

black and white people in the South.

Sincerely

[Redacted]

general delivery

b7c

[Redacted]

RECEIVED
JUL 27 11 35 AM '64
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

...ing is
William Hampton,
Counerville, Ill.

"Black Boy" Not Picture Of Negro

It seems that I've lived in America a million years; it's only a life time. It seems that I've dwelled in the slums as long; that, too, is but a life time. It seems that I've known intimately, a zillion black boys and girls; there have only been those that I have met in the actual extent of my age, over thirty years. — In all my experience as a black American, I've never known a black child like the portrait Richard Wright paints in his recent book, "Black Boy." "Black Boy," like "Native Son," is a problem novel. Its purpose is to uncover the deplorable conditions under which our children exist, thereby stimulating corrective measures. The objective is fine. I hope it works, but "Black Boy" does not represent the average life of the Negro child in America.

On nearly every corner on our neighborhood there was a tavern. As a child I remember "drunks" staggering and heard their vile language. I never saw a single Negro at the place or had developed

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condemns a white man for spreading race hatred a
100-157464-22

NEGROES JOIN PICKET

Hawkins, Rev. Russell Called 'UnAmerican'; Huey Long Praised

Colored men and women formed part of a tense picket line outside of Philharmonic auditorium Monday night, demonstrating against the use of the hall by Gerald L. K. Smith, leader of the America First movement.

Despite the picket line, however, and despite numerous protests to the management from prominent individuals and organizations, Smith was permitted to speak and to make unsubstantial, fascist charges before an audience of 3,000.

ROOSEVELT DENOUNCED

The America Firsters declared that Rev. Clayton D. Russell, pastor of the Peoples Independent Church of Christ, is guilty of un-American activities. The same charge was leveled against August F. Hawkins, Los Angeles Assemblyman, co-author of the California Fair Employment Practices Committee, and against Herbert Sorrell, actor.

The late President Roosevelt, Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace, Charles Chaplin and Langston Hughes were among those also denounced by Smith.

Roosevelt was accused of wanting to be president of the world. Wallace was asked why he didn't run for vice-president under Joe Stalin, and Charles Chaplin was cited as the heaviest contributor to the Communist party in 1922.

DEPORT CHAPLIN

Smith recommended that Chaplin be deported, and this suggestion was greeted with loud applause by the audience.

—Langston Hughes, well-known poet, was declared to be the type of person who should not be allowed to appear on a college campus.

Smith, in speaking of his past, openly boasted of his association

(Continued on Page Two)

NAACP Seeks Free P

Urgent requests were especially appointed to the Citizens' Emergency meeting Monday night, fraternal and civic send telegrams to Secretary Stimson; Truman Gibbs to the secretary members of the California and senate demanding immediate release of Lieuts. Shirley Clinton and Thompson, now under arrest at Goodman Field Ky.

The officers were their refusal to part in crew move to officers from the club. Thompson and are Los Angeles boys known throughout U

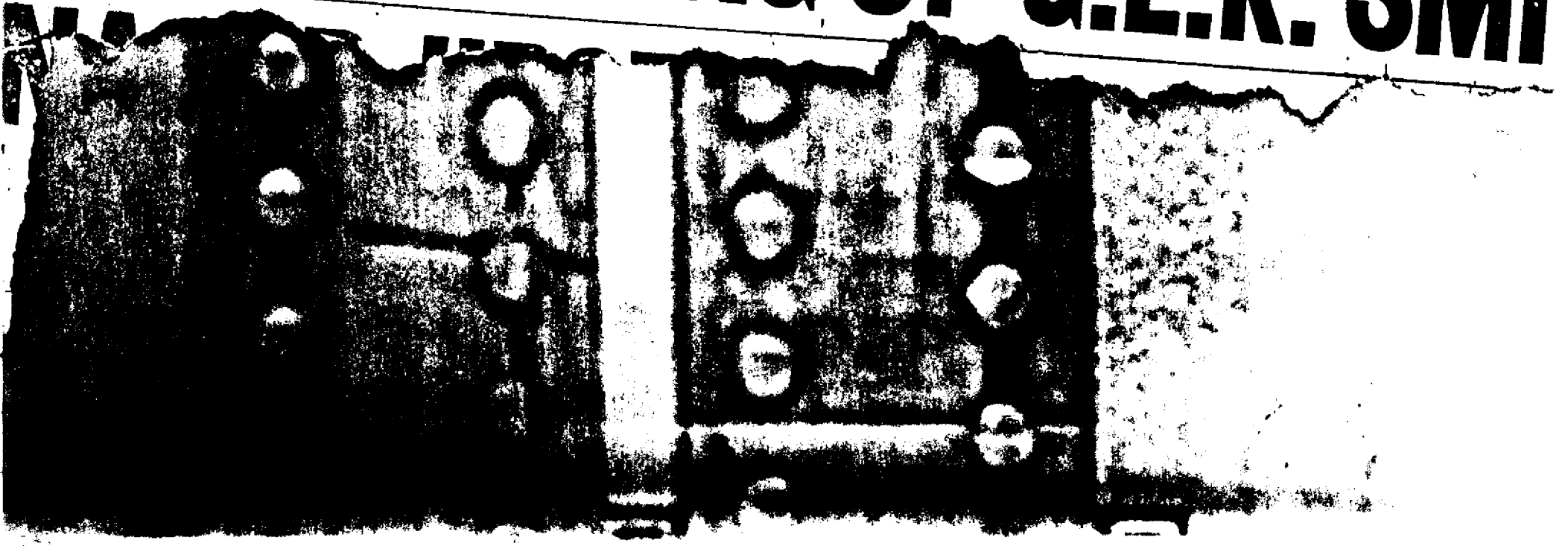
Atty. Thomas L. G. SENTINEL that the the War Department Col. Selway, the trouble affair, appeared to be that the War Department conscious of the serious situation.

Grandier Not



*spreading race hatred and allow a negro to do it. this white man is wrong and so is
Richard Wright*

JOIN PICKETING OF G.L.K. SMI

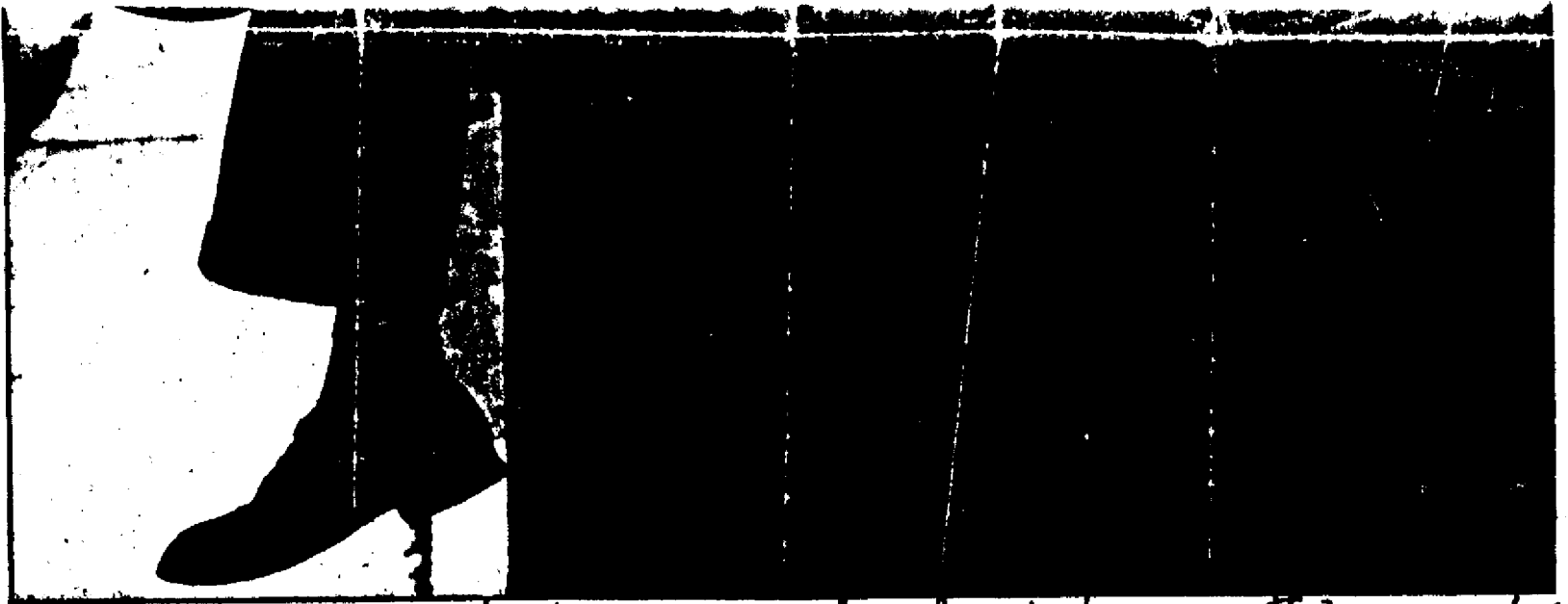


Black Boy CONTINUED





At the age of 6, Richard Wright became a drunkard.



Please have a nut doctor examine his head because this man is crazy

Black Boy Nazi

A Negro writes a bitter autobiography

this story is a lie this man is a trouble maker.
Photographs for LIFE by GEORGE KARGER

Black Boy is the autobiography of the youth of a 37-year-old Negro named Richard Wright who, in 1940, wrote *Native Son*. That novel, which placed Wright among America's most gifted writers, was a bitter, fictional account of a Negro's revolt against the life imposed on a Negro in the North. *Black Boy* (Harper, \$2.50) is a bitter, true story of a Negro boy's struggles against the life imposed on his race in the South.

Richard Wright was born on a Mississippi plantation and reared by a fanatically religious grandmother. Some of the

things that happened to him could have happened to many boys brought up in dire poverty anywhere. But Richard was more sensitive and articulate than most. He was also black and brought up in the South. This is what makes *Black Boy* not only a brilliant autobiography but a powerful indictment of a caste system which is one of America's biggest problems.

On the following pages LIFE presents a picture-dramatization of Richard Wright's *Black Boy*. None of the actors in LIFE's story has any connection with incidents in the book.

If you people dont want hell to start popping you had better stop this niggers lying tong. the south have its faults it need to be changed but this trash can not change it.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

100-15244-29



RECORDED
EX-40

EOD
100-157164-22

Mr. James M. McInerney
Acting Head, Criminal Division
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

July 20, 1945

RICHARD WRIGHT

Attached for your information is a copy of a letter dated July 4, 1945, together with photostatic copies of enclosures, received from [redacted] care of General Delivery, Los Angeles, California. This letter has been acknowledged.

Enclosures

D7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-25-81 BY SP8 BT/ka

JUL 20 4 48 PM '45
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F. B. I.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

SEARCHED
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JUL 21 1945
FBI
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
★ JUL 21 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



AUG 7

b7c

[REDACTED]
c/o General Delivery
Los Angeles, California

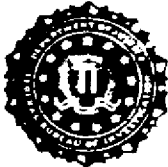
UNCLAIMED



RETURN
TO WRITER
UNCLAIMED



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

July 20, 1945

[REDACTED]
c/o General Delivery
Los Angeles, California

b7c

HWC.

*Returned unclaimed
[Signature]*

*Trace list
submitted on
[unclear]*

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated July 4, 1945 with enclosures.

The material which you have submitted has been carefully noted, and I want to thank you for your interest and courtesy in writing to this Bureau.

In the event you receive additional information which you believe to be of interest to the FBI, I want you to feel free to communicate with the Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, 900 Security Building, Los Angeles 13, California.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BT/uf



58 AUG 20 1945

100-157464-22

File-5-RE

RECORDED EOD
100-157464-22

EX-40

July 20, 1945

D76

[Redacted]
c/o General Delivery
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated July 4, 1945, with enclosures.

The material which you have submitted has been carefully noted, and I want to thank you for your interest and courtesy in writing to this Bureau.

In the event you receive additional information which you believe to be of interest to the FBI, I want you to feel free to communicate with the Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, 900 Security Building, Los Angeles 13, California.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY SPK/BY/bm

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
★ JUL 22 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

W.C.
Setz
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUL 20 4 45 PM '45

- 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

2/13
50 JUL 28 1945

100-157464
mer

674

Mr. James M. McInerney
Acting Head, Criminal Division

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

July 6, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RICHARD WRIGHT

Attached for your information is a copy of a letter dated
June 18, 1945, received from [REDACTED]
Los Angeles, California.

This matter is being referred to you as a matter of
possible interest.

b7c

CC: Assistant Attorney General Herbert Wechsler, War Division

Enclosure

100-157464-23

RECORDED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 11 1945

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- 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

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 BTJ/bca
ON 8-25-81

Handwritten signature/initials

b7c

Handwritten notes and numbers
934

DALLAS, TEXAS

4436 Hall Street,
September 27, 1945

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-25-81 BY SP-01/ha

Dear Sir:

I have looked over the book "Black Boy", supposedly written by a negro called Richard Wright, and published by Harper & Brothers, New York City, and I consider this book to be very racially inflammatory.

The publicity given to this book during the last few months is scarcely less than amazing. A while back (I do not know the exact issue, but believe was during June, July or early August) the book "Black Boy" was publicized, with vivid picturization, in "Life" Magazine; and in September 29th issue of "Liberty" Magazine, there was a condensation of the book--with special mention on the front cover of the magazine.

By strange irony, this issue of "Liberty" which contained the condensation of the racially inflammatory book "Black Boy"---displayed on the front cover of the magazine the picture of a returning United States soldier greeting, with salute, the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor.

Granting that the negro called Richard Wright actually wrote the book, it is my opinion that all the publicity given to the book is being financed--either by some person or organization--for propaganda purposes: to fan the flame of dissension and seditious discontent. How Hitler (if he is yet alive) must laugh, and laugh...

