of music and musician, were two works by Moussorgsky, the prayer from "Boris Godounoff" and "After the Battle." Deserving of great praise too, were Mendelssohn's "Love God of Abraham" from "Elijah" and the aria, "O Isis and Osiris" from Mozart's "The Magic Flute." Moving simplicity was evident in several of the spirituals, such as "My Curly Headed Baby," and in the arrangements of English ballads by Roger Quilter.

Robeson's accompaniment again the truly talented Florence Brown, whose vocal aid in several spirituals lent great value to the program.

SEEING RED

When Paul Robeson sang the Communist "People's Battle Song" here and dedicated it ship, were two works by Moussorgsky, the prayer from "Boris Godounoff" and "After the Battle." Deserving of great praise too, were Mendelssohn's "Love God of Abraham" from "Elijah" and the aria, "O Isis and Osiris" from Mozart's "The Magic Flute." Moving simplicity was evident in several of the spirituals, such as "My Curly Headed Baby," and in the arrangements of English ballads by Roger Quilter.

Hedda Hopper

LOOKING AT HOLLYWOOD

Los Angeles Times

THURS., MARCH 20, 1947

out. Why one remained is beyond me. To sit idly listening to a man abusing the precious heritage of freedom given us by our Constitution in flaunting the preachings of our most dangerous enemy is inviting disaster. When such people as Robeson are attacked they scream "persecution" and "Fascism"—the obvious dodge that our Red brethren attempt when cornered by people whom they've goaded out of lethargy. Yet they believe it perfectly right that they be allowed to attack the very foundations of our country—simply because one of our principles provides freedom of speech.

Bette Davis and Bill Sherry are remodeling one of the rooms in their new home to make a painter's studio for Bill.

Harry (Pop) Sherman's daughter Teddi is now a full-fledged writer at Enterprise.

GENE TIERNEY
SHANGHAI GES
FIRST DENNIS MORGAN "GOD IS MY G"

VIVIANE
ROMANCE "CARN"

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744

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1947

TO: ☒ Director
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____ Mr. Glavin
____ Mr. Ladd
____ Mr. Nichols
____ Mr. Rosen
____ Mr. Tracy
____ Mr. Harbo
____ Mr. Hendon
____ Mr. Jones
____ Mr. Nease
____ Miss Gandy
____ Personnel Files Section
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____ Mrs. Skillman

See Me For Appropriate Action

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←
Clyde Tolson

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SAC, New York

July 23, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

EX-60

For your information there is attached a photostatic copy of a communication which the Bureau has received from the State Department concerning the subject.

Enclosure
JEM:dbb

56228

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

JUL 24 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 29, 1947

FROM : SAC, Boston

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The SAMUEL ADAMS SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES, a Communist sponsored school in Boston, Mass., on Sunday evening, June 22, 1947, sponsored a concert given for the benefit of the school by PAUL ROBESON at Symphony Hall, Boston, Mass.

WILLIAM GAILMOR, Radio Commentator, also spoke at this meeting.

the SAMUEL ADAMS SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES [REDACTED] check, #1722, dated June 23, 1947, was made out to the Council on African Affairs, Inc., for \$1,250. [REDACTED] It is believed that that payment of \$1,250 represented a payment to PAUL ROBESON for his appearance. [REDACTED]

JFL/jas
100-20575

cc: (2) New York

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EX-53

81 AUG 7 1947

308

Wesley Williams
S.F. Autry

Handolph Williams

Ed. Jackson
Young

Watch these names...for these people in a forced meeting of the Executive Board of our Post, allowed themselves to be prostituted and intimidated into signing a resolution which they had no authority in writing.

Here is the story that ended in the signing of a resolution that was written by outsiders and designed to split the progressive forces that are fighting a battle for Negro rights.

On April, the 15th, Mr. Clifford Hazelwood, realizing the danger to all Peoria's Negroes, rose in defiance to the resolution passed by the City Council, that could indirectly keep all of the nation's progressives both Negro and white out of Peoria. He joined with a group of Peoria's liberals and progressives, both whites and Negroes, to see that Civil Rights for all people be returned to Peoria and that a corrupt resolution of the City Council be smitten from the official record of Peoria.

