

February 19, 1969

JAMES L. FARMER - summary

James L. Farmer, who was born on January 12, 1920, at Marshall, Texas, has been associated with the civil rights movement in the United States for many years. He is the former National Director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and was one of the thirteen freedom riders aboard the Greyhound bus which was burned in Anniston, Alabama, in May, 1961. He has been arrested on several occasions on misdemeanor charges arising out of racial disturbances. He reportedly is anticommunist and has frequently directed his efforts toward preventing communist infiltration of organizations with which he has been connected, including CORE.

Mr. Farmer reportedly was a cochairman of the March on Washington in August, 1963. He reportedly is an advocate of nonviolent resistance in racial matters. While associated with CORE he promoted the concept of fighting discrimination by peaceful means. He has been contacted on a number of occasions by representatives of this Bureau concerning racial matters and was always found to be cooperative. He has also furnished information concerning racial matters to various field offices of the FBI.

[redacted] who was born [redacted]
[redacted] the wife of captioned individual, [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] characterized James Farmer as a pacifist who was motivated by religious beliefs. He was also characterized as being a conscientious objector in the event he was called to serve the United States Armed Forces. [redacted]

[redacted] also was characterized as a "sincere pacifist and religiously motivated."

[redacted] were considered anticommunist.

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/13/00 BY 60269/NS-uc/kc

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ENCLOSURE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE PHILADELPHIA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 2/24/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/20-24/69
TITLE OF CASE JAMES LEONARD FARMER		REPORT MADE BY [Redacted]	TYPED BY rel
DECLASSIFIED BY <u>tdab/TNS-cc-rc</u> ON <u>4/13/00</u>		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

REFERENCE

BuTels Philadelphia 2/18, 19 & 20/69.

- RUC -

NEGATIVE INFORMANTS

[Redacted]	(PROB)	2/24/69	SA	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	(PROB)	2/24/69	SA	[Redacted]

5/15/80
CLASSIFIED BY SP5 RSC/mca
EXEMPT FROM 1-2.4.2
DECLASSIFIED 2-24-89

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED

CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	ACQUIT-TALS

CASE HAS BEEN:

PENDING OVER ONE YEAR YES NO
 PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS YES NO

APPROVED *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:
 (1) - Bureau
 1 - Philadelphia(161-1323)

161-1323-21
 NOT RECORDED
 FEB 26 1969
 APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF DATE 3/23/69

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	By

Notations

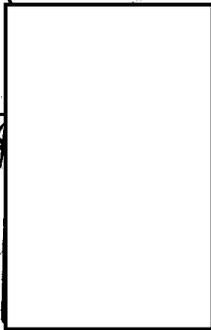
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PH 161-1323



(PROB)

2/24/69

SA

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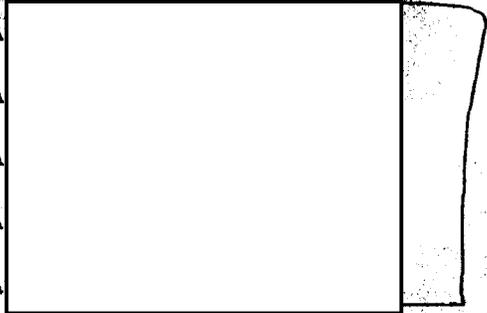
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

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Report of:

[Redacted]

Office: PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Date:

FEBRUARY 24, 1969

Field Office File #:

161-1323

Bureau File #:

Title:

JAMES LEONARD FARMER

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
5-15-80 BY SP5 RJG/mw

Synopsis:

Appointee received honorary Doctor of Laws Degree, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pa., 6/2/68.

Appointee employed as union organizer, Upholsterers' International Union of North America, during approximate period 1945-47, exact dates not verified; employed as Professor of Social Welfare, Lincoln University, Pa., 1966-67; and part-time professor of Social Work, Lincoln University, 1967-68. Employments satisfactory. No credit or arrest record located for appointee, Philadelphia, Pa., and no arrest record located Lincoln University, Pa. Informants who have some knowledge of racial and/or subversive type activities in the Greater Philadelphia area have no knowledge of such activities on the part of appointee.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

Investigation at Allentown, Pa., conducted by SA [Redacted] at Lincoln University and Avondale, Pa., by SA [Redacted] credit and arrest

checks, Philadelphia, Pa., by IC [Redacted] remainder of investigation by SA [Redacted]

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EDUCATION

At Allentown, Pa.

On February 24, 1968 [redacted]

[redacted] Muhlenberg College, advised that JAMES LEONARD FARMER was a speaker at the commencement exercises of the college on June 2, 1968. She advised that the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon JAMES FARMER at this time.

[redacted] reviewed the college files concerning Dr. FARMER and advised that he was obtained from the Harry Walker, Inc. Agency, 350 5th Avenue, suite 3406, New York, N.Y. She stated that his selection as a commencement speaker was upon the recommendation of a group of students who submitted nominations for commencement speakers. She advised that Dr. FARMER was not acquainted personally with any faculty member or student at the university. She advised that he was also not acquainted with [redacted] of the university. She stated that the files contained no unusual information in relationship to a commencement speaker and that the speech by Dr. FARMER was well received.

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[redacted] made available a copy of the citation which was delivered by [redacted] prior to the address by Dr. FARMER. The citation is as follows:

"The name and the work of JAMES FARMER will long endure as one of the landmarks in the history of the struggle of the American Negro for freedom and equality. As one of the founders of CORE (The Congress of Racial Equality), Mr. FARMER served as National Director of that organization from 1961 until 1966. In this position he played a major role in focusing the attention and the conscience of all thoughtful Americans upon the injustices suffered by the black people of this country.

"JAMES FARMER has been arrested and imprisoned many times for practicing his deeply felt conviction through the means of non-violent direct action. This method of redressing grievances has since the time of Ghandi been regarded by many in the modern world as morally legitimate and politically effective. Mr. FARMER was born in Marshall, Texas in 1920, the grandson of a slave. He received his BS from Wiley in 1938 and BD Degree from Howard University in 1941. In 1965 he was awarded a PhD in Humanities by Morgan State College. JAMES FARMER is presently Professor of Social Welfare at Lincoln University and Adjunct Professor at New York University where he teaches courses dealing with the history of the civil rights movement and the nature of the present "black revolution" as a part of contemporary American politics.

"In addition to his extensive lecturing and teaching, Mr. FARMER has written numerous articles and an autobiography entitled, "Freedom - When?" He is at present a liberal independent candidate for the United States Congress from the 12th congressional district in Brooklyn, N.Y. Mr. FARMER has throughout his career raised a clear, strong, and honest voice in confronting extremists on any siding. He has frequently been controversial in his statements and behavior; he has been clearly a credit to himself, his country, and his race."

[redacted] made available a letter from [redacted] of Muhlenberg College to Harry Walker dated June 4, 1968 in which he stated, "Dr. FARMER made a excellent presentation on the general topic of civil rights. His message was received with enthusiastic and sustained applause by the large audience in attendance. Our graduates were most appreciative of his presentation."

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EMPLOYMENT

At Philadelphia, Pa.

Upholsterers' International Union
of North America,
1500 North Broad Street

On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Personnel Department, advised she could locate no record of JAMES LEONARD FARMER having been employed as an international representative for the union during the period 1945-47. She stated, however, that this is not unusual the union did not maintain complete records at that time for such employees and many records dating to that period have been destroyed. She suggested [redacted] of the Contracts Department, might possibly recall FARMER or have some record of his employment.

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On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Contracts Department, advised after a review of his records he could locate no information concerning the specific dates of FARMER's employment. However, he did find mention of FARMER's name in a 1948 annual report, which covered the year 1947, reflecting FARMER was employed as a "union organizer." [redacted] could locate no records which reflected the areas in which he worked as an organizer. He did not recall FARMER personally as [redacted] did not begin work for the union until 1950.

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[redacted] did, however, locate two long-time employees of the union who recalled that JAMES FARMER did work as an organizer during the approximate period 1945-47 and worked primarily in the deep South where the union was having organization problems at that time. His duties would have been to visit various union locals and assist officials in organizing and increasing membership at furniture factories throughout the South.

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[redacted] said the employees who did recall FARMER did not know him except by reputation as he seldom came to the union headquarters in Philadelphia; however, they knew nothing derogatory concerning his reputation, character, associates or loyalty to the government. He felt that if such information existed it certainly would be reflected in Union files, and it is not. He stated that the only person who possibly would have known FARMER well as a Union employee was ARTHUR G. MC DOWELL, former Educational Director for the Union, now deceased.

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EAS:VFH
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At Lincoln University, Pa.

On February 24, 1969, [redacted] Lincoln University, advised JAMES L. FARMER was a Professor of Social Welfare at Lincoln during the academic year 1966 to 1967. During this period he commuted on a regular basis from New York City and did not reside at the University.

[redacted] stated FARMER was a part-time professor of Social Work for the academic year 1967-68 and commuted during this period.

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[redacted] advised he was one of FARMER's closest associates at the University and found him to be of excellent character and associates. He knew him to be a fine speaker who got along well with students and handled intricate racial problems with finesse. He considered FARMER to be a moderate who advocated separation and believes him to be of unquestioned loyalty to the United States.

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[redacted] advised [redacted] of Lincoln University was the only other individual who knew FARMER but that [redacted] was presently out of town.

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EAS:VRH

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CREDIT AND ARREST

At Avondale, Pa.

On February 24, 1969, [REDACTED] Pennsylvania State Police, Avondale Barracks, which has jurisdiction over Lincoln University, advised his files contained no record for JAMES L. FARMER.

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At Philadelphia, Pa.

Records of the Philadelphia Credit Bureau, Inc., were searched by member of that Bureau on February 24, 1969, and no record identifiable with appointee was located.

Records of the Philadelphia Police Department were searched by member of that department on February 24, 1969, and no arrest record was located for appointee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Informants who have some knowledge of racial and/or subversive type activities in the Greater Philadelphia area were contacted during the course of this investigation and advised they have no knowledge of such activities on the part of appointee.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE DALLAS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 2/24/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/19 - 2/20/69
TITLE OF CASE JAMES LEONARD FARMER, JR. aka James L. Farmer		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	TYPED BY tle
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCE: Bureau teletype to Washington Field, et al, 2/18/69.
 Newark teletype to Bureau, et al, 2/10/69.
 New York teletype to Bureau, et al, 2/19/69.
 Bureau teletype to Washington Field, et al, 2/19/69.
 Dallas teletype to Bureau dated 2/24/69.

