

U. S. Department of Justice

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FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 20, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: JAMES FARMER
SECURITY MATTER - C

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September, 1944:

Informant advised that he had received information that a notice of a meeting of special importance to members of the Midtown Communist Club had been prepared. These notices were to be mailed only to members of the club who would probably make a contribution to the club. The Subject was to receive one of these notices.

[Redacted]

The above is submitted for informative purposes only. No investigation is being contemplated by the Detroit Field Division.

WRH:DMF
100-13375

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100-342146-1

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-26-65

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FROM : M. A. Jones *V*

SUBJECT: JAMES FARMER, CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
HOSEA WILLIAMS, STUDENT NON-VIOLENT COORDINATING
COMMITTEE

N 4-1

BACKGROUND:

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[redacted] Office of Congressman George W. Andrews (D-Alabama), contacted your office yesterday regarding captioned individuals and in your absence spoke to [redacted] inquired as to whether or not we could give him any guidance concerning the background of captioned individuals, particularly that of a public source nature.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

James Farmer, National Director of Congress Of Racial Equality (CORE), was born in Marshall, Texas, on 1-12-20. He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from Wiley College and later enrolled in the School of Religion of Howard University, Washington, D. C., to prepare for the Methodist ministry. He allegedly received the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in 1941, but declined ordination. He is an advocate of nonviolent resistance in racial matters. He was one of the 13 Freedom Riders aboard the Greyhound Bus which was burned in Anniston, Alabama, in May, 1961. He has been arrested several times in connection with his racial activities. Indications are that Farmer has been anticommunist and has directed his efforts toward preventing communist infiltration or domination of CORE.

100-342146-2

Farmer has been critical of the FBI and the Director on certain occasions in the past. Late in November, 1964, Farmer made a demand with other Negro civil rights leaders that the Director resign his position because of his alleged vendetta against civil rights groups. Farmer has also been irresponsible in some of his statements regarding FBI jurisdiction. While making a speech at Hollywood, Florida, in July, 1964, he claimed that he and other civil rights leaders were on an assassination list and that the FBI had undertaken to protect him and some other civil rights crusaders in their travels through some areas. This, of course, was not true as Farmer has been informed many times by you, Mr. DeLoach, that the FBI cannot offer him protection and we have never done this for him in the past.

In connection with his unfair criticism in November, 1964, you, Mr. DeLoach, met him on 12-1-64, here at FBI Headquarters regarding some of the statements that had been attributed to him and Martin Luther King. At the end of

1 - Mr. DeLoach

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M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo
re: JAMES FARMER, HOSEA WILLIAMS [redacted]

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your discussion with him, he claimed he wanted to part as friends and he hoped the pleasant relationship he enjoys with you would continue at which time he was assured that this could only be possible as long as his unfair criticism ceased. On 12-4-68, after the civil rights arrests in Mississippi that day, NBC special television coverage included an interview with Farmer at which time he was very complimentary about the FBI in connection with its work in civil rights cases in Mississippi, including the Beckwith case and the Penn case in Georgia.

Reverend Hosea Lorenzo Williams has been very active in the integration movement in the South, particularly in the field of voter registration. Williams was very active in such matters as President of the Chatham County Crusade for Voters in 1962 and 1963, at which time he was allegedly employed as a chemist with the Department of Agriculture while residing in Thunderbolt, Georgia. It is understood that Williams, in connection with his voter registration activities, has been in touch with the Department of Justice on several occasions regarding alleged election law violations.

Williams' name came up today in connection with the murder of Viola Gregg Liuzzo last night in Alabama while traveling between Selma and Montgomery. It appears that Williams was one of the first persons to be contacted by LeRoy Moton, the 20-year-old colored boy who was traveling with Mrs. Liuzzo at the time she was murdered. Williams told the reporters about what Moton related concerning the shooting affair.

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[redacted] has been very active in the Mississippi Project as well as other racial matters throughout the South. He was born [redacted] He has been arrested approximately two dozen times in connection with racial matters [redacted] He has been a critic of the FBI and has publicly come out for a Federal police force with the power to investigate local police agencies allegedly engaged in brutality. He sent a protest to the Attorney General in August, 1963, relative to the arrest of three civil rights workers in Albany, Georgia. Numerous attempts to interview him proved futile and eventually he advised he was not available for interview and we learned that his complaint was based on hearsay. While speaking at a rally in California in December, 1963, he stayed at the home of the well-known communist leader, Frank Wilkinson.