Thanking he would back down, and lick their shoes, the Mayor first tried to brow beat him and he refused to be coerced. Even though he had entered the rights and individual and officer of the N.A.A.C.P., he understood that the powers that be were trying to break our ranks, he was threatened by a representative of American Legion Post No. 2, on the grounds of not Commandership of Tisdell Post, for the resolution stated "without the approval of said Post". This Post has an un-American rule that no Negro can become a member and yet they damn Hazelwood for principles "directly contrary to the principles of Americanism as advocated by the American Legion."

Mr. Phillips, a city lawyer, who had the job of trying to intimidate and rule them, action of Tisdell Post, met with Mr. Hazelwood with the order that "your usefulness as Commander of Tisdell Post is no longer needed". (First they segregate us then they ~~xxxx~~ try to rule us) The thought that his opinion and those of his Post were being decided by an outsider, made Hazelwood angry and when he left, Mr. Phillips has been informed that the new Negro could not be treated as a servant who would jump as Mr. Phillips or any other white man wishes.

Unable to gain his wished, Mr. Phillips went to the people whose names we see at the top of this list and told them as though he were God, that if they did not call a meeting and get rid of Hazelwood, he would see that their charter was taken away. They had a secret meeting in the home of Mr. Bouldin and was intimidated into signing a resolution which Mr. Phillips and not they wrote.

This resolution was voted on by less than two-thirds majority of the Executive Board and so should not have been made part of the Post law. This action should not have been made public...leading the public to believe that this represented the thinking of the Post...thereby helping to split the progressive move to give the Negro people the rights they have so long fought for and deserved..without first being presented to and passed by the rank and file membership of the Post.

This move on the part of a few of the Negro population has already had repercussions...violent to the welfare of the Negroes of this city. Already the Mayor is using this as material to break the demands of the NAACP and deprive us of civil liberties. Since this drastic action, he told the NAACP that he no longer need listen to them for they did not represent the population. Because this is being used as a weapon against us we must pass a resolution condemning the action of these few men. We must send a resolution to the Mayor, City Council, Post No. NAACP, and the Peoria Ministerial Association, the press and the radio.

We must write to every Negro Post in the state, asking that they take action against this upheaval of rights in our city in order to help us regain our civil rights and liberties.

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RESOLUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS MUST BE RESTORED IN PEORIA

- WHEREAS:** We, the officers and members of the Peoria Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, affiliated with the National Organization of the NAACP, with more than 1,500,000 members in America, protest against the action of the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Peoria in denying Paul Robeson, an American citizen, the civil right of public appearance in our city, and
- WHEREAS:** The action taken by Peoria's City Government suppressing the right of free speech, and the right of free assemblage in our city, has openly violated the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and
- WHEREAS:** The action taken by suppressing Civil Rights in our city has bestirred protests from the freedom loving people in all stations of life throughout America, bringing condemnation and shame upon our city, and
- WHEREAS:** Exercising the right of redress of grievance, we call to the attention of the City Aldermen and the Mayor that they were elected as servants of the people, and we remind them that they are not vested with the power or authority to legislate or rule against the United States Constitution or the Bill of Rights, which guarantees to all the people the right of free speech, free press, and free assemblage, free from coercion, intimidation or molestation, and
- WHEREAS:** The unconstitutional action which directly effected the public appearance of Paul Robeson in the City of Peoria is a glaring example of the depth of discrimination prevailing in our city, and
- WHEREAS:** to the best of our knowledge, not once since our City Government took this unconstitutional action against civil rights, has the Mayor or any of the City Aldermen publicly announced that they uphold the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and we call upon them now to make it definitely clear where they stand on our Constitutional rights, and
- WHEREAS:** The Peoria Ministerial Association must be praised and commended for the resolution it passed on Monday, April 21, 1947, in which it declared in effect that democracy and the right of free speech and assemblage must prevail in our city, NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED:** That the City Council of the City of Peoria, Illinois rescind the action taken by them on Tuesday, April 1, 1947, being unconstitutional and in violation of the civil rights of the people, AND BE IT FURTHER
- RESOLVED:** That the City Council publicly announce that the Peoria Ministerial Association has their full support in its request that Paul Robeson return to Peoria under its auspices, and that the City Council shall guarantee that any public meeting arranged by the Ministerial Association shall be adequately and properly protected against interference, coercion and intimidation, AND BE IT FINALLY
- RESOLVED:** That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to the Peoria City Council, the Mayor of the City of Peoria, the press, the radio, the National Organizations, of the N.A.A.C.P., the Peoria Ministerial Association and to such other persons or organizations as may be deemed necessary.