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5/15/80
 SP5 RJG/lmac
 2-24-89
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ADMINISTRATIVE

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

The following security informants and racial sources were contacted on 2/24/69, by SA

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Racial Liaison Source,

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

① - Bureau (AMSD)

1 - Dallas (161-472)

DECLASSIFIED BY *60267/NLS-UC-16*
 ON *4/13/00*

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161-6544-22

NOT RECORDED
 4 FEB 26 1969

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

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

3/22/69

56 APR 23 1969

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DL 161-472

Marshall, Texas;

Handwritten bracket and scribbles on the left side of the page.

[Redacted box]

Racial Liaison Source, Marshall, Texas.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

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Report of:

[Redacted]

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Office: Dallas, Texas

Date:

2/24/69

Field Office File #:

161-472

Bureau File #:

Title:

JAMES LEONARD FARMER, JR.

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Birth not verified at Marshall, Texas. Education, Marshall, Texas, verified. Credit and arrest checks set forth.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

BIRTH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-15-80 BY SP5 RJG/lma

AT MARSHALL, TEXAS

On February 20, 1969, [Redacted] Accounting Office, City of Marshall, and [Redacted] Harrison County Clerk's Office, advised a search of the City of Marshall and Harrison County Birth records failed to reflect any information concerning the birth of JAMES L. or JAMES LEONARD FARMER, JR. to parents JAMES LEONARD FARMER, SR. and PEARL MARIAN FARMER on January 12, 1920.

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EDUCATION

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AT MARSHALL, TEXAS

On February 19, 1969, [Redacted] of Wiley College, advised the only record in this college concerning JAMES LEONARD FARMER, JR., is a transcript of his

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DL 161-472

record at this college. This transcript reflects he was admitted in September 1934 to the College of Arts and Sciences and had graduated from Central High School, Marshall, Texas. He was 14 years of age at the time he was admitted to Wiley College. He graduated on May 31, 1938, with a degree of Bachelor of Science. A review of his grades while in Wiley College revealed he received mostly A's and B's with an occasional C, and one D during his college career.

[redacted] continued that he was not personally acquainted with the appointee during the years 1934 to 1938; however, he was acquainted with the appointee's father who was an instructor of religion at Wiley College up until about 1941. [redacted] said he has met the appointee since that time, however, is not personally acquainted with him. He has heard no unfavorable information concerning FARMER or any member of the family. [redacted] added that there are no faculty members of Wiley College who were employed in that capacity during the period 1934 to 1938; however, one of the faculty members attended college at the same time as the appointee.

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On February 20, 1969, [redacted] advised she is currently employed as an instructor in elementary education at Wiley College. She was an undergraduate student at Wiley College from 1936 through 1939 and was a very close friend of [redacted] the sister of appointee. The appointee was residing with his family on Barney Street in Marshall, and she visited in their home often. The appointee also had a younger brother whose name she cannot recall. The appointee was an outstanding scholar and attended Wiley College on a scholarship from 1934 to 1938 when he graduated. She recalled him as being a very fine young man and well thought of in the community.

[redacted] continued that the FARMER family left Marshall in about 1939 or 1940 when Mr. FARMER accepted employment at Howard University. They have not lived in Marshall since then, and he has had no contact with the appointee since about 1940. She has heard no unfavorable information concerning the appointee or any member of his family and would recommend him for a position with the U. S. Government.

CREDIT AND ARREST

AT MARSHALL, TEXAS

On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Harrison County Criminal District Attorney's Office; [redacted] Harrison County Sheriff's Office, and [redacted] Marshall Police Department, all advised their available files contained no information identifiable with the appointee or his immediate family.

On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Retail Merchants Association, advised her files contain no record of the appointee. Her files do contain information on the Reverend JAMES L. FARMER, wife, PEARL, who in September 1938 was employed as a teacher at Wiley College. At that time his age was estimated as between 50 to 55 years of age, and his address was listed as 903 Barney, Marshall, Texas. No inquiries or additional entries were made after September 1938.

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Confidential informants and sources familiar with racial activity in the east Texas area were contacted, and all advised they had no unfavorable information to report concerning the appointee.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEWARK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 2/24/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/20 - 24/69
TITLE OF CASE JAMES LEONARD FARMER		REPORT MADE BY [Redacted]	TYPED BY ml
[Redacted]		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	b6 b7C

REFERENCES: New York teletype to Bureau, 2/19/69.
Newark teletype to Bureau, 2/20/69.

- RUC - ^{5/15/80} CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RJG/bma
REASON: 1-2.4.2 2
DATE OF REVIEW 2-24-89

INFORMANTS

Newark confidential informants who have some knowledge of communist and racial activities in NJ are as follows:

Informant	Date Contacted	Contacting Agent
[Redacted]	2/21/69	SA [Redacted]
	"	"
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ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CON.VIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 1 - Bureau (SD) 1 - Newark (161-1252)		[Handwritten notes and stamps]	
4/13/00 DECLASSIFIED BY 60267/NLS-AC/r/c # 917454		[Stamp: NOT RECORDED...]	

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				Notations
Agency				CONFIDENTIAL
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

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Informant

[Redacted]

(PROB)
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Date Contacted

2/20/69
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Contacting Agent

SA [Redacted]
SA [Redacted]
"
SA [Redacted]
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

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Report of:
Date:

[Redacted]

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Office: Newark, New Jersey

Field Office File #:

161-1252

Bureau File #:

Title:

JAMES LEONARD FARMER

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Appointee was a consultant to the Governor's Task Force on Literacy in NJ from 7/1/66 until 8/31/66. Officials of this task force recommend the appointee. The appointee, CORE and other officials of CORE Chapter in Newark, NJ, sued by HENRY MARTINEZ 7/21/65. MARTINEZ, a Newark police officer, had killed an individual in the course of his duties and was cleared by a Grand Jury of any wrongdoing in this killing. MARTINEZ alleged appointee and other representatives of CORE had injured his reputation and position by indicating the above killing unjustified. The case was settled out of court.

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[Redacted]

No credit or arrest record for appointee. Appointee unknown to Newark confidential informants.

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DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 5-15-80 BY SP5 RJG/mar

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JLA/pan

EMPLOYMENT

Governor's Task Force on Literacy
Trenton, New Jersey

The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] at Trenton, New Jersey, on February 20, 1969:

[redacted]
[redacted] State House, Trenton, New Jersey, advised that by way of information the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity was created by Executive Order during the Fall of 1964. In 1966, it was determined there was a tremendous situation in New Jersey with adult illiteracy. Thus, the Governor's Task Force on Literacy was created to determine the situation in New Jersey as to the relative condition and number of adults who could not read or write. One main objective of the Task Force was to get these individuals interested and involved in education.

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JAMES FARMER was hired as a consultant for the Task Force on July 1, 1966, and his contract expired August 31, 1966. FARMER was paid on a per diem basis of \$80.00 per day. During this time, FARMER resided in New York City and commuted to and from Trenton, New Jersey.

[redacted] advised the following individuals were members of the Task Force:

[redacted]
[redacted] Extension Center
Rutgers University

[redacted]
New Jersey Office of
Economic Opportunity
Trenton, New Jersey

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[redacted]
Human Resources Administration
New York, New York

[redacted] of New Jersey Office of Economic
(Opportunity)
[redacted] of AID for Far East
Washington, D. C.

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JLA/pan

[redacted] advised FARMER did a very admirable job and impressed the other members of the task force as being a superior, well-motivated person. He believed FARMER to be completely loyal to the United States and had not received any indication of subversive activities. He considered FARMER to be of good character and reputation and recommended FARMER for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

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[redacted] New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity, Trenton, New Jersey, advised FARMER was hired on a contract basis as a consultant for the Governor's Task Force on Literacy, July 1, 1966.

He considered FARMER to be a very competent and capable person who did an excellent job as consultant to the task force. FARMER was believed to be of good character and reputation. To his knowledge, FARMER did not belong to any subversive organizations and acted as an honest and loyal American. Based on his personal observations and experience with Mr. FARMER, he recommended him for a position of trust and confidence with the United States Government.

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On February 24, 1969, [redacted] University Extension Division, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, advised he was associated with JAMES FARMER in the work of the Governor's Task Force on Literacy in New Jersey. [redacted] advised that FARMER was hired as a consultant and worked principally in Trenton, New Jersey, along with [redacted] who was then with the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). The Task Force was staffed by OEO personnel. [redacted] advised that he believes [redacted] is now with the AID organization in Washington.

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[redacted] advised that he had limited contact with FARMER, but regards him very highly and considered him to be a man of excellent character, a loyal trusted individual, and one he would recommend for a high position involving trust and responsibility.

[redacted] further advised that he has kept in touch with FARMER since completion of the Task Force work, which was during the period July 1 through August 31, 1966. [redacted] advised that he has recommended FARMER's name for several positions which were open in the Rutgers University faculty. [redacted] advised that while his contact with JAMES FARMER was limited, he knows of no reason that FARMER should not be given a position of responsibility and trust with the government.

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CREDIT AND ARREST

On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Trenton Credit Bureau, Trenton, New Jersey, advised SA [redacted] that their records contain no information identifiable with the appointee.

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[redacted] Trenton, New Jersey, Police Department, advised on February 20, 1969, that their records contain no information identifiable with the appointee.

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[redacted] Newark, New Jersey, Police Department, advised on February 24, 1969, that the appointee has no record at this department.

MISCELLANEOUS

On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Evening Times, Trenton, New Jersey, made available the file at this newspaper to SA [redacted] concerning the appointee. It contained no pertinent information.

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On February 24, 1969, [redacted] Clerk, Library, Newark Evening News, Market Street, Newark, New Jersey, made available the file at this paper concerning the appointee.

An article in the July 6, 1966, edition captioned "State Post for Farmer" indicated the appointee would receive \$80 per day that summer as a consultant to the New Jersey Task Force on Literacy. He was expected to work about 35 days during July and August, 1966.

An article in the April 22, 1966, edition was captioned "Reply by Farmer" subtitled "Denies Calling Officer 'Murderer'". This article indicated the appointee gave testimony in a deposition filed April 21, 1966, in the Essex County Clerk's Office, Newark, New Jersey, wherein he denied he referred to a Newark Patrolman as a murderer in connection with the fatal shooting of a Negro in June, 1966.