Congressman George W. Andrews has been a good friend to the Bureau for many years and we have had frequent contacts with him in matters of mutual interest.

RECOMMENDATION: That a representative of your office contact Congressman Andrews and inform him of the above public source data relative to Farmer, [redacted] and Williams.

Mrs. [Signature] ✓ *[Signature]* *[Signature]*

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 4-1-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: JAMES FARMER, CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
HOSEA WILLIAMS, STUDENT NON-VIOLENT COORDINATING
COMMITTEE

DeLoach	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	-b6
Holmes	_____
Gandy	-b7C

[Redacted]

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Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated 3-26-65, captioned as above, wherein it was recommended and approved that we contact the Office of Congressman George W. Andrews (D-Alabama) to confidentially furnish him public source data included in referenced memorandum about captioned individuals.

SA [Redacted] on 3-31-65 furnished the information to [Redacted] Assistant to Congressman Andrews, in the Congressman's absence. In the conversation with [Redacted] it became apparent that he was really only interested in information indicating communist connections on the part of civil rights leaders. After some discussion, he stated their interest in this information was precipitated by an urgent request from Governor George Wallace of Alabama.

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[Redacted] indicated the information furnished him would not satisfy the Governor. He then asked what information we might have concerning the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. It was pointed out to him that he had not requested information regarding King. He stated he realized this was true but he would like to secure any information available indicating King's association with the communist movement. [Redacted] was told that it has been publicly reported that King was associated with Hunter Pitts O'Dell, a person long active in the communist movement. [Redacted] said that he was aware of this but wanted additional information. He was told that we are unable to make any further comment.

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100-439190-216
62-89424

[Redacted] then stated that while he was not at liberty to identify this specific committee he did know that Mr. Hoover had recently testified off the record before a Congressional Committee to the effect that King's speeches are written by a New York attorney who is a communist. He stated this information

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EX-102

APR 12 1965 (continued next page)

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RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

APR 1 5 16 PM '65

REC'D-MOHR
FBI

APR 1 3 09 PM '65

MR. JONES
REC'D BELMONT
FBI JUSTICE

APR 1 12 39 PM '65

APR 6 1 21 PM '65

APR 2 10 20 AM '65

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SENSTUDY 75

NOTATIONS HEREIN ACCOUNT FOR ACCESS AND/OR DELIVERY OF THIS DOCUMENT TO SENATE
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NOTE: FORM IN WHICH ACCESS AND/OR DELIVERY WAS MADE MAY BE DIFFERENT
THAN REPRESENTED BY THIS DOCUMENT IN THAT CERTAIN EXCISIONS MAY HAVE BEEN
MADE. FOR ACCESS/DELIVERY FORM, SEE BUFILE (S) 62-116395 (SSC), 62-116464 (HSC).

ACC. _____	DATE _____	ACC. _____	DATE _____
DEL. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DATE <u>1/22/75</u>	DEL. _____	DATE _____

SSC 62-116395-877 HSC _____

MISC. DOCUMENTS FURNISHED TO SSC RE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WERE ALSO FURNISHED
TO E. OF KING THROUGH THE DEPT. AS INDICATED BELOW FOR DOCUMENT, DATE
DENOTED DELIVERY TO DEPT. SEE BUFILE 100-106670 FOR FORM INVENTORISHED.
_____ TO DEPT.

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FBI
APR 1 5 24 PM '65
APR 3 03 PM '65
APR 8 03 PM '65
APR 24 49 PM '65
REC'D-MOHR
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REC'D-TOLSON'S OFFICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
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FBI

REC'D DE LOACH
FBI

M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo
RE: James Farmer, Congress of Racial Equality

has "leaked" back to Alabama and the Congressman is being pressured to obtain same in greater detail.

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[redacted] was told that by Departmental order information in the files of the FBI is confidential and can be released only by the Attorney General. He indicated consideration would be given to possibly requesting a report on King from the Attorney General.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

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GRE

[Handwritten signature]

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We must adhere to
fact our files are
confidential & we
cannot disclose the
contents.

[Handwritten signature]