Paul Robeson Recording Sec'y. Respectfully submitted:
Clay Martin Clay Martin, President
Walter Hazelwood, Vice-Pres.

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Old English arr. by Roger...

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"We are proud to have you back. Wish you
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Excerpt from Boris Godunov

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Every time I feel the spirit

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only 12 minutes
from the center
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Come on down
after the Concert !



cc D. M. Ladd

September 15, 1947

The Attorney General

The Director, FBI

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42-100-12304-85

I am forwarding herewith photostatic copies of a communication together with its enclosures received from Mr. C. A. Hazelwood of Peoria, Illinois, and a communication received from Mr. Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, concerning the same subject matter.

In view of the nature of the inquiry, I have acknowledged these communications and advised their authors of the rigid policy of the Bureau in maintaining the information contained in its files on a confidential basis and that this information can only be released upon your specific direction. I have informed these individuals that their communications are being referred to you for your consideration and any action you may deem appropriate.

Attachment

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SENT FROM D. O.

TIME 2:30 PM

DATE 9-16-47

BY [Signature]

HOB:mae

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DATE 11/2/80 BY SP-5

Rock [Signature]

63 SEP 18 1947 R-141

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-8890

Official Organ: The Crisis



September
10,
1947

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

In Mr. White's absence from the office we have been receiving considerable correspondence with reference to the so-called Robeson incident in Peoria, Illinois, last April.

Among the items received by us is a copy of a letter to you under date of September 6, 1947 from Mr. S. G. Hazelwood, 908 Third Avenue, Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Hazelwood was and is the vice-president of the Peoria chapter of NAACP.

We write to support Mr. Hazelwood's request that the FBI investigate his connection with this affair and go fully into the material he has submitted in refutation of the accusation that he is a communist or is active in supporting a communist ideology. We believe Mr. Hazelwood to be a valuable and active citizen of Peoria whose record in civic affairs is above reproach and we are especially interested in the misguided (or deliberate) attempt to use Mr. Hazelwood's connection with the NAACP to imply in some manner that this Association is engaged in spreading communistic ideology.

If it is possible for you to do so under

RECORDED

INDEXED

100-12304-85

SEP 17 1947

EX-42

318

-2-


Peoria, Illinois

b7c
September 10, 1947

the general practice of the FBI, we should like to be advised of the action taken in this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

Roy Wilkins

Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary

RW:es

2

319

September 15, 1947

Mr. C. A. Hazelwood
908 Third Avenue
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Mr. Hazelwood:

This will acknowledge your letter dated September 12, 1947, together with its enclosures.

With regard to your request for information contained in this Bureau's files, I wish to advise that this Bureau is precluded by virtue of a rigid policy from disseminating information contained in its official files except to those official agencies authorized to receive such by the Attorney General. I regret, therefore, that I cannot be of further assistance to you. I am sure you will fully appreciate the necessity for such a policy.

I have, therefore, taken the liberty of referring your communication together with its enclosures to the Attorney General for his consideration and whatever action he may deem appropriate.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAILED 3

SEP 17 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HOH:mee

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51 SEP 24 1947

100-12304-86

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DATE 11/24/80 BY SP5 RSC/

320

September 15, 1947

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

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DATE 11/2/80 BY SP5 RSG/CM

Robeson, Paul

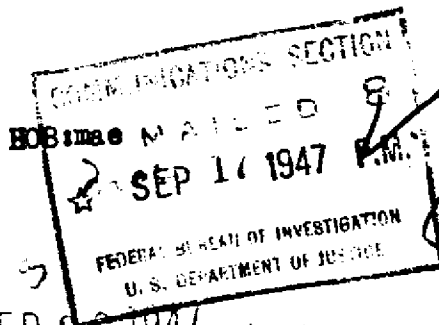
Dear Mr. Wilkins:

This will acknowledge your letter of September 10, 1947, wherein you referred to a letter dated September 6, 1947, which was addressed to this Bureau by Mr. C. A. Hazelwood, Peoria, Illinois.