The article indicated Patrolman HENRY MARTINEZ had started a damage suit against JAMES FARMER, CORE and several Civil Rights workers for the alleged injury to the patrolman's reputation. MARTINEZ had charged FARMER and other defendants

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in the damage suit with conspiring to hurt his reputation and earning power and making libelous statements about him in regard to the shooting of LESTER LONG, a 22 year old Negro. The article continued that the Essex County Grand Jury had cleared MARTINEZ of any illegal acts in the shooting which occurred after LONG allegedly slashed another patrolman and fled from MARTINEZ.

The article indicated in reply to questions about a press conference held last June, FARMER ~~said~~ said he did not recall referring to the incident as a deliberate killing. The article indicated the appointee identified as former National Director of CORE had disclosed that CORE had about \$225,000 in debts and no outstanding accounts receivable as of last February.

Essex County Clerk's Office, Hall of Records, Newark, New Jersey, on February 24, 1966, made available the file at this office pertaining to the following case:

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A 9503

HENRY MARTINEZ

Plaintiff

vs

Congress of Racial Equality,
a New York Corporation, CORE
Newark Essex Chapter, an
unincorporated body, JAMES
FARMER, ANDREW WASHINGTON,
ROBERT CURVIN, FRED MEANS,
BOYD CANTRELL, ARNOLD HARRIS,
THOMAS EDWARDS, CHARLES A.
TULLER, DOROTHY JONES and
M. L. POWELL, defendants.

The file indicated HENRY MARTINEZ sued the defendants for an unspecified amount. MARTINEZ resided at 13 Niagra Street, Newark, New Jersey. In his complaint of July 21, 1965, MARTINEZ indicates he was appointed a police officer on June 17, 1960. On June 12, 1965, while in the performance of his duties as a police officer, he was involved in an incident which eventually caused the death of LESTER LONG, whom he alleged to be a criminal of long standing. MARTINEZ indicates

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on June 17, 1965, at the Office of the Mayor of the City of Newark, the defendants and others did maliciously and illegally demand his suspension because of the above incident. He indicated as a direct result of this, he was suspended June 18, 1965, his reputation injured, and his position in the community damaged. He demanded compensatory and punitive damages.

MARTINEZ produced as an exhibit a one page throw-away type of paper which he referred to as a document printed by CORE. This paper contained the statement "our neighbor LESTER LONG, Jr. was murdered last Saturday night by a policeman". The plaintiff also produced a one page paper which he identified as a document published by CORE and containing the following, "Police Brutality. A man was shot in the back of the head by a policeman last week in North Newark. This could happen to you. The cops say it was justified." It is noted that the above two papers had the words Newark - Essex CORE written on the bottom of these papers. In his answer submitted September 13, 1965, to the above complaint JAMES FARMER admitted having attended a meeting held at the Office of the Mayor of Newark on June 17, 1965, at the request of Newark Citizens for Community Action but he denied his actions caused the plaintiff to be suspended. FARMER denied the other allegations in the plaintiff's complaint and indicated he was without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations pertaining to the inflammatory documents allegedly written by Newark CORE.

A stipulation of dismissal was filed in this case on August 15, 1967, which indicated the matter in difference in this action had been amicably adjusted by and between the parties hereto and was dismissed without cost and was not in favor of or against any party.

MARTINEZ had shot and killed a criminal in the course of his duties as a Newark police officer and was later cleared of any possible improper action in this by a Grand Jury. MARTINEZ instituted suit against the Congress of Racial Equality, its local officers and the appointee.

NK 161-1252

[redacted] He noted the only statements that he could recall FARMER having made in connection with this killing that may have been improper was that FARMER had at one time indicated it was an "unjustified killing" to the best of [redacted] recollection. [redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted] found FARMER to be very intelligent [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] the suit in this matter was settled out of court. [redacted]

[redacted] Newark Star Ledger, Washington Street, Newark, New Jersey, advised on February 24, 1969, that there is no file for the appointee at this newspaper.

Newark confidential informants who have some knowledge of communist and racial activities in New Jersey advised the appointee is unknown to them, personally and they could furnish no pertinent information concerning him.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 2/25/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/19 - 25/69
TITLE OF CASE JAMES LEONARD FARMER		REPORT MADE BY SA 	TYPED BY jmh
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE		CHARACTER OF CASE SPI b6 b7C	

- REFERENCES:**
- Bu TT 2/18/69.
 - JN TT 2/18/69.
 - Bu TT 2/19/69.
 - NY TT 2/19/69.
 - NY TT 2/20/69.
 - WFO TT 2/20/69.
 - NK TT 2/20/69.
 - NY TT 2/24/69.
 - Bu AT 2/24/69.

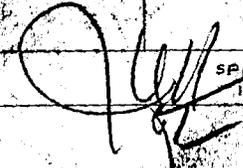
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISED BY ROUTING
 SLIP(S) OF **2/25/69**
 5/15/80
 CLASS. BY **SP-4 RJC/mae**
 REASON: **1.01-2.4.2**
 DATE OF REVIEW **2/25/89**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

ENCLOSURES:

CLASSIFIED BY **60267/NLS-UC/Hc**
DECLASSIFY ON: **25X 1**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED <input type="checkbox"/> NONE					ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC	AUTO	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES	PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
						PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED:  SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

- ① - Bureau (Enc. 2)
- 1 - WFO (160-5491)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

161-6044-36

NOT RECORDED

APR 11 1969

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				Notations
Agency				
By				

56 APR 23 1969

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WFO 161-5491

TO BUREAU

Two copies of an IRS letter pertaining to the appointee.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

INFORMANTS

	<u>INFORMANT</u>	<u>DATE CONTACTED</u>	<u>CONTACTED BY</u>	
b2	[Redacted] (PROB)	2/20/69	[Redacted]	
b7D		2/20/69		
b6	[Redacted]	2/24/69		
b7C		(R - PROB - CHETTO)		
u	[Redacted]	2/19/69		b6 SA
		2/19/69		b7C SA
		2/20/69		SA
		2/24/69		SA
		2/24/69		SA
		2/20/69	SA	
b1	[Redacted] (S)	2/20/69	SA	
	[Redacted]	2/20/69	SA	

Information concerning "The Resistance" rally, April, 1969 mentioned in this report was provided by [Redacted] (PCI - Protect Identity) who occupies a sensitive position [Redacted] Washington, D.C. (WDC). *W*

LEADS: WFO: Pending State Passport and [Redacted]

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- E -
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WFO 161-5491

INFORMANTS (Continued)

INFORMANT

DATE

AGENT

u

[Redacted Informant Name]

2/24/69

SA

[Redacted Agent Name]

2/24/69

SA

2/24/69

SA

2/24/69

SA

2/24/69

SA

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- C* -

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Copy to:

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Report of: SA

[Redacted]

Date:

2/25/69

Office: Washington, D.C.

Field Office File #: 161-5491

Bureau File #:

Title:

JAMES LEONARD FARMER

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/15/80 BY SP5 RSG/mac

Synopsis:

Education Howard University verified. Records WHO reviewed. Records HEW indicate appointee has not entered on duty. He is being considered for the position of Assistant Secretary for Administration at HEW. No record OEO. USDJ records indicate appointee has not filed a post election report. No record for appointee at Foreign Agents Registration Section, USDJ. Washington residence of appointee's brother and sister verified. Comments of U.S. Senators favorable. No credit record. Police agencies negative. CSC, HCIS, Library of Congress, Secret Service no record. Newspaper Libraries reviewed. Bar associations records reviewed.

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.:

5/15/80
CLASS. & EXT.
EXEMPTION
DATE OF REVIEW
BY SP5 RSG/mac
1-2-4-2
2/25/84

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WFO 161-5491

WSM:kdb

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EDUCATION

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] b6

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The records of the Regional Office showed that on February 20, 1969, JAMES L. FARMER, date of birth, January 12, 1918 in Marshall, Texas, was enrolled from Wiley College where he received a B.S. in 1938. He enrolled at Howard, in the school of religion in September, 1938 as a full-time student. He attended September to June for three years and graduated on June 13, 1941 with a Bachelor of Divinity Degree.

His home address in the file was shown as 1027 Euclid Street, N.W. There was no unfavorable or additional pertinent data regarding him in the file.

[redacted] School of Religion, advised on February 20, 1969, that she was not able to identify any of FARMER'S former instructors during the period of his attendance.

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WFO 161-5491

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EDUCATION

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

[redacted] Howard University, was not available for interview after several attempts to make an appointment. It was ascertained, however, through [redacted] on February 24, 1969, that he knew FARMER for an excess of 10 to 15 years and that he had several professional contacts with him in matters of their mutual interests in civil rights. He heard nothing but favorable information regarding his character, associates, reputation and loyalty and highly recommended him for a position of trust and responsibility in the government service.

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[redacted] advised on February 24, 1969, that he has known and has met with FARMER on several occasions since the time of FARMER'S heading of the Congress of Racial Equality and in this capacity, was a guest speaker at the University several years ago. They also served on a committee that met half a dozen or so times, dealing with the community and education around 1965. This committee's purpose was to stimulate and encourage the education of mentally competent young people from financially under privileged homes to have the opportunity at higher education.

Beyond these brief exposures, none of which entailed any degree of social acquaintance, to his knowledge. He knew nothing that would reflect on his character, reputation or loyalty but he knew nothing of his personal associates. He concluded that he knew nothing which would be prohibitive to FARMER'S consideration for a position of trust and confidence in the government service.

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WFO: 161-5491

AJD:jmh

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The White House Office (WHO)

SA [redacted] caused a check to be made of the records of captioned office on February 24, 1969. [redacted]

[redacted] advised that the files of that office contained no record for the appointee, JAMES L. FARMER.

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On February 24, 1969, [redacted] captioned Officer, advised SA [redacted] the files of the office contained no record for the appointee.

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WFO 161-5491

AJD:jmh

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Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW)

On February 25, 1969, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] at HEW,
[REDACTED] advised that JAMES FARMER has not taken
up residence in Washington, D.C. (WDC), and is still residing
at 165 Park Row, New York, New York.

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She further advised that FARMER is expected to
enter on duty at HEW on or about April 1, 1969. His title
will be Assistant Secretary for Administration.

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WFO 161-5491

BMM:kdb

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

[redacted]
of Health, Education, and Welfare, advised SA [redacted]
[redacted] on February 20, 1969 that JAMES L. FARMER has been
nominated to be an Assistant Secretary of Health, Education
and Welfare but as of February 20, 1969, he has not been
approved or sworn in. He has not officially entered on
duty. She added that she does not know of anyone on the
staff of the Secretary acquainted with the appointee.