100-157464-24

I would like to believe that my surmise is incorrect; but the evidence, concerning all the publicity given to this book, uncapably refutes any such wishful thinking. I might also add that the book has been advertised in local newspapers and--I presume--in newspapers of other cities all over the United States. I am remembering that the plan of evil dictators and their indoctrinated brood is--still--to "divide and then conquer."

An offering this suspicion, in case you should deem it advisable to investigate the book and the financing of its extensive publicity--(and the end does not appear in sight).

All loyal Americans, I feel sure, are grateful for all the splendid work done by the F.B.I. in detecting and eradicating crime. With best wishes for the continuation of your most valuable activities, I am

Handwritten notes and redactions in the bottom left corner, including a date "10-4-45" and a signature.

RECORDED
& INDEXED
EX-68

Sincerely,

Redacted signature area with handwritten initials "File-5-WL" and "b7c" nearby.

b7c

100-157464-24

35585

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Gaudle
Criminal Division

October 4, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RICHARD WRIGHT

b7c

RECORDED

EX - 58

Attached for your information is a copy of a letter dated September 21, 1945, received from [redacted] Dallas, Texas.

This letter is being referred to you as a matter of possible interest.

Enclosure

cc-Assistant Attorney General Herbert Wechsler
War Division

AP

- 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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-88 BY SP175/ht/t/j

Pl
D. J. [signature]

56007 3/9 10/13/57



ap.

100-15716H-24

October 4, 1945

01687

RECORDED

EX - 68

[Redacted]

Dallas, Texas

[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-25-81 BY SP1 BTJ/ha

b7c

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated
September 27, 1945.

The content of your letter has been carefully noted, and I
want you to know that your interest and courtesy in writing to this
Bureau are very much appreciated. Also I want to thank you for the
complimentary remarks concerning the work of this Bureau.

In the event you receive additional information which you
believe to be of interest to the FBI, I want you to feel free to
communicate with me or the Special Agent in Charge of our Dallas
Field Division located at 1318 Mercantile Bank Building, Dallas, Texas.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Handwritten initials and signature.

- 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. Harbo
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Handwritten notes and stamps, including "OCT 10 1945".

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

270

*for
1022
J*

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 18, 1946

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT;
SECURITY MATTER - C

b7c

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] New York, June 18, 1946, wherein it was set forth that the subject is presently in France where he intends to remain until September, 1946.

In view of this fact, instant case is being reopened and placed in a pending inactive status in order that the subject's residence and activities may be checked upon his return to the United States.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BTJ/bca

100-157464-25
F B I
30 JUN 20 1946

VHG
100-41674
JUN 28 1946

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del

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

Form No. 1
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK** NY FILE NO. **100-41674** VH

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 6/18/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/5, 12, 24/46	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject, negro, resides 82 Washington Place, NYC. Free lance writer, presently working on novel. Left U.S. for France, May 1946, with return set for Sept. 1946. Reason for trip unknown. Borep't 9/4/08, Natchez, Miss. Broke with CP due to failure to recognize and deal with problems in society.

Handwritten: Best of date noted on 51 card 7-1-46
 [Signature]
 [Initials]

AGENCY REC'D 11/18
 REQ. REC'D 8 7-1-46
 REP'T FORM 8-21-46
 BY [REDACTED]
 AGENCY REC'D 8-2-46
 REQ. REC'D 7-6-45
 REP'T FORM 7-2-45
 BY [REDACTED]

REFERENCE: Bureau File 100-157464
 Letters to Bureau, 2/26/45 and 4/17/45
 Bureau letter to SACs, #28, 1946 Series, 3/12/46
 Bureau letter, 5/7/45

DETAILS: The records of Selective Service Board #178, 44 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York, reflected that as of March 21, 1946, the subject's address was apartment 3F, 82 Washington Place, New York City, where he resided with his wife. This file also contained a letter dated April 14, 1946, wherein WRIGHT advised he planned to leave the United States on May 1, 1946, for a period of three months in France. The reason for this trip was not given in his letter.

A pretext telephone call was made [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] it was ascertained that the last book the subject wrote was "Black Boy". At the present time he is writing a novel, but the completion date was unknown. It was learned that the subject had left the United States for France around May 1, 1946, and it was believed he would return to this country in September of this year. The reason for the subject's trip was not

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 New York [Handwritten: CCPR, 11-18-46, COPY IN FILE]		100-157464-26 30 JUN 21 1946 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8-25-81 BY [Signature]

NY 100-41674

b7c

mentioned [REDACTED]

As previously reported, the records of Selective Service Board #178, reflected that the subject is negro, and was born September 4, 1908, at Natchez, Mississippi.

A review of the file of the subject reflected that he is a negro writer, who previously wrote for "New Masses" and "Daily Worker". In addition, he had published five novels concerning the fight of the colored people, besides writing skits and stories in a similar vein. He wrote two articles for "Atlantic Monthly" for August and September, 1944, entitled "I Tried To Be A Communist". The theme of these articles appeared to be that he broke with the Party because they were unable to recognize him as a friend. The articles did not seem to attack the Communist Party as revolutionary, but attacked it because of the failure of individuals in the Party to properly recognize and deal with problems in society.

The indices of the New York Field Division reflected no further information concerning the subject.

- PENDING -

NY 100-41674

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York City, N. Y.

Will verify subject's residence and ascertain his activities upon his return to the United States from France, presumably in September, 1946. If possible, secure the subject's reason for his trip to France.

W
SAC, New York

Director, FBI

September 5, 1946

RICHARD W. WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

Your office is instructed to follow the activities of the instant subject in the Communist field closely upon his return from France. Continuing investigation, every effort should be made to obtain admissible evidence tending to prove the subject's membership in, or affiliation with, the Communist Party. In the event you are unable to develop such evidence, further consideration should be given the advisability of cancelling the Security Index Card on this individual.

100-157464

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BTJ/bee

[Handwritten signature]

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Carson
- Coffey
- Harbo
- Hendon
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Gandy

MAILED 9
SEP 5 1946 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

100-1-1464-29

51 SEP 6 1946

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 19, 1947

FROM : *ES*
98 SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C
Bureau file 100-157464

b7c

1/21

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated September 5, 1946 and to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 18, 1946 at New York in the above entitled case.

RICHARD WRIGHT left the United States for France in May 1946 and at the present time, it is not known when he intends to return to this country. In the February 1, 1947 edition of "THE NEW LEADER", an anti-Communist publication of the Social Democrats, appears an article entitled, "AN INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD WRIGHT". This is a translation of an article under the same title that appeared recently in "DIE WELTWACHE", a weekly journal published in Zurich, Switzerland. WRIGHT was interviewed at Zurich concerning Negro problems and expressed his resentment of racial discrimination in the United States.

Inasmuch as no information has been developed indicating Communist activity on the part of WRIGHT since he severed connections with the Communist Party and further in view of the fact that he may not return to the United States for some time, this case is being closed unless the Bureau otherwise directs.

In view of the subject's past activities, it is believed that the security index card in this case should not be cancelled.

YD
100-41674

b7c

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-157464-28
31 FEB 21 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY [signature]

p441

4 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 19, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT;
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file 100-157464)

Cancel
b2
b7D

A review of instant file reflects that since subject's severance of his connections with the Communist Party, and his public criticism of its policies during 1944, he has not engaged in any Communist activities; that, in fact, according to information submitted by [redacted] subject was definitely not of a Marxist frame of mind as indicated by certain critical comments he made concerning conditions within the Party.

In view of the foregoing circumstances Bureau authority is requested at this time for the cancellation of the security index card maintained on subject by the New York Office.

Cancelled
1-31-48
lml

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BT/ace

mbm
100-41674

RECORDED 11-15-48 21
INDEXED 22 **FBI**
JAN 21 1948
EX-119
[Signature]

SAC,
Director, FBI
New York

February 3, 1948

**RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT;
SECURITY MATTER - C
Your File 100-41674**

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.

RECORDED

100-157464 - 29

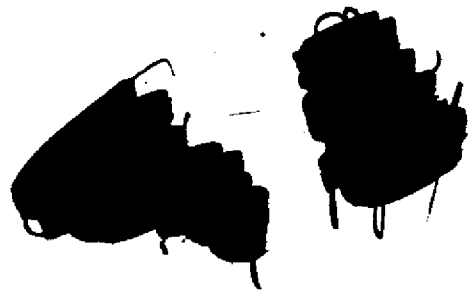
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY SP1 BJA/bce **67C**

- 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 _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
★ FEB 3 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

54
71 FEB 5 - 1948



IF STATE
INFORMATION

DATE
6-18-80

The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM:

[Redacted] **DL**

NAME OF PERSON OR FIRM

WRIGHT, Richard

DATE OF BIRTH

9-4-08

PLACE OF BIRTH

Netherlands, Miss

ALIASES AND NICKNAMES

RACE

SEX

ADDRESS

OCCUPATION

EMPLOYER

TYPE OF INFORMATION DESIRED

- All information
- Derogatory

CITIZENSHIP STATUS

NAT. CERT. NO.

MARITAL STATUS

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS

REPLY

- Material attached
- No record
- No derogatory information
- Other

OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE

NAMES OF LEADERS OR SPONSORS OR AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ADMITTED BY REPORT

1-11-43 at NY
 5-28-43 at NY
 6-9-44 at NY
 7-8-44 at NY
 9-5-44 at NY
 6-18-46 at NY

100-157464 -

100-157464

DATE

CHECKED BY

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

10

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-157464-30

XXXXXX
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XXXXXX

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



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO. _____

Liaison Office
Heidelberg, Germany

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: January 8, 1952

~~SECRET~~ - ARMY COURIER

To: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: George A. VanNoy

Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT;

~~████████████████████~~
SECURITY MATTER - C

Attached for the Bureau's information and for the information of the Legal Attache, Paris, France are two copies of a report dated December 4, 1951, prepared by Region IX, 66th CIC Detachment which sets out information furnished by ~~████████████████████~~

b7D per Army

Encls.
cc - Paris (encl.)

CLASS. & EXT. BY... *SP8 BTJ/ble*
REASON - FCIM II, 1.2.4.2...
DATE OF REVIEW... *8-25-91*
8-25-81

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP... *class*
DATE *10-21-81*

RECORDED - 96

INDEXED - 96

SE 39

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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11-19-52

llw
100-157404-31

70m/ks

4 December 1951

Region IX, 66th CIC Detachment, APO SF US Army

File: IX-F-489

On the 29 November 1951, [redacted]

made in substance the following statement:

[redacted] is a member of the American Society of Composers and Publishers (ASCAP) and several other musical composer groups which [redacted] mentioned in the course of conversation. [redacted] stated that, at the time when he first planned his trip abroad, the groups had been very cooperative in aiding him and had promised an advance payment on royalties to tide over SOURCE until the next period of royalty payments. (SUBJECT stated that the arrangement is for the composers to put all collection of royalties into the hands of the musicians groups and then these groups pay monthly allotments to the composers; these allotments are dependent upon the payment of royalties for arrangements by the composers but a deposit is retained and a fund built up to assure payments over a period of years when the music composer is no longer popular.) Suddenly, on the day prior to the departure date of SOURCE, the promised check was received but was neither the amount promised nor requested by SOURCE. SOURCE stated that he tried to find out why there had been a sudden change in the attitude of the group; he was told that the music groups saw no reason why he should come over-seas, and there had been a hesitancy to allot money to him to be used for a trip at the time. SOURCE suspected that such was due to the fact that he had complained to the "White House" in a personal letter about some subversive activities of the groups to which he belonged. SOURCE stated that it had seemed to him that LOU NEVY, husband of one of the Andrew Sisters, had made a great effort to "push" some composers who were Russian and others who were very pro-Communist. SOURCE is of the opinion that funds paid to Russian composers as such was every good cover to transfer dollar credits to the Soviet government; he further said that he had written a letter to the White House calling attention to the preferential treatment given to these pro-Communist members of the composers. A lot more of the same tenor followed.

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per
Army

Then SOURCE stated that after reaching France he had used the American Express as a mailing address. Furthermore, he had asked one (1) of the French girls who worked at the American Express to give personal attention to his mail so that it would be forwarded to him on a planned trip to Rome. [redacted] arrived in France in June, went to England in August, and had been in Paris continuously since September. [redacted] stated that he had arranged to meet the girl and to make a financial arrangement with her on Monday, 26 November 1951; however, on Friday or Saturday, 23 or 24 Nov 51, Richard WRIGHT had held a

(continued)

4 - Nqs., EUCOM COM 2
2 - CIC Central Registry

1 - CIC Central File
1 - Region IX File

SECURITY INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIAL

100-15746-7

100-157464-3/enclosure

RESERVED UNCLASSIFIED
ON JAN 16 1988
BY CDL U 1330M CIPD
Auth Para 1-6.3 (a) 5200. 1-F

SOI dtd 4 Dec 51; Reg IX, 66th CIC Det;

SUBJ: [REDACTED]

meeting of a fellowship organization of American and French artists, writers, theatrical people, and others at the house of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] attended the meeting at the invitation of CLIFFORD and there saw the French woman employee of the American Express. She told SOURCE that the meeting was a communist front and that she did not belong but had only come out of deference to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] stated that he had observed the meeting and the tenor of the conversation which had been generally critical of the American policies, racial and foreign. SOURCE expressed the opinion that WRIGHT, who has publicly revealed Communist leanings, is as much a communist as he ever had been. [REDACTED] stated that the French girl came to him early on Monday morning, 26 Nov 51, and stated that it would be impossible for her to keep the planned appointment with SOURCE as "something" had come up. [REDACTED] stated that one of the persons at the meeting had probably told the girl to avoid him because of the fact that he is considered a "stool-pigeon" for anti-subversive persons. [REDACTED] did not know who this could have been but suspected that Richard WRIGHT would have been in an ideal position to do this as WRIGHT was a friend of PAUL ROBINSON and Mrs. ROBINSON and at one time Mrs. ROBINSON had asked [REDACTED] to help in getting a script sold at the Warner Brothers Studio. SOURCE had taken the script in and offered it to the Warner script department but had been told that "he should stick to writing music and let the Red element alone."