In view of the nature of the allegations set out in Mr. Hazelwood's letter, I have taken the liberty of referring his communication together with yours to the Attorney General for his consideration and any further action he may deem appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy



John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED 100-12304-87

EX-67

5 SEP 30 1947

276

321

DIRECTOR, FBI

September 12, 1947

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Re New York teletype September 2, 1947, concerning appearance of
PAUL ROBESON in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

ROBESON's only public appearance in the San Francisco area was at the Oakland Auditorium Theater, September 7, at 3 PM. According to the Daily People's World, this appearance was for the benefit of the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the subject organization. ROBESON's appearance in the Bay area drew the usual publicity from the Daily People's World and some publicity from the San Francisco Chronicle and the San Francisco News, the latter two being legitimate daily newspapers. ROBESON is quoted in the Chronicle for September 9, 1947, as follows: "Spain today should be a danger signal to Americans that Fascist philosophy still exists."..."But there are many forces in the United States that feel Franco is not so bad."

The San Francisco News published ROBESON's picture along with that of ANTON REFREGIER, mural painter presently working at the Rincon Post Office in San Francisco. REFREGIER has been associated with Communist activities during his stay in San Francisco. The News quoted ROBESON as follows:

"Mr. HOOVER (former President HERBERT HOOVER) likes Franco but I don't."

At ROBESON's appearance at the Rincon Post Office, he was accompanied by representatives of the Spanish Refugee Appeal who sought publicity for refugees from the Spanish Government. ROBESON was further quoted:

"You should see those people. I've seen them. They haven't a chance to get on their feet economically speaking—well, some of them have, but you take MILTON WOLF, for example. He wasn't a Spaniard. He's an American, but he fought in Spain and Franco nearly beat his head in. He's back in New York now, but do you think he can get a job? And he can do almost everything. You just fight in Spain and then try and get a job over here. MILTON can't do it, and he's a newspaperman."

"And in the Latin-American countries and Mexico the refugees can't do anything. You can't imagine the pressure that can be brought, say, in Panama, not in the Canal Zone, but in the Republic of Panama—by the American Government. It is because of the American Government that the refugees can't get anywhere in Latin America."

"The American Government is supporting Franco. If they weren't, all those refugees could go home. And what

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RECORDED

100-12304-8

EX-65

Director, from SAC, San Francisco

September 12, 1947

RE: JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

"do you think HOOVER's doing in Germany? He's looking for the remnants of I. G. Farben. He likes Farben. Mr. HOOVER likes Franco too, but I don't, and as long as we have this dangerous policy of supporting the remains of Fascism, people like me have to do something about it. If we didn't, I might be getting my head beaten in some day."

Informants also advised that the Spanish Refugee Appeal had a dinner at the California Theater Club, 1650 Post Street, San Francisco, honoring ROBESON.

No information has been received from informants or public sources indicating JAMES LUSTIG accompanied ROBESON to San Francisco.

WBR/jo
100-10486

cc New York

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 FROM : T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General
 SUBJECT:

DATE: October 7, 1947
 TVQ:JBH:dtj
 146-1-25-0

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Reference is made to your unentitled memorandum to the Attorney General, dated September 15, 1947, forwarding photostatic copies of correspondence received from Mr. C. A. Hazelwood of Peoria, Illinois, and Mr. Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

I am enclosing herewith copies of my replies to these correspondents.

PAUL ROBERTSON

Enclosure
 No. 279485

le 1-17

le
ENCLOSURE
(1)

55 OCT 15 1947

RECORDED
 &
 INDEXED

100-12304-8
 19 OCT 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSG/clm

AWARD
CONF

TVQ:JEB:dtj

146-1-25-0

C
O
P
Y

October 7, 1947

Mr. Clifford A. Hazelwood
908 - 3rd Avenue
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Mr. Hazelwood:

The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has referred your letters of September 6 and 12, 1947, addressed to him, to me for reply.

With respect to your request for an investigation of yourself and of the charges made against you in connection with the proposed concert appearance of Mr. Paul Robeson at Peoria on April 18, 1947, neither the Federal Bureau of Investigation nor the Department is empowered to initiate investigations in the absence of some indication that a violation of federal law is involved. A careful examination of both of your letters fails to disclose facts which would constitute such an offense and, in the circumstances, I regret it is not possible to comply with your request.