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[redacted] for
Health, Education and Welfare, advised SA [redacted] on February
20, 1969 that he knows of no one within the Secretary's
office sufficiently acquainted with JAMES L. FARMER to
make a comment.

An Administrative File on JAMES L. FARMER was
reviewed by SA [redacted] on February 20, 1969 at the Office
of Internal Security. Contained in the file, are copies
of newspaper clippings dated February, 1969 regarding
JAMES L. FARMER'S nomination as Assistant Secretary in
Health, Education and Welfare. Also included in the
file is a Biographical Data Sheet which contains no
additional pertinent information.

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WFO 161-5491

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U.S. Department of Justice (USDJ)

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On February 24, 1969, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] Federal Election Unit, Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, USDJ. She advised that by letter dated January 28, 1969, the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives sent a communication to the Attorney General, USDJ, containing the names of 107 persons who had failed to file a pre-election report, post-election report, or both, listing their contributions and expenditures in connection with the elections of November, 1968. Included on this list was the name, JAMES FARMER, 165 Park Row, New York City, and it was indicated he had failed to file a post-election report of contributions and expenditures. [redacted] stated this matter is currently being studied and no investigative or prosecutive action has been initiated by the USDJ.

On February 24, 1969, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] Clerk, Registration Section, Internal Security Division, USDJ. He said a search of their files disclosed no information that would indicate appointee is now or ever was registered under the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as Amended.

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WFO 161-5491
HEW:acd
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OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (OEO)
1200 19th Street, N.W.

On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Personnel
Records Section, advised SA [redacted] that her
records fail to reflect that JAMES L. FARMER is or ever was
employed by OEO.

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On February 20, 1969, [redacted] Security
Office, advised SA [redacted] that his records fail to reflect
Mr. FARMER is or ever was employed at OEO. He also stated he
does not now and never has had a security file on Mr. FARMER.

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WFO 161-5491

AJD:vkd

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Selective Service System

On February 25, 1969, a search of the records of the District of Columbia Selective Service Headquarters, 916 G Street, N. W., was caused to be made by SA [redacted] [redacted] which revealed the following information:

JAMES LEONARD FARMER, date of birth January 12, 1920, at Marshall, Texas, registered with Local Board Number 12, which was then located at 702 Florida Avenue, N. W. He gave as a permanent residence the address of his father on Euclid Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

These records indicate that at the time of his registration, he was classified 4-D (clergyman). In December, 1944, he was classified 1-A and in January, 1945, he was once again classified 4-D.

There was no additional information contained in these records.

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WFO 161-5491

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VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCE OF RELATIVES

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] on February 20, 1969.

[redacted]

Brother

The below-listed individuals advised that the [redacted] family, consisting of [redacted] his wife, a boy, age 9 to 11, and a girl age 6 to 8, had lived at [redacted] for possibly less than a year, and that nothing derogatory was known concerning them: [redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

Sister

The below-listed individuals advised that [redacted] [redacted] have lived at [redacted] during the respectively indicated times, that they are middle-aged people with no children, and no other residents in the household, and that nothing derogatory is known concerning [redacted] family.

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[redacted], who has known of them during her own [redacted] residence at [redacted] and who said that her son has lived at that address for a total of [redacted] years during which time [redacted] family has resided next door.

[redacted]

who personally recalled [redacted] as living at [redacted] since around 1957.

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WFO 161-5491

MCA:bmb

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UNITED STATES SENATORS

On February 25, 1969, [redacted]
[redacted] Office of United States Senator [redacted]
New York, advised SA [redacted] Senator [redacted]
is unavailable for interview, but [redacted] is authorized
to speak for the Senator. He knows Senator [redacted] has
previously recommended the appointee to the Secretary,
Department of Health, Education and Welfare and Senator
did not have any knowledge of anything of a derogatory
nature regarding the appointee's character, loyalty, asso-
ciates or reputation. Senator [redacted] would recommend the
appointee for a position of trust and confidence.

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On February 25, 1969, [redacted]
[redacted] to United States Senator CHARLES E. GOODELL,
New York, advised SA [redacted] Senator GOODELL is unavailable
for interview, but he is authorized to speak for the Senator.
He stated there was no derogatory information known to the
Senator regarding the appointee's character, loyalty, asso-
ciates or reputation, and he would recommend him for a posi-
tion of trust and confidence.

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WFO 161-5491
(LED:ctw, 2-24-69)

[redacted] American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, 1155 15th Street, N. W., advised the official records of the employment dates of Mr. JAMES L. FARMER are located at 365 Broadway, New York City.

[redacted] commented that he has known Mr. FARMER [redacted] and that he first met him in New York City. He regards Mr. FARMER as a personal friend, possessed of excellent character. Mr. FARMER enjoys an excellent reputation. [redacted] added that he has only "warm personal reflections" concerning Mr. FARMER, whom he believes to be a decent, loyal and patriotic American citizen. [redacted] stated he worked with Mr. FARMER when he was Executive Director of the Congress of Racial Equality.

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[redacted] stated Mr. FARMER is a very competent worker and most industrious. He is a close associate of A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

[redacted] recommended Mr. FARMER for a position of trust and confidence in the United States Government.

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WFO 161-5491

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The following investigation was conducted on February 24, 1969, by SA [redacted] at Washington, D.C. (WLC):

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[redacted] Washington Urban League, 1424 - 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., furnished the following information:

The appointee, JAMES L. FARMER, is not known personally to him, but is well known to him by reputation. On one occasion during 1966, while deeply involved in the civil rights movement and in the voluminous activities of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), the appointee unselfishly accepted and fulfilled a short notice invitation to visit WLC and speak before a community action assembly on public education sponsored by the Urban League.

The appointee identifies well with the Negro race and he enjoys tremendous respect and credibility in the black community. He is considered one of the more knowledgeable individuals concerning the problems of the black community and he is also considered to be one of the individuals best qualified to supply the answers to these problems. He has the ability to maintain a kind of perspective of the total community problem, rather than of the smaller problem directly affecting only the black community.

During the period when the appointee was National Director of CORE, that organization was at its peak in membership, support and accomplishment. His performance in CORE demonstrated his ability to effectively manage a large organization national in scope.

The appointee enjoys a reputation of being a man of high principles and integrity and, in this regard, there should be no reason to question his morals or general character traits. He is very active in the civil rights movement and, therefore, his associates should be those high principled individuals who are also involved in this movement.

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WFO 161-5491

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The appointee should be considered of unquestioned loyalty to the United States Government, for it is only because of such loyalty that he could remain in the civil rights movement which functions on the fundamental belief in the betterment of the underprivileged through the democratic processes.

The Negro community as a whole is extremely well pleased with the recent high Government appointment received by the appointee since he identifies so effectively with that community and is trusted implicitly by same.

recommended the appointee without reservation for a sensitive and responsible position of trust in the service of the United States Government.

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WFO 161-5491

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On February 25, 1969, [redacted]

[redacted] Agency for International Development (AID), advised SA [redacted] that he knew FARMER at the Office of the New Jersey Governor's Task Force on Literacy. [redacted] was at that time affiliated with the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity. FARMER was the Chairman of the Task Force for a period of approximately six months (to the best of [redacted] recollection) in 1966 and performed his duties in an admirable fashion.

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[redacted] relationship with FARMER was entirely professional and only encompassed the 1966 period mentioned above. [redacted] was most generous in his comments relating to the moral character, integrity, reputation and patriotism of FARMER and strongly recommended that he be favorably considered for a position of trust and confidence.

WFO 161-5491

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[redacted]
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and President of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), 2714 Georgia Avenue, Washington, D. C., furnished the following information:

The appointee, JAMES L. FARMER, is not a social friend of [redacted] but he has known him in his capacity as Director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) for a number of years. [redacted] introduced FARMER at a rally at Lafayette Park in Washington, D. C., and [redacted] was impressed with the way FARMER handled the crowd which was antagonistic toward him. [redacted] considers FARMER an ideal citizen and has no information of a derogatory nature in relationship to his character, reputation, and loyalty to the United States. It is [redacted] opinion that JAMES FARMER is one of the most articulate individuals he has known and as illustrated by his organization and directorship of CORE, he will easily handle any assignment given to him. [redacted] would unqualifiedly recommend FARMER for employment with the United States Government. He has no information or reason to believe that FARMER would be affiliated with any subversive or unpatriotic groups.

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[redacted]
Republican Central Committee for the District of Columbia, Washington, D. C., advised that he only knows JAMES L. FARMER by reputation and has had no personal contact with him in any way. FARMER appears to be an able and competent man, but his specific ability to carry out any assignments is unknown to [redacted]

[redacted] Democratic Central Committee, Washington, D. C., 1009 13th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., advised that he does not personally know

WFO 161-5491

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JAMES L. FARMER and could not comment upon his character, reputation or loyalty to the United States. It would appear to [] that FARMER is an articulate and intelligent man and would carry out any assignment with efficiency and diligence, but he has gained this impression more from his reputation than personal contact.

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[REDACTED] ^A Anti-Deformation League,
B'nai B'rith, 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.,
stated that he has never worked in the same area as the
appointee. He, therefore, has had no contact with the appointee
and could not comment concerning the appointee's character,
associations, or loyalty to the United States Government. [REDACTED]
received no information reflecting adversely upon the appointee
in these regards.

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WFO 161-5491

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On February 24, 1969 [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that he was not personally acquainted with JAMES L. FARMER and could furnish no information concerning FARMER that he has not received through the news media. He did not know any of Mr. FARMER's associates.

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WFO 161-5491

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On February 20, 1969, [redacted]
[redacted] Urban League, advised SA [redacted] that
[redacted] is currently out of the city on a tour and is not
expected to return to his office until Tuesday, February 25,
1969.

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WFO 161-5491

JWN:acd

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On February 20, 1969, [redacted]
Department of Licenses and Inspection, D.C. Government, former
D.C. School Board member, advised SA [redacted]
that he is not personally acquainted with JAMES L. FARMER.

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[redacted] stated he could furnish no information concerning
Mr. FARMER that he had not received through the news media.

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[redacted] stated he was unable to furnish the identity
of any friends or associates of Mr. FARMER in the Washington,
D.C., area.

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CREDIT AND POLICE AGENCIES

SE [] caused a search to be made of the files of The Credit Bureau, Incorporated, Washington, D.C., and was advised on February 24, 1969, that the files contained no record for the appointee.