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Army

[REDACTED] stated that WRIGHT had made a picture in South America early this year and since has lost a lot of money promoting a dance group. WRIGHT had asked [REDACTED] to write more music for a new show which WRIGHT wanted to do in order to recoup his fortune. [REDACTED] was of the opinion that WRIGHT, who has kept his US citizenship and lives off book royalties from American sales, does not receive the whole-hearted cooperation of the French or Americans who are renouncing their US citizenship and working in France. SOURCE is of the opinion that the same persons who attempted to block his trip abroad have warned the subversive elements in Paris to watch SOURCE'S personal contacts and keep him from gathering any information which would reveal their activities. Among the discoveries which SOURCE made was that his music was being played in France and that the French agencies had been paying royalties to the American Society of Composers for twenty (20) years in his account. [REDACTED] explained that his trip to England was to spend the royalties which could not be taken from that country (in excess of twenty-eight (28) pounds sterling).

AGENTS NOTES:

7-6

[REDACTED]

(continued)

4 - Hqs., SACOM COM 2
1 - CIC Central Registry

1 - CIC Central File
1 - Region IX File

SECURITY INFORMATION
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ON JAN 16 1988
 BY [REDACTED]
 DECLASSIFIED
 CCB-DISAINFORMFOIPO

SOI dtd 4 Dec 51; Reg II, 66th CIC Det;

SUBJ: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] receives mail in care of the American Express Company, Paris as he had moved several times, largely because he has not paid his rent; he gave the explanation that checks were sent to him from the US on schedule but time periods exceeded amount of cash on hand so that SOURCE was forced to move often; Afterwards he would catch up on the bills when his checks arrived.

2. SOURCE seemed sincere and sounded much more coherent than the written report seems to indicate. SOURCE volunteered the information, explaining that he was seeking money or any remuneration but wanted to do his patriotic duty. One thing seemed strange — that was the anti-Semitic tone of his statements. SOURCE referred to Col. MCCORMICK as a "great American" and expressed approval of the editorial policies of that section of the American press. SOURCE seemed to be well versed in the attachment of various persons to Communist groups and promised that any proof of the statements or suspicions which he could obtain would be gladly given to Military Intelligence.

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Army

3. Department of Veterans Affairs, US Embassy, Paris, verified that there is a record of one [REDACTED] and record will be searched for information.

4. It is possible that SOURCE may have a "mental quirk" which would account for the attempt of the Society of Composers to keep him in America. Yet a word to the Passport section would have accomplished this. Intriguing matter and the information given reference 489 ties in with the original information.

4 - Hqs., EUCOM COM 2
2 - CIC Central Registry

1 - CIC Central File
1 - Region IX File

REGRADER UNCLASSIFIED
ON JAN 16 1988
BY CDR USN SCOM FOIPD
Auth Para 1-603 DoD 5200.1-R

SECURITY INFORMATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, New York (100-41674)

February 19, 1952

Director, FBI (100-157464) - 31
RECORDED-39
RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

Transmitted herewith is a copy of a letter dated January 8, 1952, with enclosures, from the Bureau's Liaison Office, Heidelberg, Germany.

b7c

[REDACTED]

This is for your information.

Enclosure

b7c

[REDACTED] ald

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8BJA/ku

FBI
RECEIVED - NEW YORK

FEB 16 5 35 PM '52

MAILED 4
FEB 19 1952
COMM - FBI

- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Miss Gandy _____

247

[REDACTED]
b7c



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

Liaison Office
Heidelberg, Germany

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: February 4, 1952

~~SECRET~~ - ARMY COURIER

To: Director, FBI

From: [REDACTED]

076

Subject: FRANCO-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP
INTERNAL SECURITY - C [REDACTED]

Attached for the bureau's information is one copy of a Region IX 66th CIC Detachment report dated January 3, 1952 regarding the above captioned group. Also attached is one copy of a report dated January 3, 1952, also prepared by Region IX, regarding RICHARD D. WRIGHT organizer of the captioned group. One copy of each of these reports is being furnished to the LEGAT, Paris, France with a copy of this letter. (U)

No further action is contemplated in this matter by CIC but any additional information which may be received will be forwarded.

cc - Paris (Encl-2) VIA AIR FORCE
Encl. -2

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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OTHERWISE

EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING
FEB 25 1952

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OR
DATE 10-2-87

100-114 by R/S
3-11-52

RECORDED - 159

MAR 13 1952

SE 47

INDEXED - 159

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY: [REDACTED]
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW: 8-25-91
1952

100-157464-

b7c

9 January 1952

Region II, 66th CIC Detachment, APO SF, US Army XI-7-511

FRANCO-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP

On 21 December 1951, the following information concerning SUBJECT was given:

The FRANCO-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP was organized almost entirely by Richard WRIGHT, American writer, 21 Boulevard Le Prince, PARIS, France, immediately after the war (in 44), and was supposed to be a sponsorship for young writers, artists and poets who were students in France. WRIGHT, whose works are widely read in France and have been translated into most European languages, was supposed to be the "patron of art" and arrange courses and affairs that were to be international in character to effect the interfunction of the Americans and their French counterparts. At the inception of the group, WRIGHT and the management of Chez Inez (Inez CANTON, 21 Boulevard Le Prince, PARIS, France) were very friendly and many of the youngsters, particularly the music crowd, came to Chez Inez. WRIGHT met many of the youngsters and invited them to the affairs that the FRANCO-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP sponsored, such as dances, recitals, readings, and occasional parties. Even at that time, several of the students made statements to the effect that the group was "leftist" in the nature of its discussions and that the program was defended the French and American concept of democracy were not given the same hearing as the "Trotskyists" and "left" partisans. Many of the social affairs were failures and later (especially in the last year) most of the American students, the "Thelma Crew" (identified as Americans who are teachers and RCA, Marshall Plan employees and military (MIA) members) have completely avoided the WRIGHT group as one that is more "left" than not. The principal members of the FRANCO-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP have been identified as Richard WRIGHT, Jay LITTON, retired American Customs official, and about 75, 47 Rue Clichy, PARIS, France (son) W. P. American Express employee, Robert W. American Express Company; and Jean-Paul MARTIN, founder of the "Trotskyist" Movement. Lately there has been a break between the Chez Inez personnel and the WRIGHT group because WRIGHT tested them (the Chez Inez group) for his movie "Native Son", which was made in South American and they did not employ any of them in the picture. WRIGHT and his group have been the targets of attacks from one JAMES ALBERT, young negro writer who is a student in PARIS, having come over on a scholarship given by the American Publishing Company. ALBERT attacks the hatred themes of the WRIGHT writings and the attempt of the FRANCO-AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP to promulgate "Uncle Tom's literature ethics" when the day has come for a more "realistic and analytical" approach to the American Negro Problem.

On 20 December 1951, [redacted] Tourist No. 11, New York, now living at Hotel Crystal, 25 Avenue de la Concorde, PARIS, France, volunteered the following information in substance: (continued)

- 4 - HQ, 66th CIC Detachment
- 2 - CIC Control File
- 2 - CIC Control Reg.
- 2 - Reg. XI File

100-157464-32

100-157464-32 enclosure

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
 ON JAN 6, 1978
 BY CDR USAF/SCM/FOF/DAW
 Auth Para 1-603 DoD 5200.106

(5-6)
 b7D
 per
 Army

3 January 1952

Region II, 66th CIC Detachment, APO SF, HI Army 1-5-52

FRANCO-SPYCAT FOLLOWUP
OF SF

A niece of SPYCAT is an art student in the Commercial Art School of the City University of Paris and has been in PARIS since February 1951. When the niece first came to PARIS, she was invited to join the FRANCO-AMERICAN FIGHTING GROUP by Richard WRIGHT, who stated that the group was composed of "militant persons" interested in the welfare of the American Negro. WRIGHT stressed that the group was not a Communist organization, but solely a "militant group". SPYCAT's niece attended one meeting and came to the conclusion, from the chatter of the uncontrolled meeting, that it was chaotic rather than militant and, despite the denial of (Communist label), was a group that certainly espoused the Communist line as she first had heard it in the United States. SPYCAT stated that her niece had not returned to any of the meetings and that she (SPYCAT) was not anxious to meet Richard WRIGHT.

(P-6)

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ON JAN 6 1988
BY CDR USAF/NSCOM FOIPO
Auth Para 1-6.3 DoD 5200.1-R

1 - No. EX-7 CO. 2
2 - CJC Central Reg
3 - CJC Central File
4 - Reg. II File

3 January 1952

Series II, (S) CIC Detachment, 470 St. W. Army, II-7-512

SMITH, Richard D.

work) with cocktails, literary conversations and jazz, just like a novel by
H.D. THOMAS.

The magazine "THE PARTY", which includes among the Board of Directors such
illustrious persons as Jean-Paul Sartre, Richard Wright, William Faulkner,
Tennessee Williams, Stuart Climent, etc., is a magazine devoted to "young writers"
and more than 25 will be accepted as contributors.

Under the auspices of the magazine, a jury composed of Jean-Paul Sartre,
Richard Wright, Stuart Climent, and Lucille Kroll, celebrated American literary
critic, will award the prize in July to the best published work of an American or
French writer. The very attractive prize will be a month's trip to Paris or New
York, depending on the nationality of the winner.

(b-2)

On 12 December 1951, [redacted] stated that a colored man named (SNU) [redacted] stated to [redacted] that
one (SNU) [redacted], employed by the American Express Company was carrying out
Communist literature at the American Express Company and had been seen giving
this literature to military personnel. [redacted] had identified [redacted] as a member
of the Communist Group of artists and writers that Richard Wright has organized
in Paris. A man named Paul [redacted], recentist for Dr. (SNU) [redacted], Vice-
President of the American Express, has been used by these people to lecture [redacted] in
France on a "faked passport".

(b-6)

On 12 December 1951, [redacted] made the following statement in substance:
Richard Wright is active in the Communist Party in France and has been
engaged in some of the Communist activities through the Franco-American Fellowship
Group. Mr. Richard Wright is the active Communist member of the family
and has made a point of "insulting Negro personnel who hold views other than
Communist". [redacted] has known Wright since his first appearance in Paris. Wright
was invited to France by the French Government at the instigation of the Communist
leaders of the Government. Wright organized the Franco-American Fellowship
Group and held lectures, meetings, and the like. Among the topics discussed
was the " dangers of ball street Capitalism". Wright asked [redacted] to join the
organization but, inasmuch as [redacted] did not join any group, the invitation was
not accepted. However, two men who were working for the [redacted] (Paris Night Club)
of the Star did join the Franco-American Fellowship Group; namely, Al [redacted]
[redacted] and Al [redacted]. Three men attended the meeting and reported that, as
(continued)

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Army

1 - Mr. F.C. [redacted]
2 - CIC Central Log.

1 - CIC Central File
2 - Mr. [redacted] File

3 January, 1958

Region II, 64th CIC Detachment, APO SF, 8th Army II-F-512

MEMO, Richard D.

Far as they has been able to discover, the group was devoting all of its time to very uncontrolled discussion of the kind that were wrong with the United States. Some of the members of the group (Trans-American Fellowship Group) presented the fact that they were recognized as Communist Party members. One of the most interesting examples, known as a newspaper reporter, was also one of the most interesting examples. This person lives with a white woman who formerly worked for the American Information Section at Armed Forces Information Station. This person stated that this woman had been fired because of Communist Party activities. This person, who has a great deal of military experience in Germany, is a fool that these people are not exploit. This person stated that this person was to be the next and the most evil Communist in the entire group. This person stated that, if one has a job requiring loyalty clearance, it was better to stay away from the group and the Fellowship Group. This person stated that person had learned that as had the State Department in my secret-the call on in for conferences, the fact.

(-2)

670 per Army

UNCLASSIFIED
 ON JAN 6 1988
 BY CDR USAIRSDEN FDIPO
 WWW FOR 1-503 CDD 1250. 176

4 - No. 1000 00 2
 2 - C: Central Reg

2 - C: Central File
 2 - Reg 21 0110

American Embassy
2 Avenue Gabriel
Paris 8, France

~~SECRET~~ - AIR COURIER

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED ON...