You also seek information concerning Mr. Robeson's organizational affiliations. The Department's files, of course, are confidential and restricted to the servicing of government departments and agencies alone for official use. They cannot be made available to the public nor can any statement be made purporting to be predicated upon their contents. In this regard as well, therefore, I regret that I am unable to be of assistance to you.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/60 BY SP5 RSG/CLM

T. VINCENT QUINN
Assistant Attorney General

325

C O P Y

TVQ:JBH:dtj

146-1-25-0

October 7, 1947

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has referred your letter of September 10, 1947, concerning Mr. C. A. Hazelwood of Peoria, Illinois, to my attention and has likewise forwarded copies of correspondence on the same subject addressed to him directly by Mr. Hazelwood.

Inasmuch as my reply to Mr. Hazelwood is also responsive to your own communication, I thought you would like to receive a copy, which is enclosed. I regret that, in the absence of any showing of a violation of federal law, neither the Bureau nor the Department is empowered to initiate an investigation of the character requested.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

T. VINCENT QUINN
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure
No. 279483

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJG/cl

326

SAC, Honolulu

October 8, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Bulet 4-24-47 and the Bulet 5-6-47 in the case entitled "Communist Party, USA, 13th District, Honolulu Field Division, Internal Security - C." You are requested to advise the Bureau if the subject actually arrived in Honolulu, and if so, the information which you secured from your informant concerning his activities while there.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
OCT 8 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OCT 21 1947

RECORDED

EX-78

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSG/um

327

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Honolulu

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON, with aliases.
Internal Security - C.

DATE: October 18, 1947

Rebulet 10/8/47.

This is to advise that ROBESON did not visit the Territory of Hawaii as he was reported to have been considering, as indicated by Honolulu letter dated 4/24/47.

WFD:PB
97-10

RECORDED

100-12304-91
F B I

EX-46

37 OCT 21 1947

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5

RSG/cum

OCT 28 1947 286

328

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. [unclear]	_____

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CLASS. FR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ TELETYPE

DATE 8/2/81

WASH FROM NEW YORK 24 13 8-50 P

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

CONF. INFT.

PAUL ROBESON, ISC. [REDACTED]

ADVISES THAT SVEN [REDACTED] b1

CHAIRMAN OF GOTHENBURG SECTION OF SWEDISH CLARTE ORGANIZATION
LOCATED AT KLIPPGATAN TWENTYFOUR GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN IN LETTER TO DAILY
WORKER DATED SEPT. EIGHT ENCLOSED LETTER TO BE FORWARDED TO PAUL
ROBESON. LETTER TO DAILY WORKER SET OUT THAT IN VIEW OF SUBJECTS CON-
TEMPLATED TRIP TO OSLO AND COPENHAGEN, DANVIK WAS EXTENDING TO HIM
INVITATION TO ADDRESS STUDENTS AT GOTHENBURG.

END

PLS HOLD

NY R 24 WA

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RUC/clm/1-21-80
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4
DATE OF REVIEW 11-21-90

RECORDED SCHEIDT 100-12304-92
F B I
OCT 30 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/2/80 BY SP-5 RUC/clm

329

October 25, 1947

SAC, Washington

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

RECORDED

100-12304-92

Information has been brought to the Bureau's attention that the subject contemplates making a trip to Oslo, Norway, and Copenhagen, Denmark, in the near future. In view of this you are requested to contact the State Department and ascertain if the subject has made any arrangements to secure a passport.

For your information the subject was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on April 9, 1898, the son of William R. Drew and Anna Louisa Bustil. He is married to Eslanda Cardoza Goode. His address is given as 10 East 40th Street, New York, N.Y., c/o Robert Rockmore.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

11/21/80

SP/5 RSC/kum

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
OCT 25 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
52 NOV 13 1947, OS

RECEIVED READING ROOM
OCT 25 3 40 PM '47

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC Washington Field

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON, was.;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: November 25, 1947

Reference is made to Bureau letter to Washington Field Office, dated October 25, 1947, instructing this office to contact the State Department to ascertain if any information is available concerning a contemplated trip of ROBESON to Norway and Denmark.