IC [] on February 20, 1969, determined that no record was contained in the Metropolitan Police Department files concerning the appointee or his wife, []

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It is to be noted that at all times an indefinite number of unidentified records are out of file and not available for review.

On February 20, 1969, IC [] searched the files of the U.S. Park Police and no identifiable record could be found concerning the appointee or his wife, []

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WFO 161-5491

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MISCELLANEOUS

SA [redacted] caused a search to be made of the files of the Bureau of Personnel Investigations, Civil Service Commission, and was advised on February 24, 1969, that no record was found concerning the appointee.

The files of the House Committee on Internal Security were reviewed on February 20, 1969, by SE [redacted] and no identifiable record was found for the appointee.

IC [redacted] caused a search to be made of the files of the U.S. Secret Service, Department of the Treasury, and was advised on February 24, 1969, that no record was located concerning the appointee.

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On February 24, 1969, IC [redacted] caused a search to be made of the files of the following organizations concerning bar membership and no record was found for the appointee:

- Committee on Admissions and Grievances, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (USDCDC)
- Lawyers Register, USDCDC
- Supreme Court of the U.S.
- District of Columbia Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association

On February 24, 1969, SA [redacted] caused a search to be made of the Library of the "Washington Daily News" which revealed the following information:

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The issue of February 12, 1969 contained information in a column by DAN THOMASSON indicating that FARMER was expected to be named an Assistant Secretary at HEW. This column further revealed that FARMER had failed to file a post-election campaign expenditure report with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as required for the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. His name was one of approximately 100 names that were being sent to the Department of Justice.

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On February 20, 1969, IC [redacted] caused a search to be made of the Library of the "Evening Star" and was advised that no additional pertinent information was contained therein.

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WFO 161-5491

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Confidential informants who are familiar with Racial Activities in the Washington, DC. area were contacted and advised that they did not have any information of a derogatory nature concerning the appointee.

Confidential informants who are familiar with certain phases of Communist activities in the Washington area were contacted and advised they had no information concerning the appointee.

It is to be noted that at the present time, there is no Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality in the Washington, D.C. area.

WFO 161-5491

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The files of the Washington Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation contain the following information concerning JAMES FARMER.

On June 19, 1965, JAMES FARMER spoke at Georgetown University (WDC) at a "conference on peace and change". During his talk he declared that he was a pacifist but that the Civil Rights Movement was not a pacifist movement. He warned that it would be a mistake to think that all Negroes are non-violent in the pursuit of Civil Rights and he spoke in a critical manner concerning U.S. policy in Vietnam.

An article in the "Washington Post" and "Times Herald" dated February 20, 1966, page M-7, indicated that JAMES FARMER was scheduled to leave his position as National Director of Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) effective March 1, 1966 in order to head a national literacy campaign for the underprivileged.

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In its issue of October 10, 1965, "The Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper, reported that a Thanksgiving mobilization for peace would begin on Saturday, November 27, 1965 at 10:00 a.m. in front of the White House according to a call issued the previous week by 27 sponsors among whom was JAMES FARMER, the National Director of the CORE. The purpose of the mobilization was to "obtain a negotiated settlement in Vietnam".

WFO 161-5491

AJD:jmh

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On August 20, 1963, [redacted] *on*
of the Washington Chapter of CORE and Washington, D.C.
[redacted] of the "March on Washington, August 28, 1963"
furnished the following information to the Washington Field
Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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The following individual has been selected
for march sessions to be in the delegation visiting the White
House to confer with the President on August 28, 1963:

JAMES FARMER National Director, CORE

WFO 161-5491

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By letter dated February 25, 1964, [redacted] District of Columbia, advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation that information had come to the attention of his office indicated that on February 16, 1964, JAMES FARMER, National Director of CORE made statements with reference to the Civil Rights Bill that was then before the Congress, indicated that Lobbyists from CORE were in Washington talking with Congressmen. This letter requested Washington Field Office to make an investigation of Mr. FARMER's statement and the underlying facts in order to determine whether or not there was a possible violation of Title II, Section 267, U.S. Code, relating to the regulation of Lobbyists. The source of this information given to [redacted] was later determined to be Congressman [redacted]

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Investigation was conducted by the FBI and the facts were presented to [redacted] Principal Assistant Office of the U.S. Attorney, WDC, and he advised that a review of the statutes pertaining to the regulation of Lobbyists through confidential persons who casually contacted members of Congress with their grievances. No additional investigation was conducted in this matter. [redacted] declined prosecution.

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An article in the "Evening Star", a Washington Newspaper indicating that FARMER was found guilty in Palquimine, Louisiana on September 4, 1963 on charges of disturbing the peace and obstructing the sidewalk. He was fined \$200 or 60 days in jail.

No information is contained in this article indicating the final adjudication of this matter.

WFO 161-5491

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On May 14, 1969, JAMES FARMER, National Director, CORE, telephonically contacted the Washington Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and advised as follows:

On May 4, 1961 a group of "Freedom Riders" departed WDC by Greyhound bus in order to travel through the South to determine if there is racial discrimination either on buses or at bus depots. FARMER stated that on the afternoon of May 14, 1961 the Greyhound bus in which nine of his group were riding was ambushed outside of Anniston, Alabama. The bus was a total loss. Tires were cut, windows broken, tear gas used and the bus was set on fire. According to FARMER the nine "Freedom Riders" were being treated in a hospital for minor injuries and gas inhalation. At the time of the attack, the bus was traveling from Atlanta, Georgia to Birmingham, Alabama.

WFO 161-5491

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The Resistance
Anti-Draft Activities
Washington, D.C.
April 26 - 27, 1968

On April 16, 1968, a confidential source of proven reliability advised that at a recent meeting of the Washington Mobilization Committee (WMC) he was told that the Washington Student Mobilization Committee (WSMC) and the National Black Anti-War, Anti-Draft Union (NBAWADU) have joined forces for the April 26, 1968 student strike and in addition, that a rally and march on the District of Columbia Selective Service Headquarters 916 G Street, N.W., had been planned.

On April 17, 1968, [redacted] U.S. Park Police, WDC, advised that on April 16, 1968, a demonstration permit was issued authorizing the WMC to assemble and hold a demonstration at Franklin Park, 14th and K Streets, N.W., WDC, between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on April 27, 1968. [redacted] further advised that the WMC planned to assemble at Franklin Park at 11:30, march to Selective Service Headquarters, 9th and G Streets, N.W., WDC, and return to Franklin Park, where a rally would be held. According to [redacted] JAMES FARMER, the former National Director of CORE, was a listed speaker for the rally.

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The following is a transcription of a tape recording made at Franklin Park, 14th and I Streets, N.W., WDC on April 27, 1968 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. This recording was made by SA [redacted] Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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The following are the taped remarks of JAMES FARMER, former National Director of CORE.

WFO 25-30912

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Are we ready now?) (Unknown male says that they had expected to have had JAMES FARMER (phonetic) but have received no work, they assume he is on his way.)

JANICE WEAVER comes back for another number (not recorded).

Unknown male again repeats the purpose for being here today:

We are here today for three purposes. We are here to protest the war, we are here to protest racism, and we are here to protest and to defy the denial of free speech in this country, as exemplified by the prosecution of Dr. SPOCK, MARTIN BRASKINS (phonetic), Reverend COFFIN (phonetic) and the others who did nothing more than what we are doing here today to get together as free American citizens exercising our constitutional right to protest and speak out. Let me ask you one more time, do you want peace, do you want it now (he repeats these two questions several times with the audience saying yes and now.)

Disperses gathering but upon the arrival of JAMES FARMER, calls people back,

Introduction: FARMER, a college professor, formerly associated with CORE "has now turned straight."

✓ FARMER: Well, brothers and sisters, I am sorry to have kept you waiting but I got a call last night from one of the persons setting this up telling me to get here before 3:00. But I am very pleased to be here because I think what you are doing here is of terribly great importance to this entire nation. You have shown that a few people who are dedicated and committed can if they persevere, turn this nation around. You started a few years ago with just a few committed human beings who were fighting against the masses of the people of our country. The masses of that time were committed to that war in Vietnam, but the few who were against it kept the faith. You organized and you demonstrated, you held meetings, you

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passed out leaflets, you were called nuts, and kooks and everything else. But you have seen the anti-war effort mushroom all over the country. You have seen it encompass students in high schools and on college campuses, you have seen it sweep into the ghettos of our cities. You have seen black people and white people, Catholic, Protestants, and Jews come behind the banner of peace to end the war in Vietnam. You have seen the President of the United States announce that he is not a candidate again. You have seen not one peace candidate arise, but two. You have seen local candidates all over the country veying with one another to see which one can be the peace candidate, from his district. Now this is some progress. And those of you who have kept that faith have a right to be proud. But I say to you today, do not think that the battle is over, far from it. Do not think that you have won the struggle, you have not won it indeed. Here is a time when boys are still dying in Vietnam, black boys, white boys, Vietnamese boys. We find those who make decisions still quarreling over where to have talks to have talking, now what could be more ridiculous, people are dying and we are quibbling over where we are going to sit down and have talks. I say that you have to keep the pressure up. If there is anything that we have learned in the whole struggle for equal rights in this country, is that whenever you relieve the pressure, take the spotlight of attention off of an issue, then the little progress that you have made may be lost. If you don't keep the peace effort up, the anti-war effort, keep up your marches, keep up your demonstrations, keep up your meetings for the anti-war effort dwindles then I would suggest to you that there is a great danger that the talks may never take place. Don't slacken for one minute, for if you slacken your effort then you will find that you have lost the momentum and you have lost the initiative. Now if the war in Vietnam has reaped havoc upon that little country of Vietnam as it has, think of the Marine Captain, who not very long ago announced that we had to obliterate that village to save it. They are destroying the country and I think that our country is being destroyed, emotionally and psychologically as a result, people have lost sight of the value of human life. Because death is as close as every headline, as close as tonight's TV stories,