March 3, 1952

Director, FBI

Legal Attache, Paris



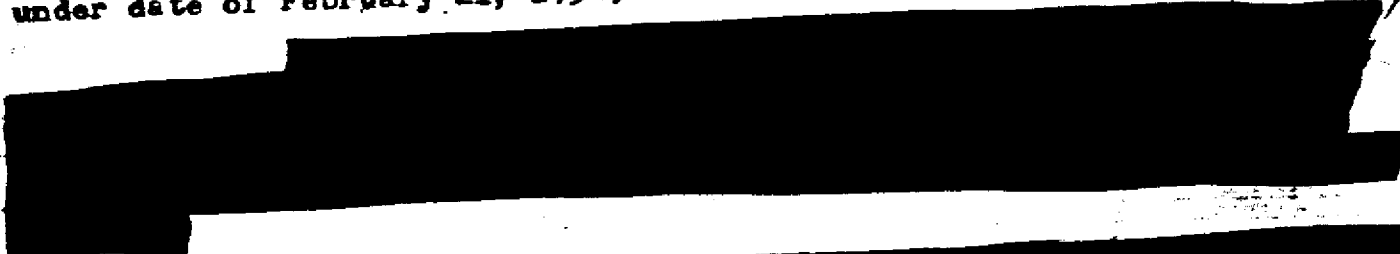
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88345

CLASS & EXT BY...
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2...
DATE OF REVIEW... 8-25-97

INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Following is a copy of a Confidential Despatch, prepared by Mr. William A. Crawford, Political Section, American Embassy, under date of February 21, 1952; concerning the above subject;



1-121
APR 18 1952

105-157464 - ✓
NOT RECORDED
147 APR 1 1952

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

ORIGINAL FILED IN

PROPERTY FBI

Re: [REDACTED]
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

46

[REDACTED]

It should be noted that whereas RICHARD WRIGHT continues to maintain an anti-Stalinist position since his expulsion from the CPUSA, he has wittingly or not been serving Communist propaganda ends by frequent contributions to neutralist publications such as L'Observateur and particularly by his insistence on portraying abroad only the seamy side of the race question in the United States. While flirting with Titoism and Sartre-ism, he has maintained a position, so far as the East-West conflict is concerned, tantamount to ' a plague on both your houses. [REDACTED] with WRIGHT has been close, and although it is possible that their political philosophies are much alike, [REDACTED] background as well as his writings indicate the likelihood of a discreet tie-in with the Stalinist camp itself, which is not the case with WRIGHT.

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

1 - Mr. Ladd
1 - Mr. Belmont

July 17, 1953

C

[Redacted]

~~SECRET~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP8 BT/bee
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 8-25-91

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF class
DATE 10-21-81

RICHARD WRIGHT

9999

b1 E/A

[Redacted]

RICHARD WRIGHT

A review of our files reflects that a security-type investigation was conducted during 1943-1946 on a Richard Nathaniel Wright, who is identical with the captioned individual. Wright was born on September 4, 1908, in Natchez, Mississippi. He claims eight years of elementary school education and professes experience as a novelist, playwright, poet, and newspaper reporter. In 1935 he worked on the Federal Writers Project in Chicago and sold articles and short stories to magazines. In 1937 he worked on the same project in New York City. At that time he also did some work for the "Daily Worker" and became a contributing editor of the "New Masses." Both of these publications have been cited as organs of the Communist Party by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, January 3, 1939.

(100-157464)

On March 21, 1942, Wright's name appeared on the list of the "Committee to Free Earl Browder," which was published in the March 21, 1942, issue of the "People's Voice." The "People's Voice" has been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, as among the publications found "to be Communist initiated and controlled or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin solar system."

b1, b7E

[Redacted]

100-157464-8;

100-157464-9)

- To: _____
- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

2 - Legal Attache
London, England
1 - Foreign Liaison Unit

~~SECRET~~
RECORDED - 91
INDEXED - 91

4/10/57 46-33
JUL 20 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/81 BY SP8 BT/bee

JUL 20 1953

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On July 28, 1944, the New York "Herald Tribune" published an article entitled "Negro Article Criticized Reds as Intolerant" in which Wright was reported to have stated that his Communist Party membership roughly covered the period from the latter part of 1932 or early part of 1933 to 1940, and his early association with the Communists in Chicago was broken in 1937 when, he said, he was "ejected" from the Party. Wright stated that he was reinstated in 1937 and maintained a relationship with the Party until 1940. However, Wright's name appeared frequently in the "Daily Worker" during 1941 and 1942. Wright was reported to be a member of the American Committee to Save Refugees as of March 6, 1942, and on September 18, 1942, he was listed as one of the officers of the League of American Writers advocating a second front for Europe. The American Committee to Save Refugees has been cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities Report of March 29, 1944, and the League of American Writers has been cited as Communist by the Attorney General.

(C-2; 100-157464-5, 13)

The August, 1944, issue of the "Atlantic Monthly" published an article entitled "I Tried to be a Communist" in which Wright discussed his earliest experiences as a Communist Party member in Chicago and touched upon the problems he faced in trying to present his own ideas to the Party. As a result, considerable publicity was given Wright's articles in the "Daily Worker" newspaper. In his column entitled "New Times," published in the August 6, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker," Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., referred to Wright and to what he called Wright's "public and wholly unjustifiable attack on the Communists." Davis referred to Wright's claim of withdrawing from the Communists in 1940, and asked why Wright waited until 1944 to make his break public. Davis inquired whom Wright was trying to impress and indicated that Wright's attitude was a form of super-leftism.

Wright was classified as 4-F during World War II because of a severe psycho-neurosis. His interest in the problems of the Negro was almost an obsession. (100-157464-15)

Wright left the United States for France in May, 1946, and there is no indication in our files reflecting that he has ever returned to the United States.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

An individual who lives in Paris, France, advised in December, 1951, that Wright retained his United States citizenship and lived off his book royalties from American sales. He reported that he had attended a meeting which was a "Communist front" and which was generally critical of American policies, racial and foreign. This meeting was attended by Wright and it was the informant's opinion that even though Wright had publicly renounced Communism, he was as much a Communist as he had ever been. (U)

b7D per Army [REDACTED] 100-157464-31

On December 16, 1951, an unidentified source reported that the Franco-American Fellowship Group was organized almost entirely by Richard Wright, American writer, 14 Monsieur Le Prince, Paris, France, immediately after World War II, and was supposed to be a sponsorship for young writers, artists, and poets who were students in France. At the time of its organization several of the students had made statements to the effect that the group was "leftist" in the nature of its discussions. According to the informant, Wright and his group were the targets of attacks from one James Baldwin, a young Negro writer who was a student in Paris. Baldwin attacked the hatred themes of the Wright writings and the attempt of the Franco-American Fellowship Group to perpetuate "Uncle Tom Literature Methods." (U)

(U. S. Army; 100-157464-32)

On December 10, 1951, an American citizen, then living in Paris, advised that her niece, who was a student, had been invited to join the Franco-American Fellowship Group by Richard Wright, who stated that the group was composed of "militant persons" interested in the welfare of the American Negro. According to the informant, the niece attended one meeting of the organization and came to the conclusion that despite its denials of Communism, the group espoused the Communist Party line as the girl had known it in the United States. (U)

b7D per Army [REDACTED] 100-157464-32

~~SECRET~~

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XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-157464-34

XXXXXX
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XXXXXX

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

RECORDED-45

~~SECRET~~

August 12, 1953

bl

RICHARD WRIGHT

10053

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[REDACTED]

(S)

bl

In answer to your inquiry set forth in reference communication, we have no objection to your furnishing information previously furnished by us concerning Richard Wright, providing that we are in no way indicated as the source of the information. You are further advised that the identity of the sources furnishing the information contained in our memorandum to you cannot be divulged.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 8-25-53

2 - Legat Attache London, England

1 - Foreign Service Desk

[REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] RB RB 6-9-77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

EXCLUDED FROM DIVISION FIVE AUG 13 1953

~~SECRET~~

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Nease
Gandy

CLASS. & EXT. BY: SP8 BT/ko
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW: 8-25-1991
8-25-81

~~SECRET~~

NOTE TO SAC's Chicago, Los Angeles, Mobile, and New York:

For the assistance of all offices receiving copies of instant communication, there is attached a copy of a self-explanatory memorandum dated November 20, 1953, which was received from the Department as well as a copy of the petition filed by the Attorney General with the Subversive Activities Control Board seeking to cause the registration of the captioned organization.

Bureau files reflect that each of the individuals referred to in the attachment is well known to the office in the area in which he is believed to reside.

In the absence of any information in your files which would make such action inadvisable, Bureau authority is granted to conduct the requested interviews.

In view of the distinct possibility that the hearing relative to the captioned organization before the Subversive Activities Control Board will commence in the near future, it is desired that the results of your action in this regard be submitted in memorandum form suitable for dissemination to the Department to reach the Bureau no later than December 17, 1953.

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

July 8, 1954

G.L.R. 9 MAILED
JUL 8 1954
NAME CHECK

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP8 BTJ/ka*
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *8-25-81*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ RICHARD WRIGHT

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)
DATE *6-2-81*

Reference is made to your specific request for information reflecting captioned individuals defection from the Communist Party.

A review of our files reflects that a security-type investigation was conducted during 1943-1946 on a Richard Pathaniel Wright, who is identical with the captioned individual. Wright was born on September 4, 1908, in Natchez, Mississippi. He claims eight years of elementary school education and professes experience as a novelist, playwright, poet, and newspaper reporter. In 1935 he worked on the Federal Writers Project in Chicago and sold articles and short stories to magazines. In 1937 he worked on the same project in New York City. At that time he also did some work for the "Daily Worker" and became a contributing editor of the "New Masses." Both of these publications have been cited as organs of the Communist Party by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, January 3, 1939.

On March 21, 1942, Wright's name appeared on the list of the "Committee to Free Earl Browder," which was published in the March 21, 1942, issue of the "People's Voice." The "People's Voice" has been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, as among the publications found "to be Communist initiated and controlled or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin solar system"

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *6-2-81* BY *SP8 BTJ/ka*

626

[REDACTED]

Note: USIA requested additional information [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Richard Wright in connection with USIA employee [REDACTED] USIA specifically requested information re [REDACTED] Communist Party defection by Wright [REDACTED]

Tele. Room
Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tamm
Tracy
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Miss Gandy

Orig. USIA
Req. Rec: 6/14/54

RECORDED-100

JUL 18 1954
96

X-12

b1b7D
b7C

CONFIDENTIAL

K. K. 4

MAILED
JUL 28 1955
NAME CHECK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

July 27, 1955

C

RICHARD WRIGHT *Summary*
Born: September 4, 1908
Natchez, Mississippi

Richard Wright

In response to your name check request, you are referred to FBI investigative reports furnished your agency in the case entitled "Richard Nathaniel Wright; Internal Security - C" furnished your agency on October 25, 1944, concerning the subject of your name check request.

Transmitted herewith is an FBI investigative report in the case entitled "Richard Nathaniel Wright; Security Matter - C" concerning the subject of your name check request.

On October 21, 1942, Wright's name appeared on the list of the "Committee to Free Earl Browder," which was published in the March 21, 1942, issue of the "People's Voice." The "People's Voice" has been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, as among the publications found "to be Communist initiated and controlled or so strongly influenced as to be within the Stalin Solar System."

AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF *Case*
DATE 10-21-57 *amo*

[REDACTED]

b1
b7D

(100-157464-8)
On July 26, 1944, the New York "Herald Tribune" published an article entitled "Negro Article Criticized Reds As Intolerant" in which Wright was reported to have stated that his Communist Party membership roughly covered

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

Original and one to G-2
Reg. Rec'd: 7/6/55

RECORDED - 81

INDEXED - 81

(4)
Enclosure

CLASS. & EXT. BY...
REASON - FCIM II 1.2.2...
DATE OF REVIEW 8-25-81

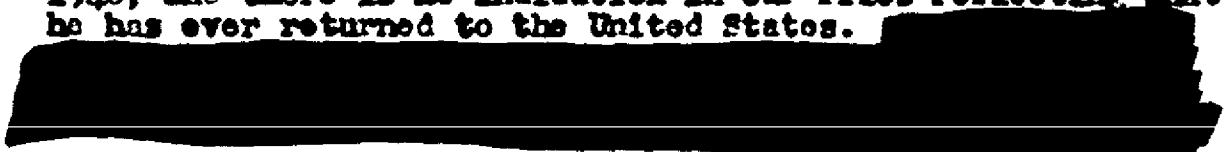
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the period from the latter part of 1932 or early part of 1933 to 1940, and his early association with the Communist in Chicago was broken in 1937, when, he said, he was "ejected" from the Party. Wright stated that he was re-instated in 1937 and maintained a relationship with the Party until 1940. However, Wright's name appeared frequently in the "Daily Worker" during 1941 and 1942. Wright was reported to be a member of the American Committee to Save Refugees as of March 6, 1942, and on September 18, 1942, he was listed as one of the officers of the League of American Writers, advocating a second front for Europe. The American Committee to Save Refugees has been cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report of March 29, 1944, and the League of American Writers has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The August, 1944, ⁽¹⁰⁰⁻¹⁵⁷⁴⁶⁴⁻⁵⁾ issue of the "Atlantic Monthly" published an article entitled "I Tried to be a Communist" in which Wright discussed his earliest experiences as a Communist Party member in Chicago and touched upon the problems he faced in trying to present his own ideas to the Party. As a result considerable publicity was given Wright's articles in the "Daily Worker" newspaper. In his column entitled "New Times," published in the August 6, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker," Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., referred to Wright and to what he called Wright's "public and wholly unjustifiable attack on the Communist." Davis referred to Wright's claim of withdrawing from the Communist in 1940, and asked why Wright waited until 1944 to make his break public. Davis inquired whom Wright was trying to impress and indicated that Wright's attitude was a form of super-leftism.

Wright left the United States for France in May, 1946, and there is no indication in our files reflecting that he has ever returned to the United States.



67D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7D



An individual who lives in Paris, France, advised in December, 1951, that Wright retained his United States citizenship and lived off his book royalties from American sales. He reported that he had attended a meeting which was a "Communist front" and which was generally critical of American policies, racial and foreign. This meeting was attended by Wright and it was the informant's opinion that even though Wright had publically renounced Communism, he was as much a Communist as he had ever been.

b7D per Army
per Army
1/1/52

(100-157464-31)

On December 16, 1951, another Governmental agency conducting intelligence investigations reported that the Franco - American Fellowship Group was organized almost entirely by Richard Wright, American writer, 14 Monsieur Le Prince, Paris, France, immediately after World War II, and was supposed to be a sponsorship for young writers, artists, and poets who were students in France. At the time of its organization several of the students had made statements to the effect that the group was "Leftist" in the nature of its discussions. According to the informant, Wright and his group were the targets of attacks from one James Baldwin, a young Negro writer who was a student in Paris. Baldwin attacked the hatred themes of the Wright's writings and the attempt of the Franco - American Fellowship Group to Perpetuate "Uncle Tom Literature Methods."