With regard to the above, Confidential Informant [redacted] produced files which reflect that PAUL ROBESON, born in Princeton, New Jersey on April 9, 1898, resides at 22 East 89th Street, New York City, c/o McGEE, and is a concert artist and actor by occupation. b1

ROBESON was last issued passport #58303 on May 8, 1947 to cover a one-month's concert trip to Panama, Cuba and Mexico. He intended to depart from Miami, Florida by air on May 24, 1947. In his passport application, ROBESON stated that he had resided in England from 1928 until 1939. The file also reveals that ROBESON availed himself of American passport #199094 on June 28, 1922 for travel in England to fulfill a theatrical engagement.

A subsequent passport was issued to ROBESON on October 10, 1927 for the same purpose, in France, Italy, Spain and Germany. Passport #1287 was issued on April 25, 1934 at the American Consulate in London, England. This passport was renewed in 1936 for the extended period to April 25, 1938.

ROBESON registered at the American Consulate in London, England on December 10, 1937, stating in his application for registration that he visited England, the Continent of Europe and the U.S.S.R. since 1928, pursuing his occupation as a concert artist. He also stated that he married ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON on August 17, 1921. His wife was born in Washington, D.C. on December 15, 1896 and they have a boy named PAUL ROBESON, JR., who was born in Brooklyn, New York on November 2, 1927. He stated that this son resides in Moscow, Russia.

Special service passport #1354 was issued ROBESON on July 28, 1945 for travel to entertain the Armed Forces. This was validated until July 31, 1946 for travel within European Theatre of Operations.

Inasmuch as the aforementioned passport, #58303, issued on

COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-59

JMG:hjr
100-19021~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INDEXED

100-12304-93

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DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/9011/21/80
SP-5 RSG/cum

5331

Letter to Director

November 25, 1947

May 8, 1947, is restricted to the Western Hemisphere, it will be necessary for ROBESON to have this passport revalidated before he can travel to Europe. The passport is good until May 8, 1949 and, were it not for the fact that it is restricted to the Western Hemisphere, he might utilize it for travel to any point in the world by merely obtaining a visa from the official representative of any particular country he wishes to visit.

The Department of State is being requested by separate letter to place a flash against the name of PAUL ROBESON for the purpose of advising the Washington Field Office in the event ROBESON attempts to revalidate his passport for travel in Europe.

In the event information is received to this effect from the State Department, the Bureau and New York Office will be immediately notified.

cc - New York

JMG:hjr
100-19021

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 11 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 2 11 403 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CLASS. PR

DATE 8/3/81

b1 PAUL ROBESON, ISC. REURTEL JAN TEN, FORTYEIGHT. [REDACTED]

b7c ADVISES THAT [REDACTED] PLAN TO LEAVE VIA DELAWARE AND HUD-
SON DAY COACH ON MORNING OF JANUARY TWELVE. [REDACTED] WILL STAY AT HOME
OF [REDACTED] IN MONTREAL. BUREAU HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY ADVISED THAT
RESERVATIONS WERE ORIGINALLY MADE FOR [REDACTED] AND ROBESON AT HOTEL
WINDSOR, MONTREAL. THERE IS NO INFO PRESENTLY AVAILABLE CONCERNING
ITINERARY OF SUBJECT ROBESON BUT BUREAU WILL BE IMMEDIATELY ADVISED
SHOULD SUCH INFO BE OBTAINED. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT ROBESON
IS SCHEDULED TO PLAY IN AKRON, OHIO IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

END

NY R2 WA

SCHEIDT

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

RECORDED

EX-28

100-12304-94

F B I

34 JAN 14 1948

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/DM
REASON-FGIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/2/90

52 FEB 3 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

333

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 11 1948

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH 3 FROM NEW YORK 11

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

7 55 PM REB

DIRECTOR URGENT

DATE

8/3/51

PAUL ROBESON, IS-C. REMYTEL THIS DATE.

ADVISED

TODAY THAT [REDACTED] INTENDS TO LEAVE NINE ONE FIVE A M VIA DAY COACH
JANUARY TWELVE. TRAIN ARRIVES MONTREAL SEVEN ONE FIVE P M.