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Why else do you think we could in the past four years have two major assassinations. Why in the world do you think we have so many people shooting rifles and shotguns and pistols out of windows in our country, killing at random. There in New York just a couple of weeks ago a fifteen year old black boy, the son of ROY ENNIS (phonetic) who was one of the executives of CORE, was outside of the apartment house where they live playing with some other youngsters of his age, and like any kids who play, he was making noise. A man in the house came out and said, "Kid, shut up that noise," and went back in. The kids continued to play, you know they quieted down for a minute or so but they got caught in the fun, in the play and started making noise again. The next time that the man came out, he came out with a gun and he shot ENNIS and killed him. Now when you imagine, human life has lost its value as far as the masses of people in our country is concerned. We've become callous, picking up the newspaper and reading of the number of people that we have killed, as we gloat about it. Reading of the kill ratio, I say that we have got to find, re-find, rediscover a sense of the value of human life. The war in Vietnam is destroying the fiber of this nation. Just as it is destroying physically the country of Vietnam. I urge you, therefore, to push now specifically for gun control legislation in our country. Why should anyone be able to walk into a store and be able to buy a lethal weapon across a counter. Why should it be possible? Any person who at anytime might be able to blow his stack in some argument and go out and kill somebody. It's had become a part of our national () that if you disagree with what a man says or what he does, kill him, shoot him. Oh, isn't that horrible. Instead of discussing, instead of debating, reasoning, we kill. So let's see now that if in the wake of the assassination of one of the greatest prophets in this nation's history, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, is established a gun control law in this country that is enforced. And now finally, my friends, our domestic problems are crying louder for attention than ever before, the problems are slum housing, the problems joblessness and lack of skills and training, the problems of inadequate education and frankly lousy schools for the poor white and black. Most of all is desire on the part

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of people in the poor communities, especially people of the minorities, black and Puerto Ricans for some control over their own destiny. So as we demand an end to the war in Vietnam, let us demand with equal vigor that the people who live in those ghetto communities be allowed to control their own lives and their own destinies. Now this is becoming fairly popular, many of us were shouting years ago, it's becoming fairly popular now, I picked up the paper yesterday and saw a headline where even RICHARD NIXON, pardon the expression, is in favor of industry moving into the ghetto and giving people in his words, "a piece of the action there." So keep up the action there, keep up the pressure on that issue too. And if this nation can stop the war in Vietnam, stop it, get the boys back home and get on with the task of making America, America again for all its people. Thank you very much.

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STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), headquartered at 360-362 Nelson Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia, is a nonmembership organization, which was born out of the sit-in movement that erupted across the South beginning in 1960.)

Today SNCC identifies itself as an organization in the revolutionary vanguard. It advocates that to be successful it is necessary to develop a revolutionary ideology and revolutionary program.

According to SNCC, the year 1967 marked a historic milestone in the struggle for the liberation of black people in the United States and the year that revolutionaries throughout the world began to understand more fully the impact of the black movement. SNCC declared that "liberation will come only when there is final destruction of this mad octopus--the capitalistic system of the United States with all its life-sucking tentacles of exploitation and racism that choke the people of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The realities of black life, together with the recognition instilled in SNCC workers forced its members to further popularize the legitimacy of self-defense and rebellions when oppression became too great."

From May, 1966, until May, 1967, Stokely Carmichael was National Chairman of SNCC. As of July, 1968, Carmichael resided in Washington, D.C., where he was affiliated with SNCC and active as temporary chairman of a black coalition group. In May, 1967, Carmichael was replaced by Hubert Geroid Brown, commonly known as H. Rap Brown, who served until June, 1968.

In June, 1968, at the Staff and Central Committee meeting of SNCC held in Atlanta, Georgia, it was decided to restructure the organization by equalization of responsibility by creating ten deputy or vice chairmanships. The primary purpose for this change is to take law enforcement pressure off any single individual.

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The National Mobilization Committee (NMC), was formerly known as the Spring Mobilization Committee (SMC).

The SMC is described in the publication entitled "Communist Origin and Manipulation of Vietnam Week (April 8-15, 1967)," a report by the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives. On page 53, the report states in part, "Communists are playing dominant roles in both the Student Mobilization Committee and the Spring Mobilization Committee."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ALBANY	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 2/26/69	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/24-26/69
TITLE OF CASE JAMES LEONARD FARMER		REPORT MADE BY SA 	TYPED BY Ped
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

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REFERENCE:

New York teletype to Bureau dated 2/24/69;
Albany teletype to Bureau dated 2/26/69.

- RUC -

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/13/00 BY 1002107/NLS/CLC/SL

(A* COVER PAGE)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>lee/EM</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
<p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">3 - Bureau</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">1 - Albany (161-936)</p>						<p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">161-936-44</p> <p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">FEB 26 1969</p>		
						Dissemination Record of Attached Report		
Agency						<p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">56 APR 23 1969</p>		
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.								
How Fwd.								
By	56 APR 23 1969							

56 APR 23 1969

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted]
Date: February 26, 1969

Office: ALBANY

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Field Office File #: 161-936

Bureau File #:

Title: JAMES LEONARD FARMER

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

[redacted] both advised they would generally endorse appointee for the position in question based upon limited contact with him for a four month period in 1968 during the Congressional elections.

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DETAILS:

MISCELLANEOUS

On February 25, 1969, [redacted]

[redacted] Albany, New York, advised that [redacted] had limited contact and conversation with the appointee for approximately a four month period during the recent election when FARMER was running for Congressman in the 12th Congressional District of New York in Brooklyn, New York. He advised that FARMER appeared to be an intelligent, reputable citizen about whom nothing derogatory is known. He stated that based on this limited knowledge of FARMER, he would endorse him for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

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DATE 4/13/00 BY [signature]

AL 161-936

[redacted] continued that [redacted] although knowing FARMER by reputation, has had less contact with FARMER than [redacted] has had. He stated [redacted] [redacted] comments regarding FARMER are the same as his, and that [redacted] also would generally endorse FARMER for the position in question.

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Copy to H&W
FBI Division 3/27/69
with
OJA/Cee
100 copy to Commerce
12-5-70
[Redacted]

March 3, 1969

5/14/80
CLASSIFIED BY SP5 RSG/mrc
DECLASSIFY ON: 1-2-92
DATE OF REVIEW 3/3/99

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JAMES LEONARD FARMER

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Birth

#917454 - 4/13/60
CLASSIFIED BY 60267/NLS/UC/UC
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X b7C
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Mr. Farmer was born on January 12, 1920, in Marshall,
Texas.

Education

In September, 1934, Mr. Farmer was enrolled as a student at Wiley College, Marshall, Texas. He was in attendance until May, 1938, when he received a Bachelor of Science degree.

He attended Howard University School of Religion, Washington, D. C., from September, 1938, to June, 1941, when he received a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

Employment

Mr. Farmer was employed from 1941 to 1945 by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a pacifist organization located in Nyack, New York, as Director of Race Relations.

Mr. Farmer was one of the founders of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), which was formed in Chicago, Illinois, in 1942. He thereafter served as an officer of this organization in New York, New York, and was National Director of CORE from 1961 to March, 1966, when he resigned. Since March, 1966, he has served on the National Advisory Board of CORE. CORE is a militant civil rights organization, which today is concentrating on a program of black economic and political power.

In addition to the foregoing, Mr. Farmer has had the following employment:

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

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ENCLOSURE

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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

RETURN TO ROOM 1260.

James Leonard Farmer

1945 to 1947

Upholsterers' International Union of North America, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as an organizer

1949 to 1954

League for Industrial Democracy, a socialist organization, New York, New York, as a field secretary for students

1954 to 1959

American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, Washington, D. C., as an international representative

1959 to 1961

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York, as National Program Director

July and August, 1966

Governor's Task Force on Literacy, State of New Jersey, Trenton, New Jersey, as a consultant

September, 1966, to June, 1968

Lincoln University, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, as a Professor of Social Welfare. During the 1967-1968 academic year he served in this capacity on a part-time basis.

1967 and 1968

Education Affiliate of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Development and Services Corporation, Brooklyn, New York, as a staff associate

February, 1968, to August, 1968

New York University, New York, New York, as an adjunct professor. Mr. Farmer was an instructor in a course on "The New Black Revolt."

James Leonard Farmer

Mr. Farmer is presently a member of the Board of Directors of the American Committee on Africa and the League for Industrial Democracy, both located in New York, New York. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys Athletic League, New York, New York, from 1961 to 1966; Americans for Democratic Action, Washington, D. C., from 1964 to 1966; and the American Civil Liberties Union, New York, New York, from 1964 to 1968. He is presently a Vice Chairman of the National Council of Methodist Youth, New York, New York.

Mr. Farmer has been active in promoting civil rights for minority races throughout the United States for many years and he has lectured and spoken extensively in this field.

In 1968 Mr. Farmer was a candidate for election to the United States House of Representatives from the Twelfth Congressional District of New York. His candidacy was endorsed by the Liberal Party and the Republican Party. Mr. Farmer was defeated in the November, 1968, election.

On February 12, 1969, it was announced that Mr. Farmer had been named to the position of Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, D. C.

Marital Status

Mr. Farmer and Winifred Christie were reportedly married in April, 1946.

Court records in Chicago Heights, Illinois, indicate that on September 1, 1946, Winifred Christie Farmer filed a petition for a divorce from Mr. Farmer. In her petition she charged desertion on the part of Mr. Farmer; however, she stated Mr. Farmer had treated her very well. The divorce action was not contested, and on November 12, 1947, Mrs. Farmer was granted a divorce.

During this investigation no information was developed as to the present whereabouts of Mr. Farmer's former wife, Winifred Christie Farmer.

James Leonard Farmer

Mr. Farmer and [redacted] were married on [redacted] b6
[redacted] Mr. and Mrs. Farmer and their children. b7C
[redacted] and [redacted] reside at [redacted]
New York, New York.

II. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Interviews

Whitney Moore Young, Jr., Executive Director of the National Urban League, New York, New York, stated he has been very well acquainted with Mr. Farmer since approximately 1955. He advised he has no question as to Mr. Farmer's loyalty or his total commitment to the United States. Mr. Young said Mr. Farmer was formerly associated with the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a pacifist organization. He stated inquiry may show that Mr. Farmer has had "associations that might cause raised eyebrows." In this regard, he noted that Mr. Farmer, during his connection with "freedom rides" and demonstrations, may have come in contact with persons who exploit and capitalize on the problems of Negroes. He said Mr. Farmer, however, has always maintained high ideals and his goal has been to obtain civil rights for minorities within the framework of the Constitution and laws of the United States. Mr. Young stated he has no specific information as to any "questionable" persons with whom Mr. Farmer may have come in contact. He added that Mr. Farmer would never be influenced by anyone who does not have the best interests of the civil rights movement and the United States at heart.