On December 10, 1951, an American citizen, then living in Paris, advised that her niece, who was a student, had been invited to join the Franco - American Fellowship Group by Richard Wright, who stated that the group was composed of "militant persons" interested in the welfare of the American Negro. According to the informant, the niece attended one meeting of the organization and came to the conclusion that despite its denials of Communism, the group espoused the Communist Party line as the girl had known it in the United States.

(100-157464-32)

b7D per Army

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The foregoing information is furnished to you as the result of a request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Assistant Attorney General Warren Glass III
Criminal Division

December 2, 1953

Director, FBI

CONFIDENTIAL

88343

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, INC.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950
For Reference 149-1022
FBI File 100-148896

Richard Wright

Reference is made to your memorandum of
December 20, 1953, bearing the initials WOTBC and,
in which you requested that certain individuals
be interviewed in detail relative to the
captioned organization.

Sp6 b/c

Pursuant to your request, efforts
are being made to conduct these interviews and
the results will be promptly furnished to you
upon receipt.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF class
DATE 10-21-81 em

6

2cc - Chicago (W/Enclosure) (See Note on Page 2.)

2cc - Los Angeles (W/Enclosure) (See Note on Page 2.)

2cc - Mobile (W/Enclosure) (See Note on Page 2.)

2cc - New York (W/Enclosure) (See Note on Page 2.)

CLASS. & EXT BY
REASON - FCIM 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW
8/25/81

Sp6 b/c

100-159464-
NOT RECORDED
44 DEC 9 1953

- cc - Bufile [redacted]
- cc - Bufile [redacted]
- cc - Bufile [redacted] (Wright)
- cc - Bufile [redacted]
- cc - Bufile [redacted]

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CONFIDENTIAL

Sp6 b/c

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On July 28, 1944, the New York "Herald Tribune" published an article entitled "Negro Article Criticized Reds as Intolerant" in which Wright was reported to have stated that his Communist Party membership roughly covered the period from the latter part of 1932 or early part of 1933 to 1940, and his early association with the Communists in Chicago was broken in 1937 when, he said, he was "ejected" from the Party. Wright stated that he was re-instated in 1937 and maintained a relationship with the Party until 1940. However, Wright's name appears frequently in the "Daily Worker" during 1941 and 1942. Wright was reported to be a member of the American Committee to Save Refugees as of March 6, 1942, and on September 18, 1942, he was listed as one of the officers of the League of American Writers advocating a second front for Europe. The American Committee to Save Refugees has been cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report of March 29, 1944, and the League of American Writers has been cited as Communist by the Attorney General.

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Wright left the United States for France in May, 1946, and there is no indication in our files reflecting that he has ever returned to the United States.

[REDACTED]

670

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

146

An individual who lives in Paris, France, advised in December, 1951, that Wright retained his United States citizenship and lived off his book royalties from American sales. He reported that he had attended a meeting which was a "Communist front" and which was generally critical of American policies, racial and foreign. This meeting was attended by Wright who had publicly renounced Communism, but he was as much a Communist as he had ever been. (u)

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The foregoing information is furnished to you as the result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

AIR TOUCH

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-157464-31

From : Embassy PARIS
To : DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON
Ref :

No. 2135

May 3, 1955

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Act
EUR-6
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RMIA-2
NEA-4
SI-2
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P-1
OIC-1
IO-4 OCB-1
USA-4
CIA-7
ARMY
NAVY
AIR-

RECEIVED FROM
MAY 18 1955
STATE DEPT OMB

Subject: First Congress of the Presence Africaine

(11)

SUMMARY

A Congress of Scholars of the Negro World, sponsored by the leftist Presence Africaine, is scheduled to take place in Paris September 19-22, 1955. Richard Wright, American negro on the Executive Committee of the Presence Africaine and former Communist Party member, believes that, through a careful selection of the American Delegation to the Congress, the leftist tendencies of the Congress can be neutralized. Mr. FIGUET, Political Advisor in the French Ministry of Overseas Territories, believes the importance of the Congress should not be underestimated and that every attempt should be made to preserve the orientation of the Presence Africaine to the West.

The Presence Africaine, which describes itself as a Cultural Review of the Black World, is a bimonthly publication, now in its seventh year. The founder and publisher of the Presence Africaine is Mr. Affoune DIOU, a rather liberal but strongly Catholic negro, formerly a resident of Dakar but now living in Paris. The orientation of the articles appearing in the Presence Africaine appears to be definitely to the left. Aine CESAIRE, Communist Deputy from Martinique and a poet, and René DEPOSTOL, a Haitian and alleged to be a member of the Communist Party, are both contributing members of the Committee for Presence Africaine. Other Committee members include: A. ADAIDE, S. O. BICOUKI, A. BLYDI, A. E. DUSA, B. DADIE, B. FLEU, A. FRATELLI, H. Paulin JOACHY, J. KI, Sengat KUD, D. MANDISSI, Isaac DAVIDSON, INYUAI, OMOA, Ray AUREA, A. SADJI, and A. WADE.

The Embassy has been informed that Presence Africaine for a time received a subsidy from the French Government which was subsequently discontinued because of the leftist anti-colonial and generally irresponsible nature of its editorial policy.

The December 1954-January 1955 issue of Presence Africaine carried, among its advertisements, "An Appeal to Black Writers and Artists", printed in both French and English, which constituted an open invitation to the Congress of Scholars of the Negro World, scheduled to take place in Paris, September 19-22, 1955. The invitation bore the names of eighteen people comprising the Executive Committee for the Congress. A mimeographed reprint of the invitation, copy of which is ~~forwarded~~ enclosed (1) to this despatch, was subsequently addressed to the reporting officer. It will be noted that the United States members of the Executive Committee include Louis ARMSTRONG, Josephine BAKER, and Richard WRIGHT.

PCJ:JDorman/jj

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE
NOT TO BE FILED
W.O. INITIALS 11 MAY 28 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

55 JUN 4 1955

100-157464-37

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Page 2
Dep. No. 215
Paris

On his own initiative, Mr. Wright called at the Embassy to express certain concern over the leftist tendencies of the Executive Committee for the Congress. He believed the members of the Committee were liberal thinkers and he thought there was a distinct danger that the Communists might exploit the Congress to their own ends. Many members of the Presence Africaine, he said, were in search of an ideal they could not obtain and as such would be fertile ground for Communist exploitation. To counteract such a tendency, Mr. Wright wondered if the Embassy could assist him in suggesting possible American negro delegates who are relatively well known for their cultural achievements and who could combat the leftist tendencies of the Congress. Mr. Wright, the Department will recall, was himself formerly a member of the Communist Party. He indicated that he was originally on the Committee of the Presence Africaine but that he had been dropped recently because of his present anti-Communist principles. However, Mr. Wright's name was retained on the list of hosts for the forthcoming Congress.

By coincidence, Dr. Francis M. HAYKID, Minorities Affairs Adviser, Office of Policy and Programs, with USIA in Washington, was in Paris shortly after Mr. Wright's visit to the Embassy. Dr. Haykid kindly submitted the following names of possible delegates to the Congress, names which were subsequently turned over to Mr. Wright:

CARNEY, Elmer A.

Address: 230 Broadway, N. Y. C.; Columnist; State Commission against Discrimination.

LEWIS, Theophilus

For ten years contributor to weekly magazine, "America".

REDDIE, Saunders

Professor of English at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia; formerly held Leader Grant; author of "No Day of Triumph" and "An American in India".

ROBINSON, Rev. James H.

Minister of Presbyterian Church of the Master, 130th Street and Horningside Avenue, N. Y. C. Has written several books on Africa.

ROWAN, Carl

Writer; has held Leader Grant; representative for "Minneapolis Star Tribune"; attended Bandung Conference; has visited Africa; author of "The Pitiful and the Proud", due to be published in April, 1950.

SCHUYLER, George

New York editor of "Pittsburgh Courier"; anti-Communist editor in Negro Press; has traveled widely.

Mr. Wright appreciated the suggestions furnished him by the Embassy and added these names to a list of suggested delegates he had himself composed and had already

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

forwarded to Mr. Ray WILKINS, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Mr. Wright, in forwarding the list of names to Mr. Wilkins, suggested that Mr. Wilkins might work closely with the Department before sounding out each individual on his willingness to serve as a member of the American Delegation.

Mr. Wright's list included the following names:

ELLISON, Ralph

Novelist and former Salzburg Seminar lecturer, now writing in Italy on a prix-de-Rome.

HINES, Chester

Novelist from Ohio.

HUGHES, Langston

Poet, novelist, and author of children's stories.

ROGERS, J. A.

Popular historian from New York City.

ROGAN, Carl

Reporter for Minneapolis Star and Tribune

SMITH, William Gardner

Novelist and journalist; currently employed in Paris on Far Eastern Desk of Agence France Presse.

TOLSON, Melvin B.

Poet Laureate of Liberia; professor of English at Langston University, Oklahoma; son is Fulbright Fellow in Paris.

The works of Mr. Hines, Mr. Hughes and Mr. Smith, whose names appear in the above list, have been translated into French, as have the works of Mr. Wright.

Mr. Mike JOSSELSOHN, American Executive Secretary of the Congress for Cultural Freedom, has expressed considerable interest in the forthcoming Congress of the Presence Africaine and has called at the Embassy, on the suggestion of Mr. Wright, to discuss the implications and to offer his collaboration in combatting Communist influences.

Mr. Leon PIGNON, Political Adviser in the French Ministry of Overseas Territories, said he felt that the Presence Africaine represented an increasingly important group, a group of liberal thinkers who might well be led down the Communist path. Mr. Pignon felt that every effort should be made to orient the group toward the West. Mr. Pignon said he was glad that the Congress was scheduled to take place in Paris this year but he thought it likely that, unless appropriate steps were taken, next year's Congress might be held in Prague.

Enclosure:

Reprint of Presence Africaine, invitation
Dec., 1955-Jan., 1956 issue.

Robert P. Joyce
Counselor of Embassy

Embassy routing slip to:
Mr. L. Goodville, Martinique.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Page 1
Enclosure No. 1
Regy. No. 215
Paris

AN APPEAL TO BLACK WRITERS AND ARTISTS

For the first time in history, Negro Writers and Artists are going to take the initiative in meeting together and in ascertaining how they are situated and what their specific responsibilities in the world are.

Coloured men all the world over are of opinion that the liberation of the initiative of peoples must enrich human culture to no mean degree. Such a liberation enables man to be more fully conscious of the exact relationship between all beings. It is in man's nature to reveal his dimensions solely by self-expression and not by leaving it to others to express his real self. While technicians are finishing off the measuring of the world's total limits, it is art generated by the free-will of peoples that will delineate, the inmost aspects of non-European human groups. Coggling the cultural appetites of our countries would have been unfair and impoverishing. Likewise it would have been harmful to science to willfully ignore a whole fraction of the animal, vegetable or mineral kingdom.

But it is not culture alone that will derive benefit from our free initiative. Peace of any kind remains ungod if its formula does not integrate the real aspirations of peoples formerly considered as minors. All the same, they must be heard and recognized.

Hence the responsibility of the scholar. He is the arbiter of modern society, since his calling requires him to shed light on everyone's cultural vocation; in other words he has to reveal to and develop in everyone a sense of his solidarity with other men and the world.

The Negro World, the most neglected by history, is not the last to aspire after the exercise of its cultural responsibilities. Our civilizations, because they hadn't thought it fitting to engrave their laws on brass monuments, are reaping the rich disdain of others. If wedays, the expression of cultural life being necessary to the safeguard of any civilization, we feel more acutely than others the urgency of revealing ourselves to the world. And first of all, the urgency of introducing ourselves to each other.

Negro Scholars don't know each other. They have not yet taken up the measurements of their respective possibilities nor of their common lot. They are scattered and often isolated in surroundings where their personality is not sufficiently turned to profit.

Since nobody has yet assessed the whole contribution of Negroes to mankind's heritage, the task of describing it and defining the genius of their peoples is up to them.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-214-1-1

Only a Congress can face a task of such magnitude. This task is so important that the more one is representative by his talent and ability, the less he may evade it.

Artists, historians or poets, theologians, scientists, or thinkers, we are requesting you to take up your original mission in this our common task and examine together with us the following programme:

- 1) How Negroes of culture stand.
- 2) The contribution of Negroes to human culture.
- 3) Themes, styles, forms that typify our people's genius.
- 4) What relations are to be established with the modern world of culture.
- 5) What diffusion should be given to the works of authors.
- 6) Aid to young writers and artists.

The first Congress of Scholars of the Negro World will be held in Paris from the 19th to the 22nd September 1955.

Negro peoples and friendly ones are invited to uphold and help our undertaking, just as scholars of the Negro World are invited to back our plan by their signature and active cooperation.

Writers and Artists are invited to the Congress in mere consideration of their talent.

Peter ABRAMS	(Afrique du Sud)
Louis ARMISTEAD	(U.S.A.)
Kofi ANIBENI	(Gold Coast)
Babib BENLIA	(Soudan)
Professor BUSIA	(Gold Coast)
Professor BIGNANI	(Nigeria)
Jacqueline BAKER	(U.S.A.)
Aine GSAIE	(Martinique)
Rene DEPOSEE	(Haiti)
Cyprien EKEMSI	(Nigeria)
Ben ENOMU	(Nigeria)
Mr. ELLIS	(Nigeria)
Rui LEZORE	(Dahomey)
Rene HARAU	(Martinique)
Davidson NICOL	(Sierra Leone)
Leopold Sedar SENGHOR	(Senegal)
Amos TUTUOLA	(Nigeria)
Richard WRIGHT	(U.S.A.)