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OTHERWISE

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

SCHEIDT

EX-28

111 21/80

RECORDED

100-12304-95
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1948

1-2.4.2

JAN 14 1948

DATE OF REVIEW

11/21/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

END

NY R 3 WA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JANUARY 12, 1948

Transmit the following message to:

EX-22

100-12304-95

CABLEGRAM — URGENT — CIPHER PAD CODE

INTERNAL SECURITY - R. REURTEL JANUARY TEN LAST. INFORMANTS ADVISE [REDACTED] WILL LEAVE NEW YORK NINE FIFTEEN A.M., EST, JANUARY TWELVE VIA DELAWARE AND HUDSON DAY COACH. TRAIN ARRIVES MONTREAL SEVEN FIFTEEN P.M. JANUARY TWELVE. [REDACTED] MAY STAY AT HOME OF [REDACTED] MONTREAL. INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED THAT [REDACTED] AND ROBESON HAD RESERVATIONS HOTEL WINDSOR, MONTREAL. NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON ITINERARY OF ROBESON BUT ROBESON IS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN AKRON, OHIO, IN NEAR FUTURE.

cc - Foreign Liaison Desk

LJH:am

Enc. 1555-1637

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/KLM
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/14/10

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

52 FEB 3 1948

SENT VIA

Cable 1-12-48

Per

JAN 12 9 56 AM '48
RECEIVED READING ROOM

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336

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

31550

JAN 14 1948

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 18 14 4-59 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

PAUL ROBESON, WAS, ISC. REBUTEL TO NY, JAN TEN, FORTYEIGHT. [REDACTED] 61

[REDACTED] ADVISES SUBJ LEFT NY FOR MONTREAL EVENING OF JAN THIRTEEN FORTYEIGHT. ITINERARY NOT KNOWN.

SCHEIDT

RECORDED

100-12304-97

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JAN 21 1948

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RSK/MLW
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

337

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JANUARY 16, 1948

31548-17

Transmit the following message to:

100-12304-97

PAUL ROBESON, WAS, IS-C. REMYTEL DATED JANUARY TWELVE, FORTY-EIGHT, ENTITLED
INTERNAL SECURITY - R. FOR YOUR INFORMATION PAUL ROBESON LEFT
NEW YORK FOR MONTREAL ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY THIRTEEN, FORTY-EIGHT. HIS
ITINERARY AFTER ARRIVAL IN MONTREAL IS UNKNOWN.

EM:IGS

JH

479

RECEIVED
JAN 16 1948
5 45 PM
RECEIVED

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/CTM
REASON: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW: 11/21/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

EAG

22 gpc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

60
JAN 16 5 49 PM '48
JAN 17 1-17-48

RECEIVED
JAN 17 1948
9 26 AM
RECEIVED

Per

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For your information: _____



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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.



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Above

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For your information: _____



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341

SAC, New York

31551

February 13, 1948

Director, FBI

100-12304-99
PAUL ROBESON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED

EX-93

Enclosure

JEM:his

11/21/80
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/CLM
REASON FOR II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/95

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) ON
DATE 2/3/51

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ FEB 14 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2 MAR 2 1948

256

341

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

31535

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

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FROM HONOLULU
 DIRECTOR
 URGENT

3-3-48

NR 032020

4:39 PM EST

PAUL ROBESON, WITH ALIASES, INTERNAL SECURITY - C. RE
 HONOLULU LETTER APRIL 24, 1947 ENTITLED COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
 13TH DISTRICT, HONOLULU DIVISION, INTERNAL SECURITY - C
 (HONOLULU FILE 97-10) AND BUREAU LETTER SAME CAPTION DATED:
 MAY 6, 1947. - APPARENTLY RELIABLE INFORMATION REFLECTS
 ROBESON TO ARRIVE HONOLULU MARCH 10, 1948 FOR SINGING AND
 LECTURE TOUR UNDER ILWU SPONSORSHIP. UNLESS ADVISED TO
 CONTRARY COVERAGE WILL BE AS OUTLINED IN BUREAU LETTER OF
 MAY 6, 1947.

RECEIVED:

3-3-48

5:09 PM EST

MET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/21/60 BY SP5 RSG/CLM

RECORDED

EX-58

100-12304-100

35 MAR 5 1948

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
 outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
 order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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