Mr. Young advised he has worked closely with Mr. Farmer. He described him as a man of the highest integrity and said he is a very capable organizer and administrator, having had considerable experience in such work. Mr. Young further described Mr. Farmer as calm, personable, intelligent, and articulate, and he furnished favorable comments concerning his character and reputation. He said he considers Mr. Farmer personally and professionally qualified for the position to which he has been named.

Roy Wilkins, Executive Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, New York, advised he has been personally acquainted with Mr. Farmer for approximately 12 years and said he knew Mr. Farmer by reputation prior thereto. He stated Mr. Farmer

James Leonard Farmer

served as National Program Director for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1959 to 1961, and during daily contacts he had with Mr. Farmer during that period he found him to be an extremely competent administrator and an intelligent and articulate spokesman. Mr. Wilkins advised that Mr. Farmer's reputation for honesty, integrity, and fairness is above reproach. He said he considers him a loyal American of excellent character and associates. He mentioned that when Mr. Farmer served as National Director of CORE, he gained experience in dealing with students and student groups. Mr. Wilkins advised in his opinion Mr. Farmer would be a definite asset to any organization. He highly recommended him for a position of trust and confidence with the Government.

[redacted] for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, [redacted] of "The Crisis" magazine, New York, New York, said he has been personally acquainted with Mr. Farmer [redacted] and advised they were associates at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [redacted]. He described Mr. Farmer as able, dynamic, and articulate, and stated his services while employed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People were highly satisfactory. [redacted] advised he considers Mr. Farmer a loyal American of excellent character, reputation, and associates, and said he would recommend him for employment by the Government in a position of trust and confidence without reservation.

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David Dubinsky, former President of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, New York, New York, and a founder of the Liberal Party of New York, was interviewed in Bal Harbour, Florida. He said he has known Mr. Farmer for many years and worked with him on legislative and policy committees of the Liberal Party of New York. Mr. Dubinsky described Mr. Farmer as "violently anticommunist" and stated he is sincere, able, and courageous. He recommended Mr. Farmer for a position of trust, stating he is of the opinion he will be a good representative for members of his race and the people in general.

[redacted] of the Liberal Party of New York, interviewed in Miami Beach, Florida, stated he has known Mr. Farmer [redacted]. He said he considers Mr. Farmer a reputable and honorable man, and a loyal American of excellent character. He described Mr. Farmer as a "responsible militant," and explained that

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James Leonard Farmer

Mr. Farmer is conscientious and will do what he considers best for the United States. He advised he is of the opinion Mr. Farmer is an outstanding choice for the position to which he has been named, and added that Mr. Farmer should make a significant contribution to the present Administration.

[redacted] of the Urban Coalition of New York, interviewed in New York, New York, advised he has been acquainted with Mr. Farmer for [redacted] years. He said he considers Mr. Farmer a "fearless person" who has "put his life on the line for his beliefs." [redacted] stated he has the highest personal regard for Mr. Farmer and said in his opinion his character, reputation, and morals are above reproach. He advised he would highly recommend Mr. Farmer for a position of trust and confidence with the Government, stating he firmly believes Mr. Farmer, a good administrator and a loyal American, will do his utmost to properly discharge his duties in any position.

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[redacted] of the American Committee on Africa, New York, New York, advised he has been acquainted with Mr. Farmer for approximately [redacted] years and said Mr. Farmer has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Committee on Africa for over seven years. He described Mr. Farmer as one of the few Negro leaders who have been able to bridge the gap between the black and white communities. [redacted] advised he has the highest regard for Mr. Farmer and said he is intelligent and possesses great leadership qualities. According to [redacted] Mr. Farmer has dedicated his life to assisting the underprivileged, regardless of race. He commented favorably regarding Mr. Farmer's character, loyalty, reputation, and associates, and highly recommended him for employment in a position of trust and responsibility with the Government.

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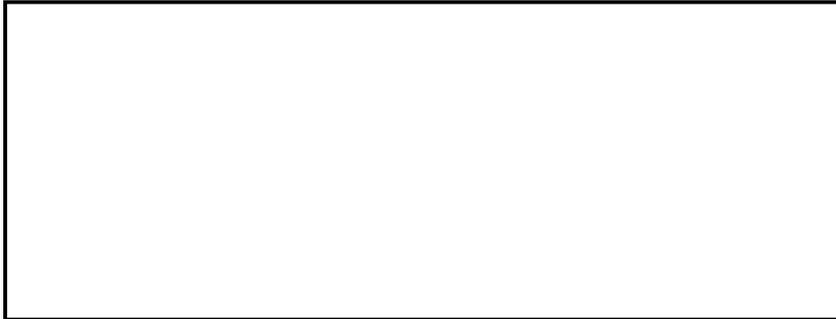
[redacted] Fellowship of Reconciliation, Nyack, New York, advised that he was closely associated with Mr. Farmer during the period of Mr. Farmer's employment as Director of Race Relations for the Fellowship of Reconciliation from 1941 to 1945. He said he has had some contact with Mr. Farmer since then. He described Mr. Farmer as a loyal American of excellent character and

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James Leonard Farmer

reputation, and said he was selective in his choice of associates during the period he was closely acquainted with him. According to [redacted] Mr. Farmer is intelligent and an efficient worker. He advised that Mr. Farmer, while on the staff of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, submitted a memorandum concerning the racial situation, pointing out that nonviolence was highly relevant in the racial picture.

[redacted] said this caused the formation of CORE, which was sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and Mr. Farmer eventually became the National Director of CORE. He recommended Mr. Farmer for employment by the Government in a position of trust.



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[redacted]
Municipal Court for the City of New York, advised in New York, New York, that she has known Mr. Farmer for several years as "a great figure in the civil rights movement in the United States." She said she formerly served with Mr. Farmer on the Equality Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union.

According to [redacted] Mr. Farmer was responsible for organizing CORE, a civil rights organization, a number of years ago, and he formerly served as National Director of CORE. She advised that Mr. Farmer, who is opposed to violence, resigned from this position because CORE began to advocate violence in attempting to attain civil rights goals for minority races.

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[redacted] described Mr. Farmer as a believer in American ideals who is very concerned about discrimination against Negroes in the United States. She said he feels changes can be made in this regard through democratic processes.

[redacted] stated she has a high regard for Mr. Farmer as a man of the highest integrity. She commented favorably as to his character, loyalty, and morals, and advised she would highly recommend him for a position of trust. [redacted] said she is of the opinion Mr. Farmer is well qualified for the position to which he has been named.

James Leonard Farmer

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[redacted] Washington, D. C.,
office of [redacted] United States Senator from
New York, advised he is authorized to state that [redacted]
possesses no information of an unfavorable nature concerning
Mr. Farmer's character, loyalty, reputation, or associates.
He said [redacted] would recommend Mr. Farmer for a
position of trust and confidence. [redacted] mentioned
that [redacted] has recommended Mr. Farmer to the Secretary
of Health, Education, and Welfare.

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Charles E. Goodell, United States Senator from
New York, advised through [redacted]
[redacted] that he is aware of nothing of an unfavorable nature
bearing on Mr. Farmer's character, loyalty, reputation, or
associates. [redacted] stated Senator Goodell would recommend
him for a position of trust and confidence with the Government.

Forty-four additional persons, including Mr. Farmer's
professional associates and social acquaintances, were inter-
viewed during this investigation. They furnished favorable
comments regarding his character, loyalty, reputation, and
associates, and those well acquainted with him recommended
him for a position of trust with the Government. Mr. Farmer
was described variously by those interviewed as intelligent,
sincere, personable, honest, straightforward, and industrious.
It was stated that he is intensely interested in improving the
conditions of minority races in the United States and that he
feels this can be achieved through nonviolence. According to
his associates, he works well with others and he is dedicated
to public service. He was described as an excellent speaker
and an "activist in getting things done." Persons acquainted
with Mr. Farmer's close relatives said they are considered
loyal Americans of good reputation. The following were among
those interviewed during the investigation of Mr. Farmer:

[redacted] of Howard
University, Washington, D. C.

[redacted] of Lincoln University,
Lincoln University, Pennsylvania

[redacted] of the
American Committee on Africa, New York, New York

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James Leonard Farmer

[redacted] of the School
of Continuing Education, New York University,
New York, New York

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[redacted] of New York, New York

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[redacted]
[redacted] of New York, Albany,
New York

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Close Relatives

Mr. Farmer's parents, James L. Farmer and Pearl M. Farmer, nee Houston, are deceased. He has the following living close relatives in addition to his wife and children, mentioned previously:

Sister

[redacted]
Washington, D. C.

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Brother

[redacted]
Washington, D. C.

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Credit Checks

Information has been received from the appropriate credit reporting agencies indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Farmer.

Arrest Checks

The files of appropriate law enforcement agencies were found to contain no record of Mr. Farmer or his close relatives, except the following:

The files of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department disclosed that Mr. Farmer and other "freedom riders" were arrested on May 24, 1961, at a bus depot in Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Farmer and 14 others reportedly attempted to enter a cafe at the bus depot, and they failed to comply with the request of a police officer that they "move on."

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They were then arrested on charges of breach of the peace and refusing to obey an officer. According to these files, on May 26, 1961, in Municipal Court, Jackson, Mississippi, Mr. Farmer was found guilty. He was sentenced to pay a fine in the amount of \$200 and to serve 60 days in jail. The jail sentence was suspended; however, he was remanded to jail after he failed to pay the fine which had been imposed. Mr. Farmer was released from jail on July 3, 1961.

Court records for Hinds County, Mississippi, indicate that on August 7, 1961, an appeal on behalf of Mr. Farmer was filed in connection with the aforementioned sentence imposed on May 26, 1961. According to these records, on January 24, 1962, he was found guilty and was sentenced to pay a fine in the amount of \$200 and to serve four months in jail. On the same date Mr. Farmer was allowed to post a cash appeal bond, the amount of which was not shown, and on October 4, 1968, all charges against him were dismissed.

The files of the Plaquemine, Louisiana, Police Department indicate Mr. Farmer was arrested on August 19, 1963, on charges of disturbing the peace, obstructing the streets and sidewalks, inciting violence, refusing to leave the premises, inciting others to refuse to leave the premises, demonstrating at the city hall, and singing loudly in the streets. In connection with this arrest, on September 3, 1963, in City Court, Plaquemine, Louisiana, all of the aforementioned charges against Mr. Farmer, except obstructing the streets and sidewalks and disturbing the peace, were dropped. He was sentenced on each of the two charges which were not dropped to pay a fine in the amount of \$100 or to serve 30 days in jail. These sentences were subsequently appealed, and the records of the Eighteenth Judicial Court for the State of Louisiana, Plaquemine, Louisiana, indicate no further action has been taken, and this matter is presently pending.