MAILED
AUG 29 1956
NAME CHECK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

August 22, 1956

orig
DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BTG/bce

MAILED
AUG 23 1956
NAME CHECK

RICHARD WRIGHT *SUMMARY*
Born: September 4, 1908
Natchez, Mississippi

Reference is made to your request for copies of
investigative reports in the event the captioned individual
has been investigated by this Bureau.

In response to your request, there are attached
six reports in the case entitled "Richard Nathaniel Wright,"
which appear to relate to the subject of your inquiry.
(100-157464)

In addition, you are referred to the memorandum
entitled "Richard Wright," dated July 8, 1954, which was
previously furnished to your agency.

The foregoing information is furnished to you as
a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not
to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the
individual involved. This information is furnished for
your use and should not be disseminated outside of your
agency.

Enclosures (6)

orig. and one to USIA
req. rec. 8-7-56

(4)

CAA *ccc*

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2/2/56

- Tolson _____
- Nichols _____
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- Belmont _____
- Mason _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

Note: *[redacted]* USIA, requested a search for main files
He advised that only copies of investigative reports of the
results of investigation were requested. Reason for request:
Program for People-to-People Partnership (formerly President
Program for World Understanding). *5-100-157464*

EX-126 RECORDED - 55
INDEXED - 55
AUG 23 1956

AUG 29 1956

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office WASHINGTON FIELD	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 4/18/58	Investigative Period 3/18, 20/58
TITLE OF CASE RICHARD WRIGHT		Report Made by [REDACTED]	Typed By: b7c
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

Synopsis:

On 2/13/58, at American Embassy, Paris, France, subject executed a sworn statement in which he stated he had been a member of the Communist Party from 1932 to 1942. He previously submitted detailed sworn statement at Paris on 9/16/54, in which he stated his disaffiliation with the Communist Party came about because of a series of ideological disputes with communist officials. On 2/13/58, subject executed application for passport at Paris, France, in which he stated he has resided outside the United States since September, 1949, and that his date of return to the United States is indefinite. On 2/21/58, Department of State authorized issuance of passport to subject.

Handwritten notes:
This info from State info 8/1, 2/5, 6
7/8 per [unclear] 5/28/62
8/1/61

- RUC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY [signature]

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On March 18, 1958, Miss MARY BARRY, Legal Section, Passport Office, Department of State, made available to SA [REDACTED] the passport file of RICHARD WRIGHT. A review of that file disclosed the following information:

Approved TJMy	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bureau <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New York (RM) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-Washington Field (100-15433)		100-157464-39	REC-1
COPIES DESTROYED 158 AUG 10 1960 <i>20 - [unclear] by (C-14)</i> <i>Dept. State by (1625)</i>		15 MAR 8 1958	126
ENCL 2 REC'D 1 FORM 1 FORM		<i>1-9-67</i> <i>2 xerox made</i> <i>sent to Legat Paris</i> <i>(with Paris file 2/19/66)</i> <i>see table checked it.</i>	

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

WFO 100-15433

On February 13, 1956, RICHARD WRIGHT appeared before AGNES SCHNEIDER, Consul of the United States of America at Paris, France, being duly sworn, stated he was submitting the following statement as part of his application for a passport which he executed on February 13, 1956. In that statement, subject stated he was not then a member of the Communist Party, but had been a member of the Communist Party from 1932 to 1942, and called attention to the statement he had executed at the American Embassy, Paris, France, on September 16, 1954, for further details in that regard.

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

On September 16, 1954, RICHARD WRIGHT appeared before AGNES SCHNEIDER, Consul of the United States of America at Paris, France, being duly sworn, furnished a statement consisting of answers to questions annexed to his statement. In that statement, subject identified himself as being the same RICHARD WRIGHT whose experiences in the communist movement were included in the book, "The God That Failed." Subject stated he could not fix the exact time of his joining the Communist Party because he was a functionary in the Communist Party before he actually joined the Communist Party. He explained that the method used by the Communist Party in recruiting is of such a nature that the line or date of determining the exact membership is very difficult. He stated that to the best of his recollection, the date (about 1933) shown in his book, "The God That Failed", is correct. Subject stated that he is the RICHARD WRIGHT who wrote a letter to the League of American Writers expressing his views on the Spanish Civil War, which was published in May, 1938, in the booklet, "Writers Take Sides."

The League of American Writers has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Subject stated at the time of writing the above-mentioned letter he was a member of the Communist Party. He stated he is not now a member of the Communist Party of any country of the world.

WFO 100-15433

Subject stated that he disaffiliated with the Communist Party of the United States sometime during the year 1942, and that his disaffiliation came about because of a series of ideological disputes he had with the following Communist officials: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and others. He stated his decision to break with the Communist Party was predicated upon his disagreement with the Communist Party's position upon the Negro question in the United States. He stated that [REDACTED] at that time urged him to become a member-at-large of the Communist Party, but that he refused to heed that suggestion. Subject stated that two years later, in 1944, he publicly indicated his disaffiliation with the Communist Party by means of a press conference held in the office of his agent in New York, PAUL REYNOLDS, and a few months later he wrote two articles in the "Atlantic Monthly" indicating he was no longer affiliated with the Communist Party.

Subject was asked if he was acquainted with [REDACTED] in the Office of War Information. Subject stated that he has a slight acquaintanceship with [REDACTED] and it dates exactly from the period which he did some voluntary work for the Office of War Information in 1942. He stated he met [REDACTED] in the Office of War Information in 1942, and as he recalls was introduced to [REDACTED] and that this introduction took place in the presence of [REDACTED]. Subject stated that [REDACTED] was known to him as a member of the Communist Party, and he described [REDACTED]

In regard to [REDACTED] subject stated he was not known to him as having any affiliation with the Communist Party at that time. Subject stated he was somewhat surprised and taken back when [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and the manner of his being introduced to him implied that [REDACTED] understood the subject's political position very well. Subject stated that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] one of the leading communists of the United States, approached him shortly after his introduction to [REDACTED] and asked him to make a formal application to work for the Office of War Information. Subject stated he told them that this would be rather difficult since he was a publicly known communist writer and had been Chief of the Harlem Bureau of the "Daily Worker."

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast communist newspaper which suspended publication on January 13, 1958.

Subject stated that [REDACTED] informed him that the Communist Party knew exactly what it was doing in asking him to make this move, and that he should forthwith get an application blank [REDACTED] would aid him in filling out the application blank. Subject stated he obtained the application blank and [REDACTED] called at his home, which at that time was at 11 Revere Place, Brooklyn, New York, and they jointly filled out this application. Subject stated the application reflected that he was a member of the Communist Party and objected to the linking of communism with fascism, as the application implied, and indicated that subject was a patriotic person wishing to make a contribution to the war effort. Subject stated he took this application before a Notary Public and swore to the truthfulness of its contents, an act which at the time made him, perhaps, the only sworn Communist in the United States. Subject stated he took this application [REDACTED] the Office of War Information and handed it to them. He stated they read it and had a consultation about it in his sight, but out of reach of his hearing. Subject stated that their comment to him was, "You are really intransigent." Subject stated he returned to his house and waited anxiously for some days to hear from his application, and he began to suspect that they never actually turned it in. He stated he does not know what happened to it, for he never had a reply to that application. Subject stated he consulted with [REDACTED] about why he never heard about his application, and [REDACTED] astounded him in his home in Brooklyn by telling him he had no recollection of having helped subject make out such an application. Subject stated that upon reflection, he realized that the Communist Party had undoubtedly decided he was too well known as a communist to be sponsored for work in the Office of War Information, and they had, therefore, chosen someone else less politically prominent to take the job

he was supposed to have. Subject stated it was at that time he indicated to [REDACTED]

and that he was through. Subject stated that [REDACTED] him to become a member-at-large of the Communist Party, but subject rejected this suggestion [REDACTED]. Subject stated he has had no further contact with [REDACTED] since that time, nor has he had any contact with the Communist Party [REDACTED].

He stated he has met [REDACTED] on several occasions since then, and has attempted to extract from him an explanation of what transpired concerning his sworn application, [REDACTED] constantly denied all knowledge of such an incident, which has caused the subject to distrust [REDACTED] profoundly.

On February 13, 1958, at Paris, France, the subject executed an application for passport. In that application, the subject stated he was born September 4, 1908 at Natchez, Mississippi, and maintains his residence at 14 rue Monsieur Le Prince, Paris, France. He indicated he has resided outside the United States as follows:

France (May, 1946 to December, 1946)
France (August, 1947 to August, 1949)
Argentina
and France (September, 1949 to date)

Subject stated that he considers Paris, France to be his legal residence and indicated that the date of his return to the United States is indefinite. Subject indicated he was last married at Coytesville, New Jersey on March 12, 1941 to FRED A POPLOWICZ, who was born September 3, 1912 at New York, New York. Subject listed his father as NATHAN WRIGHT, born about 1879 in Mississippi and his mother as ELLA WILSON, born about 1881 in Mississippi. He stated the present whereabouts of his father are unknown, and that his mother presently resides in Chicago, Illinois. He listed as references: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Subject indicated that he desired a passport to permit him to visit France and other countries for the purpose of travel and business.

On February 21, 1958, the Department of State authorized the American Embassy, Paris, to issue a passport to the subject.

WFO 100-15433

The following information concerning the issuance of previous passports to the subject was set forth in his passport file:

On May 1, 1939, Passport Number 614947 was issued to the subject. In his application for that passport, subject stated he desired to travel to Mexico, England, and France for a visit of one year's duration for the purpose of study and writing.

On September 17, 1940, the subject, by letter to the Passport Office, requested the return of Passport Number 614947 which was taken from him by Immigration authorities at the Mexican border on June 15, 1940. Subject stated that on October 15, 1940, he intends to take a trip to the Soviet Union and will depart from San Francisco en route to Vladivostok via Yokahama. He stated he will be making this trip as an invited guest of the League of Russian Writers and the purpose of the trip will be to study the national minority problems existing in the Soviet Union.

On September 27, 1940, the Passport Office, by letter, informed the subject that there was no imperative necessity for his journey to the Soviet Union and that the Department of State was unable to validate his passport for the journey.

On May 13, 1941, subject, by letter to the Passport Office, requested renewal of his Passport Number 614947 in order to permit him to travel to the Soviet Union and China. He stated he intended to depart from the United States at San Francisco on July 21, 1941 for travel to Vladivostok via Kobe, Japan. Subject stated the purpose of his trip would be to write news articles for the Associated Negro Press, 3507 South Parkway, Chicago, Illinois.

On June 24, 1941, the Passport Office, by letter to the subject, informed him that the Department of State did not believe that accredited American Journalists should be permitted to proceed to the Soviet Union until the Soviet Union was disposed to be more lenient toward the travel of United States representatives.

WFO 100-15433

On March 9, 1946, subject, by letter to the Passport Office, advised that he intended to travel to France on April 15, 1946. He stated that his wife serves him in the capacity of secretary and research worker, and inasmuch as he is to represent the publication, "Twice a Year", to the French public, writing articles about French literary developments, reestablishing contacts for the distribution of the periodical, and seeking manuscripts for reproduction in America, it was necessary that she accompany him.

On April 29, 1946, Passport Number 64829 was issued to the subject and was validated for travel to France only. On March 16, 1948, subject's passport was renewed for two years. At the time of renewal, the subject stated that he has resided in France since May, 1946, for the purpose of serving as a Correspondent for the Associated Negro Press.

On March 6, 1950, Passport Number 122 was issued to the subject at the American Embassy, Buenos Aires, Argentina. In his application for that passport, the subject stated he desired a passport in order to visit France, Haiti, England, Italy, Switzerland, and Belgium.

On November 26, 1951, the American Embassy, Paris, France, furnished information to the Department of State reflecting that the subject was maintaining residence in Paris, and that the Embassy had received information indicating that the subject was willing to go to any length in order to attract attention to the problem of racial discrimination in general and to its manifestations in the United States in particular. It was further stated that the subject has been using as an instrument for his publicity, a group to which he has given the name of "Franco-American Fellowship."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
On February 21, 1952, the subject's passport Number 122 was renewed for two years at the American Embassy, London, England. At the time of renewal, subject stated he was residing at 28 Glenluce, London, England, and pursuing the occupation of writer.

On February 23, 1954, Passport Number 2538 was issued to the subject at the American Embassy, Paris, France. In his application for that passport, the subject stated he was residing with his wife, FREDA POPLOMIOZ, and two children, JULIA WRIGHT, born April 15, 1942 at Brooklyn, New York, and RACHEL WRIGHT, born January 17, 1949 at Paris, France.

WFO 100-15433

There was no additional pertinent information contained in the subject's passport file.

- RUC -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

F
4/1

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/4/58

Tjmg
FROM :

SAC, WFO (100-15433)

SUBJECT:

①
RICHARD WRIGET
SECURITY MATTER - C

b7c

Being forwarded herewith to the Bureau are four copies and to New York three copies of the report of SA [redacted] WFO, dated 4/4/58.

no *11-1*

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Copies of passport application photo of subject and his wife will be forwarded to New York via routing slip.

This case was called to the attention of WFO by ROBERT JOHNSON, Chief, Legal Section, Passport Office, Department of State.

EX-126 ENCLOSURE

- 2-Bureau (Encls. 4)
- 3-New York (Encls. 3) (RM)
- 1-WFO

1 m

[redacted]:bsb
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BT/bee

m
ber
6/14/82
Adm. on State letter 5/26/82

b7c

cc - Legat. Paris
4-17-58 (By R/S 0-25)
[redacted]

REC-1
EX-126

100-157464-40

SUBV. CONTROL

57 APR 21 1958 F139

Copy

AIRTEL

b2, b7c

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED]
FROM : SAC, CHICAGO [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
SMITH ACT OF 1940

DATE: 5-26-58

b7c

ReBulet dated May 2, 1958 entitled "U.S. V. [REDACTED] (SMITH ACT MEMBERSHIP RETRIAL)" and New York letter to Bureau May 13, 1958 entitled [REDACTED] IS-C" and my airtel of May 22, 1958.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RICHARD WRIGHT, the author of "Native Son". [REDACTED] could not place WRIGHT in the CP but recalled [REDACTED] had numerous discussions with person believed to be WRIGHT concerning a manuscript of a publication being prepared by WRIGHT. [REDACTED] the individual believed to be RICHARD WRIGHT was employed at the settlement house at 39th and Langley Avenue, Chicago, Illinois and was connected in some way with the Abraham Lincoln School of

- ③ - Bureau (RM)
- 4 - New York (RM)
- (2-100- [REDACTED] RICHARD WRIGHT)
- 5 - Chicago [REDACTED]

b2, b7c

[REDACTED]
(1-100-New RICHARD WRIGHT)

[REDACTED] JVK
(12)

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BTG/bce

CG [REDACTED]

A2, b7c

Chicago. [REDACTED] the person believed to be
WRIGHT was highly regarded by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c

Indices of the Chicago Office reflect that
RICHARD WRIGHT, the author of "Native Son" in 1936 and
1937 was using the address of Apartment Number 1, 3743 Indiana
Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

BUREAU

It is requested that the New York Division be
permitted to contact RICHARD WRIGHT concerning his possible
knowledge of [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] It is
particularly desired that information be developed of
WRIGHT concerning any statements made by [REDACTED]

THE NEW YORK DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will on receipt of permission from the Bureau,
interview RICHARD WRIGHT along the lines set out above.

[REDACTED] b7c

157464 ✓

May 29, 1958

ADVIS

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: SACS, NEW YORK
CHICAGO

FROM: DIRECTOR, FBI

CLASS. & EXT. BY...
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW...

sp8010/bca
3
15-21
1-25-81

INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SMITH ACT OF 1940

b2, b7C

Re CG airtel May 26, 1958, requesting that the Bureau authorize NY to contact Richard Wright concerning his possible knowledge of [redacted]

A review of Bufiles reflects that Wright, on February 13, 1958, executed an application for passport at Paris, France, on which he stated that he has resided outside of the U. S. since September, 1949, and that his date of returning to the U. S. is indefinite. On February 28, 1958, the Department of State authorized the issuance of a passport to Wright.

[redacted]

100-157464 (Wright)

pat

b7C

CONFIDENTIAL

b1
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
MAY 29 1958
MAILED

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 12-21-81

7218
60 JUN 10 1958

MAIL ROOM

Vertical stamp: ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 5/29/58

Handwritten initials: Dr. P. C.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

~~SECRET~~

48

Date: June 26, 1958
To: Director, FBI
From: Legal Attache, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

f 11-1

ROL
5473

Re Washington Field Office let to Bureau 4/4/58.

[REDACTED]

b1
b7D

P

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

DATE 10-21-81 *ons*

b7c

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 6-9-77 *gml*

Exempt from GDS Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
gml 6-9-77

(5)

CLASS. & EXT. BY... *Spl B/bee*
REASON - FCIM II, 1.2.4.2... *1, 3*
DATE OF REVIEW... *8-25-81*

EX-124

100-157464-41
7-7-58

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

REC-78 100-157464-41

52 JUL 8 1958

~~SECRET~~

gml

162



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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Date: July 7, 1958
To: Director, FBI
From: Legat, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY: SP-8 J. J. [unclear]
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW: 8-22-58

CS 7/18

Re Paris letter 6/26/58. J

[REDACTED]

b1
b7D

Any additional information coming to the attention of this office concerning the subject will be forwarded to the Bureau. J

One extra copy of this letter is provided for transmittal to New York, office of origin. J

P.

Enclosures - 5

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF 2040 by JMC
DATE 6-9-77

7040
S Category 1
Information Indefinite
6-9-77

100-11721-46 (1-25)
7-22-58

REC-42

100-157464-42

15 JUL 14 1958

5 ENCLOSURE

REC-42 1-9-67

Xerox made sent to Legat, Paris with Paris let. 12-19-66. / ac

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 10-21-81

67 JUL 23 1958

[REDACTED]

b7C



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

~~SECRET~~

Washington, D. C.
July 7, 1958

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP8/BJK*
REASON - FCIM II 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *8-25-81* REYNARD WRIGHT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*b1
b7D*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) *2040* *by JK*
DATE *6-9-77*

~~SECRET~~
Exempt from GDS Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
2040
ARC-6-9-77

cc - State by (0-144)
CIA by (0-148)
ACSI by (0-144)
Ny by (0-25)

AGENCY _____
REQ REC'D _____
DATE FORW. *7-22-58*
HOW FORW. *R/S*
BY *[Signature]*

b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
ENCLOSURE

7/10

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) *Class*
DATE *10-31-81*



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

Jan

Date: August 21, 1958
To: Director, FBI
From: Legal Attache, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

*ROL
6-27-58*

11-1

Re Paris let 7/7/58.

[REDACTED]

*b1
b7D*

P

2 - Bureau
1 - Paris
(3) :AM
Date of Declassification Indefinite
6-9-77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)
DATE *6-9-77*

*rec - NY by 4/5 (0-25)
9-3-58*

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP8 BTJ/bla*
FRAGILE - FORM 1, 2, 42
DATE OF REVIEW *8-25-81*

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EX-135

REC-93 100-157464-43

13 AUG 26 1958

52 SEP 4 1958

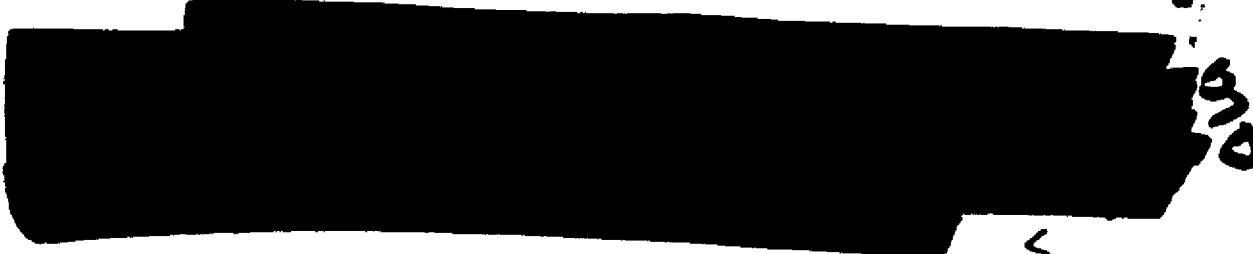
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)
DATE *10-21-81 end*



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

Date: October 29, 1958
To: Director, FBI
From: Legat, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

Re Paris letter 8/21/58.



2 - Bureau
1 - Paris
[redacted]:CM
(3)

Classified by 2040
Exempt from GDS Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
6-9-77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) 2040 by Jm
DATE 6-9-77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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100-157467-44
REC'D 1 BT

100 - 157467 - 44
NOV 4 1958

REC'D
DATE FORW
HOW FORW
BY

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) Class
DATE 10-27-87

SUBJECT CONTROL

b7c



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

Date: November 21, 1958
To: Director, FBI
From: Legat, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

211-1

Re Paris letter 10/29/58. ✓



bl
b7D

RUC.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Paris
- CM

(3)

Classified by 2640
Exempt from GDS Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

JUL 49-79

AGENCY 06-100
REQ. REC'D 18-9-58
DATE FORW. 1-27-59
HOW FORW. [redacted]
BY [redacted]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF 2640 by [redacted]

DATE 6-9-77

REC 2 1 58 AM 28

CLASS. & EXT. BY 8008/10/22
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 8-25-91 100-151464-45
F-25-81

11 DEC 2 1958

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

NOV 35 1 30 PM '58

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF 2640

DATE 10-27-87

SUBV. CONTROL



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

~~SECRET~~

Date: February 13, 1959
To: Director, FBI
From: Legat, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

yes 11

Re Paris letter 11/21/58. ✓

bl
b7D



RUC.

2 - Bureau
1 - Paris
CM
(3)

b7c

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP8 BT/2/lee*
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2... *1, 3*
DATE OF REVIEW... *8-25-81*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) ON... *6-9-71*
DATE

Classified by *7040*
Exempt from GDS Category *1*
Date of Declassification Indefinite
9/26/68-77

~~SECRET~~

W

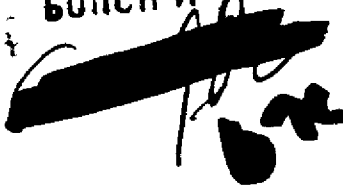
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *6-5-81* BY *SP8 BT/2/lee*

52 FEB 27 1959

REC-33
FEB 50 5 50 PM '59

100-157464-46

FEB 20 1959



SUBV CONTROL

[REDACTED] b7c

Legal Attache, Paris (100-697)

February 19, 1959

Director, FBI (100-157464)

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SPY [signature]*
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *6-25-81*

RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reurlet 11-21-58.

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED] c

b1
b7D

[REDACTED] c

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (route through for review) *Det [signature]*

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Wright's Security Index card canceled 1948. Self-admitted member of CP approximately 1932 to 1944. Has lived in Paris since 1946. Author of well-known books "Black Boy" and "Native Son," which decry treatment of Negroes in both South and North. Has publicized his break with the CP but alleged to retain some of his previous sympathies.

[Handwritten initials]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Nease _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

fbm
(6) *[Handwritten]*

LEGAT
9 - FEB 20
COMM - FBI

CONFIDENTIAL REC-58

100-157464-47

25 FEB 25 1959

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT
67 MAR 2 - 1959

[Handwritten initials]



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

Date: February 26, 1959
To: Director, FBI (100-157464)
From: Legal Attache, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SECURITY MATTER - C

ReBulet 2/19/59 and Paris let 2/13/59. U

[REDACTED]

b1
b7D

RJC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

2 - Bureau Classified by 2040
1 - Paris Exempt from GDS Category 1
(3) :AM Date of Declassification Indefinite
gmc / 6-9-77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF 2040 by gmc
DATE 6-9-77

b7c

b7c

CLASS. & EXT BY SP8 BTJ/Bea REC-91
REASON FOR EXT 1.3
DATE OF REVIEW 8-25-81

100-157464-48

MAR 2 1959

5 33 6W 28

BOUCH WYIF

52 MAR 5 1959

SURVEILLANCE CONTROL



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATE AGENCIES

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

SLIP (S)
DATE

Declassify
3/8/80

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Date: February 11, 1960

To: Director, FBI (100-157464)

CLASS. EXT. BY
REASON - FCIM II
DATE OF REVIEW

From: Legat, Paris (100-697)

Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SM - C

DECLASSIFIED BY
2/5/82

5/16/81
8/25/81
47

Reference Paris Office letter to Director 2/26/59.

On 1/21/60, Headquarters, United States Army
Communications Zone Europe (USACOMZEUR), Office of the
Director of Security, furnished the Paris Office with a
report captioned "Possible Subversives Among US Personnel
in France" dated 1/18/60. This report contains a summary
of information developed by the above agency in the course
of a security investigation of [REDACTED]
Bufile [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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per Army
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[REDACTED]

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per Army

Bureau (1 - New York)
Paris

CONFIDENTIAL
REC-24

100-157464-249

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5 FEB 15 1960

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Xerox made sent to Legat Paris with Paris let.
12-19-66 (re [REDACTED])

b7c

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP DATE 10-2-80

Cl

February 11, 1960

[REDACTED]

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per
Army

Subject WRIGHT, according to this report, resides at 14 rue Monsieur le Prince, Paris 6.

The following information was set forth in the above-referenced U. S. Army report:

"In December 1951, [REDACTED] stated that Richard WRIGHT is active in the French Communist Party and has been engaged in spreading communist doctrine through the [REDACTED]

b7D
per
Army

X

Director, FBI

February 11, 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FAFG. Mrs. Richard WRIGHT is the active communist member of the family and has made a point of 'insulting Negro personnel who hold views other than communist.' Two acquaintances of Source who had attended some meetings stated that as far as they had been able to discover, the FAFG was devoting all of its time to very uncontrolled discussion of the things that were 'wrong with the US.' Source stated that WRIGHT had boasted that he had 'the State Department in my pocket--they call me in for conferences, the fools.' (u)

"In January 1952, an American Negro male student then attending the University of Paris stated that in about June or July 1950, Richard WRIGHT asked Source to join a 'protest' group aimed at 'forcing the employment of more of the Americans of African ancestry' in US government jobs in Paris. Source told WRIGHT that it would be better to be certain of facts before 'going off half-cocked.' WRIGHT then accused Source of having an 'Uncle Tom attitude.' Later the organization tried to interfere with the French policy of employment and held protest meetings at which the members discussed the fact that Algerians, Africans, and French colonials were not employed in other than menial capacities in Paris." (u)

The above data is being furnished to the Bureau and the New York Office for purposes of information and possible interest.

No further action is being taken in this matter but in the event pertinent information is received in the future on captioned subject, it will be furnished to the Bureau and NYO.

RUC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Central Research Section

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

Richard Wright, Novelist, Author of 'Native Son'

PARIS, Nov. 30 (AP). Richard Wright, the Negro author, died of a heart attack Monday night.

The Mississippi-born writer, a longtime Paris resident, is best known for his novels such as "Black Boy" and "The Outsider" dealing with the problems of the Negro in American society.

Mr. Wright, 52, who had suffered recently from intestinal trouble, was hospitalized Saturday for treatment.

Mr. Wright's latest work dealt with a theme he spent a lifetime exploring. Titled "Fishbelly," the book traces the impact of American racial attitudes upon the Negro.

Mr. Wright was born near Natchez, Miss., on September 4, 1908. He attended a Seventh Day Adventist school near his home but quit and

He did his first writing during the depression under the auspices of the Federal Writers Project, first in Chicago in 1935 and then in New York in 1937.

Mr. Wright began contributing articles and stories to small literary magazines and to the Daily Worker and New Masses, both Communist publications. He first attracted national attention with "Uncle Tom's Children" in 1938.

"Native Son," published in 1940, established him as one of the foremost American contemporary authors.

Mr. Wright was identified by a Government investigation witness in 1952 as a former Communist who broke with the party.

work in Memphis, Tenn., at the age of 15.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8 BTJ/buc

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5/9/81

- The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star BS
- New York Herald Tribune _____
- New York Journal-American _____
- New York Mirror _____
- New York Daily News _____
- New York Post _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Worker _____
- The New Leader _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- Date _____

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EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Paris 8, France

Date: December 7, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-157464)
From: Legat, Paris (100-697)
Subject: RICHARD WRIGHT
SM - C

Re Paris letter 2/11/60.

Enclosed is a clipping from the 11/30/60 issue of the "New York Herald Tribune", European Edition, Paris, reflecting the death of the subject at Paris on 11/28/60.

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1 - Paris
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 8-25-81 BY SP8/BJC

[Handwritten signature]

Richard Wright Dies in Paris; American Negro Author, 52

American Negro author Richard Wright, 52, has died of a heart attack in Paris. Death came to the Mississippi-born writer Mon-

day night. A longtime Paris resident, he is best known for his novels, such as "Black Boy" and "The Outsider," dealing with the problem of the Negro in American society.

He had suffered recently from intestinal trouble and was hospitalized Saturday for treatment.

His latest work, published by Julliard just a few weeks ago, dealt with the theme he spent a lifetime exploring. Titled "Fish-belly," the book traces the impact of American racial attitudes upon the Negro.

Mr. Wright was born near Natchez, Miss., on Sept. 4, 1908. He attended a Seventh Day Adventist school near his home but quit and went to work in Memphis, Tenn., at the age of 15.

From Memphis

From Memphis, he drifted to Chicago, where he worked at odd jobs.

His first writing was done during the depression under the auspices of the Federal Writers Project, first in Chicago in 1935 and then in New York in 1937.

He began contributing articles and stories to small literary magazines. He first attracted national attention with "Uncle Tom's Children" in 1938.

"Native Son," published in 1940, established him as one of the foremost American contemporary authors.

New York Herald
Tribune
European Edition
Paris, France
11/30/60

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-81 BY SP10/abc

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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May 9, 1963

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REC-13

100-157464-51

**RICHARD NATHANIEL WRIGHT;
EDWARD MARGOLIES**

- 1 - Mr. WC Sullivan
- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. Stefansson

EX-114

[REDACTED]

According to newspaper articles, Richard Wright, who appears to be identical with Richard Nathaniel Wright, born on September 4, 1908, a renowned American Negro author died as a result of a heart attack in Paris, France, on November 29, 1960. (100-157464)

[REDACTED]

1 - London

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (detached)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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White Man Is Intrusive

Reviewed by Carl F. Storer
Political Scientist With the Brookings Institution

WHITE MAN... LISTEN! By Richard Wright. Doubleday, \$3.

THOSE WHO need to read this book will probably not do so, because it is written by a Negro. Those who do read it may not like it, especially if they are inclined to feel that everything said about social problems must be constructive. For this is a bitter and vituperative book, "explosive and blatantly unacademic."

Richard Wright comments ardently on white-colored relations in the world, dealing principally with the psychological impact of white men's intrusions on colored peoples. Whether they came as missionaries, businessmen or conquerors, Wright argues, they have helped to undermine the cultures of Africa and Asia.

Thus, the colored man has been alienated from his own, while he is also prevented from becoming a part of the white culture around him. He remains the true

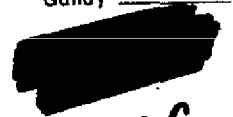
outsider, living in two worlds, and able to believe in neither.

No solutions or plans of action are presented. Wright contends that "we all, deep in our hearts, know exactly what to do, though most of us would rather die than do it." Who can say that he is wrong?

To those familiar with Wright's work, this book will have a familiar, personal ring. Perhaps more than the plight of the world's colored peoples, it reflects his own plight as a talented and sensitive American Negro. Reading it, one is mindful of his closing words in an earlier essay:

"I would hurl words into this darkness and wait for an echo; and if an echo sounded, no matter how faintly, I would send other words to tell, to march, to fight, to create a sense of the hunger for life that grows in us all to keep alive in our hearts a sense of the inexpressibly human."

INDEXED - 2



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EX-117
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- Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
- Wash. News _____
- Wash. Star _____
- N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
- N. Y. Journal-American _____
- N. Y. Mirror _____
- N. Y. Daily News _____
- N. Y. Times _____
- Daily Worker _____
- The Worker _____
- New Leader _____

Date DEC 20 1957

DEC 15 1957

WHY I QUIT COMMUNISM

By Richard Wright

The Author

Richard Wright was born in 1908 on a plantation 25 miles from Natchez, Miss; of poor Negro parents. Deserted by his father, his mother, a washerwoman brought him up. At 15 he left home and worked for two years in Memphis, where he read E. L. Menckens' 'A Book of Prefaces' and decided to become a writer. With \$150 in his pocket he went to Chicago and earned his living by odd jobs until the depression put him out of work. His books are: 'Uncle Tom's Children' (short stories), 'Bigger Was Born,' 'Native Son' and 'Black Boy.'

was readily granted. When the time came to speak, I said: 'Comrades, for the past two years I've worked daily with most of you. Despite this, I have for some time found myself in a difficult position in the Party. What caused this difficulty is a long story which I do not care to recite now; it would serve no purpose. But I tell you honestly that I think I've found a solution of my difficulty. I am proposing here tonight that my membership be dropped from the Party rolls.

No ideological differences impel me to say this. I simply do not wish to be bound any longer by the Party's decisions. I should like to retain my membership in those organizations in which the Party has influence, and I shall comply with the Party's program in those organizations. I hope that my words will be accepted in the spirit in which they are said. Perhaps sometime in the future I can meet and talk with the leaders of the Party as to what tasks I can best perform.

I sat down amid a profound silence. 'Is there any discussion of Comrade Wright's statement?' the secretary asked finally. 'I move that discussion of Wright's statement be deferred,' Nealson said.

The next night two Negro Communists called at my home. They pretended to be ignorant of what had happened at the unit meeting. Patiently, I explained what had occurred.

'Your story does not agree with what Nealson says,' they said.

'And what does Nealson say?' I asked.

'He says that you are in league with a Trotskyite group, and that you made an appeal for other Party members to follow you leaving the Party.'

'Perhaps, since I was leaving the Party, I thought, out of my feelings I could bring spark into this darkness. I would try, not because I wanted to live because I felt that I had to if I were to live at all.'

I would hurl words into the darkness and wait for an echo and, if an echo sounded, no matter how faintly, I would use other words to tell, to march, fight, to create a sense of hunger for life that grows in all, to keep alive in our hearts a sense of the inexpressibly human.

From the book THE GOD THAT FAILED. Copyright © 1955 by Richard Wright. Published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

Why Stephen... nualism.

The Communist Party fraction in the John Reed Club in Chicago instructed me to ask my party cell—"unit," as it was called—to assign me to full duty in the work of the club. I was instructed to give my unit a report of my activities, writing, organizing, speaking. I agreed and wrote the report.

I went to my first unit meeting—which was held in the Black Belt of the South Side—and introduced myself to the Negro organizer.

"Welcome, comrade," he said, grinning. "We're glad to have a writer with us."

The time came for me to make my report, and I took out my notes and told them how I had come to join the Party, what few stray items I had published, what my duties were in the John Reed Club.

I finished, and waited for comment. There was silence.

I looked about. Most of the comrades sat with bowed heads. Then I was surprised to catch a twitching smile on the lips of a Negro woman. Minutes passed. The Negro woman lifted her head and looked at the organizer. The organizer smoothed a smile. Then the woman broke into unrestrained laughter, bending forward and burying her face in her hands. I stared. Had I said something funny?

During the following days, I learned through discreet questioning that I seemed a fantastic element to the black Communists. I was shocked to hear that I, who had been only to grammar school, had been classified as an INTELLECTUAL.

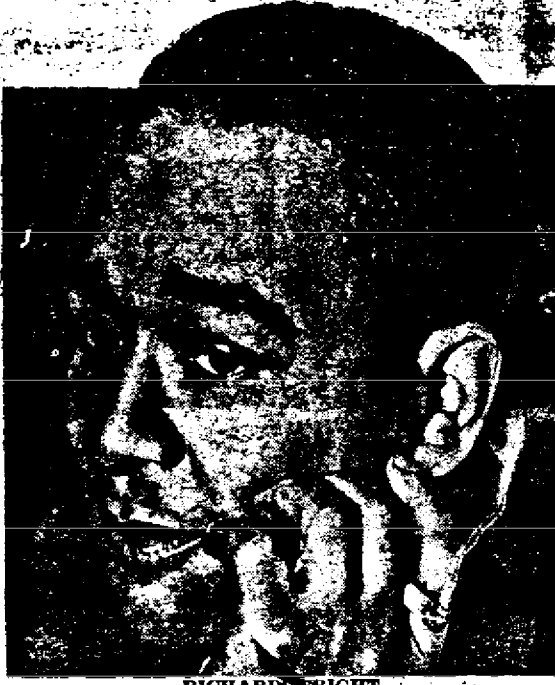
I learned, to my dismay, that the black Communists in my unit had commented upon my shined shoes, my clean skirt, and the tie that I had worn. Above all, my manner of speech had seemed an alien thing to them.

"He talks like a book," one of the Negro comrades had said. And that was enough to condemn me forever as bourgeois.

PARTY DUTIES BROKE into my efforts at expression. The club decided upon a conference of all the Left-Wing writers of the Middle West. I supported the idea and argued that the conference should deal with craft problems. My arguments were rejected. The conference, the club defined as a political activity.

Both, was the answer. Write a few hours a day and march on the picket line the other hours.

The conference convened with a leading Communist attending as adviser. The question debated was: What does the Communist Party expect from the club? The answer of the Communist leader



RICHARD WRIGHT The Names They Called Him!

ran from organizing to writing novels. I argued that either a man organized or he wrote novels. The Party leader said that both must be done. The attitude of the Party leader prevailed and Left Front, for which I had worked so long, was voted out of existence.

The ideas I had expounded at the conference were linked with the suspicions I had roused among the Negro Communists on the South Side, and the Communist Party was now certain that it had a dangerous enemy in its midst. It was whispered that I was trying to lead a secret group in opposition to the Party. I had learned that denial of accusations was useless. It was now painful to meet a Communist, for I did not know what his attitude would be.

I AVOIDED UNIT MEETINGS for fear of being subjected to discipline. Occasionally, a Negro Communist—defying the code that enjoined him to shun suspect elements—came to my home

and informed me of the current charges that Communists were bringing against one another. To my astonishment I heard that Buddy Nealson had branded me a "smuggler of reaction."

Buddy Nealson was the Negro who had formulated the Communist position for the American Negro; he had made speeches in the Kremlin; he had spoken for Joe Stalin himself.

"Why does Nealson call me that?" I asked.

"He says that you are a bourgeois degenerate," I was told.

"What does that mean?"

"He says that you are organizing the Party with your ideas. I sought an appointment with Buddy Nealson. He was a short, black man with an ever ready smile, thick lips, a furtive glower, and a greasy, sweaty nose. He suffered from asthma and would snort at unexpected intervals.

"They tell me you write."

"I try to," I said.

"You can write," he snorted.

read that article you wrote for the New Masses about Joe Louis. Good stuff. First political treatment of sports we've yet had. Ha-ha."

I waited. "Dick," he began, "we're short of forces. We're facing a grave crisis."

"The Party's always facing a crisis," I said.

His smile left and he stared at me.

"You're not cynical, are you, Dick?" he asked.

"No," I said. "But it's the truth. Each week, each month, there's a crisis."

"You're a funny guy," he said, laughing snorting again. "But we've a job to do. We're alerting our work. Fascism's the danger, the danger to all people."

"I understand," I said.

"We've got to defeat the Fascists," he said, snorting from asthma. "We've discussed you and know your abilities. We want you to work with us. We've got to crash out of our narrow way of working and get our message to the church people, students, club people, professionals, middle class."

"I don't know if I fit into things," I said openly.

"We want to trust you with an important assignment," he said.

"What do you want me to do?"

"We want you to organize a committee against the high cost of living."

I was in the midst of writing a novel and he was calling me from it to tabulate the price of groceries.

"Comrade Nealson," I said, "a writer who hasn't written anything worthwhile is a most doubtful person. Now, I'm in that category. Yet I think I can write. I don't want to ask for special favors, but I'm in the midst of a book which I hope to complete in six months or so. Let me convince myself that I'm wrong about my hankering to write and then I'll be with you all the way."

"Dick," he said, turning in his chair and waving his hand as though to brush away an insect that was annoying him, "you've got to get to the masses of people."

"Dick," he spoke seriously now, "the Party has decided that you are to accept this task."

I went out, angry with myself, angry with him, angry with the Party. Well, I had not broken the decision, but neither had I accepted it wholly.

I ATTENDED THE NEXT unit meeting and asked for a place on the agenda, which

Internal Security - Hoover

33 SEP 25 1950

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