There is enclosed a copy of an article entitled "Farmer, Seven Others are Found Guilty," which was contained in the September 4, 1963, issue of the "Times-Picayune," a newspaper in New Orleans, Louisiana. This article contains information concerning Mr. Farmer's arrest on August 19, 1963.

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The records of the New York City Police Department and court records in New York, New York, indicate Mr. Farmer was arrested on April 22, 1964, on charges of resisting a police officer in the discharge of his duty and disorderly conduct - acting in such a manner as to annoy, disturb, interfere with, obstruct, or be offensive to others. On June 19, 1964, these charges were dismissed.

With regard to the foregoing, an article in the press indicated Mr. Farmer's arrest on April 22, 1964, was in connection with a civil rights demonstration in front of the New York City Building at the New York World's Fair.

According to the files of the Chicago, Illinois, Police Department, Mr. Farmer was arrested on June 11, 1965, for "disorderly (making noise) and obstructing traffic." The disposition was listed as bond forfeited, amount not indicated.

An article on June 12, 1965, in the "Chicago Sun-Times," a newspaper in Chicago, Illinois, indicated that on June 11, 1965, Mr. Farmer was among 252 civil rights marchers who were arrested for obstructing traffic as they sat down in a street intersection.

The files of the Essex County Clerk's Office, Newark, New Jersey, indicate that on July 21, 1965, Henry Martinez filed suit against CORE, Mr. Farmer, and nine other individuals. The complaint filed in this matter stated Mr. Martinez, while in the performance of his duties as a police officer, was involved in an incident resulting in the death of an individual he described as a criminal of long standing. It was stated that on June 17, 1965, in the office of the Mayor of Newark, New Jersey, defendants in this matter maliciously and illegally demanded his suspension because of this incident. Mr. Martinez said as a direct result, he was suspended on June 18, 1965, his reputation was injured, and his position in the community was damaged. He demanded compensatory and punitive damages. According to these records, on August 15, 1967, a stipulation of ~~dismissal~~ was filed in this matter.

James Leonard Farmer

[redacted]
Newark, New Jersey, advised [redacted]
[redacted] in the
aforementioned suit. He said this
suit was settled out of court.

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Information Concerning [redacted]

[redacted]

In 1944 the Consumers Union was cited as a communist front by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, now known as the House Committee on Internal Security. The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published on January 2, 1957, by this committee, stated concerning the Consumers Union that after hearings and thorough study "the committee finds there is no present justification for continuing this organization as one that is cited, and future reports and publications will reflect that this organization has been deleted from the list of subversive organizations and publications."

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[redacted] disclosed that on January 20, 1945, ten individuals, including [redacted] were arrested in Chicago, Illinois, in connection with a "protest parade" they were staging against conscription and war. Articles in the press on January 21, 1945, indicated those arrested were members of the Young Peoples Socialist League. [redacted]

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James Leonard Farmer

A number of persons interviewed [redacted] described [redacted] as loyal Americans, and it was stated they were considered to be anticommunist. According to several of those interviewed, [redacted] held pacifist views. [redacted] of Viking Press, Incorporated, New York, New York, a reference [redacted] commented favorably as to the loyalty [redacted]. He described Mr. Farmer as a pacifist who was motivated by religious beliefs, and said Mr. Farmer would be a conscientious objector if called to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. [redacted] added that in his opinion [redacted].

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It was reported [redacted] that an article in the November 8, 1950, issue of the "New York World Telegram and Sun," a newspaper published in New York, New York, stated the American League for Puerto Rican Independence had been dissolved. According to this article, the resigning officers of this organization, including Lulu Peterson Farmer, expressed concern "over current reports that the executive secretary of the league, Miss Ruth Reynolds, who has been in Puerto Rico the last two years, is identified with the Nationalist Party under the leadership of Pedro Albizu Campos." It was stated these officers condemned "any resort to violent seizure of power," and added that "we abhor the resort to assassination as not only morally reprehensible but also as especially damaging to the cause it may seek to serve."

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[redacted]

closely associated with members and leaders of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico in New York, New York,

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and in Puerto Rico. The Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450 (Federal Employee Security Program). (105-13534)

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[redacted] was reinterviewed in New York, New York, during this investigation. He said he first became acquainted with Mr. Farmer in about [redacted] and last saw him in approximately [redacted] stated during the period of their acquaintanceship Mr. Farmer believed in total nonviolence in his attempts to promote integration, and that was the basic principle upon which he helped to found CORE. He advised he believes Mr. Farmer left CORE because that organization became inclined to the use of violence, to which Mr. Farmer was firmly opposed. [redacted] said he considers Mr. Farmer a pacifist based on the fact he hates all forms of violence, including war. He advised he never received the impression Mr. Farmer would have evaded military service, and he is of the opinion he would have accepted service as a noncombatant because of his hatred of war. [redacted] highly recommended Mr. Farmer for a position of trust and confidence.

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Miscellaneous

In October, 1960, information was received indicating that an agenda pertaining to a conference on "Nonviolence and the Achievement of Desegregation" held in Atlanta, Georgia, from October 14, 1960, to October 16, 1960, by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) listed the leaders of ten "nonviolence workshops." It was stated in the agenda that these workshops would be led by persons knowledgeable in the philosophy of nonviolence. The leader of one of these workshops was listed as James Farmer, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. (100-439190-X4)

SNCC, a nonmembership organization with headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, was born out of the sit-in movement that erupted across the South beginning in 1960. Today SNCC

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identifies itself as an organization in the revolutionary vanguard. It advocates that to be successful it is necessary to develop a revolutionary ideology and revolutionary program.

According to SNCC, the year 1967 marked a historic milestone in the struggle for the liberation of black people in the United States and the year that revolutionaries throughout the world began to understand more fully the impact of the black movement. SNCC declared that "liberation will come only when there is final destruction of this mad octopus--the capitalistic system of the United States with all its life-sucking tentacles of exploitation and racism that choke the people of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The realities of black life, together with the recognition instilled in SNCC workers forced its members to further popularize the legitimacy of self-defense and rebellions when oppression became too great."

In January, 1962, an informant*, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the name and address of James Farmer, 85 Bedford Street, Apartment 5, New York 14, New York, ~~were~~ contained on a list captioned "Sponsor Sub (Sept., 1961) (Summer Issue with Editorial)," maintained by Freedomway Associates, Incorporated, New York, New York. *Lu*

Mr. Farmer reportedly resided at 85 Bedford Street, New York, New York, in 1961.

"Freedomways" is self-described as "A Quarterly Review of the Negro Freedom Movement" published by Freedomway Associates, Incorporated. A source advised in May, 1961, that "Freedomways" was set up for the Communist Party.



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James Leonard Farmer

An article in the August 27, 1963, issue of the "Evening Star," a newspaper in Washington, D. C., indicated Mr. Farmer was a cochairman of the March on Washington, scheduled for August 28, 1963, in Washington, D. C. This demonstration was supported by various civil rights organizations.

A leaflet distributed in the vicinity of the University of California, Berkeley, California, on September 17, 1963, announced that a meeting would be held that day at Bancroft Way and Telegraph Road, Berkeley, California, sponsored by the Bay Area Friends of SNCC and the Berkeley Chapter of CORE to "Protest Birmingham Murders." The speakers listed on this leaflet included James Farmer of CORE and Landy McNair, SNCC field worker. The chairman of this meeting, according to the leaflet, was Dennis Roberts, SNCC Legal Assistant in Mississippi, a law student at the University of California.

Information was received that Mr. Farmer was the principal speaker at the aforementioned meeting on September 17, 1963. He discussed the then recent bombing of a church in Birmingham, Alabama, during which four girls were killed. He stated he felt discrimination in housing and employment in the North was more damaging to the fight of the Negroes for freedom than the actions by racists in the South. According to an informant, [redacted] who was in charge of this meeting, had recently resigned from the Socialist Workers Party, an organization designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450. b6 b7C

(100-441062-2)

According to a report dated April 13, 1964, of the Joint Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities of the State of Louisiana concerning the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated, on February 17, 1961, James Farmer, National Director of CORE, stated as follows in a letter to the Executive Director of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated:

"Thank you for your nice note of February 8 regarding my CORE appointment. Let me acknowledge with pleasure the good wishes which you extended on behalf of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, and assure you that

[redacted]

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James Leonard Farmer

they are reciprocated. It is a good fight we are in, and one which will call for all the dedication we can muster." (100-10355-1080-page 78,79)

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which has been cited as a communist front, reportedly changed its name in April, 1946, to the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated.

In October, 1964, information was received indicating that at a city-wide mass meeting held on September 29, 1964, in Savannah, Georgia, in connection with the 1964 National Convention of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Mr. Farmer was one of the featured speakers. On this occasion he reportedly traced the history of the civil rights movement and highlighted the necessity for Negro unity and education in the political and labor fields. (100-438794-176)

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is a civil rights organization founded by the late Martin Luther King, Jr.

The April 24, 1965, issue of the "New York Amsterdam News," a weekly newspaper published in New York, New York, contained an article captioned "Benefit for Malcolm X Widow Friday Night." According to this article, Mr. Farmer was among honorary chairmen of a benefit performance scheduled for April 23, 1965. It was stated funds realized from this benefit were to be applied toward the purchase of a home for the family of the late Malcolm X. Malcolm X, a former national officer of the Nation of Islam who broke from that organization in March, 1964, was the founder and leader of the Organization of Afro-American Unity, a militant civil rights action group. He was shot and killed as he addressed a rally in New York, New York, on February 21, 1965. (105-71196-20)

The Nation of Islam is an all Negro, semireligious organization which preaches extreme hatred of the white man. It is headed by Elijah Muhammad.

James Leonard Farmer



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In September, 1965, information was received from another governmental agency** that Mr. Farmer was listed among sponsors on a call for a conference which was to be held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, from September 14, 1965, to September 18, 1965. It was indicated this conference was under the sponsorship of the Inter-University Committee for Debate on Foreign Policy; the Office of Religious Affairs, University of Michigan; and the Faculty-Student Committee to Stop the War in Vietnam. (62-110039-117,183)

The November 23, 1965, issue of the "New York Times," a newspaper published in New York, New York, contained an advertisement entitled, "March on Washington for Peace in Vietnam" with a subtitle, "A Call to Mobilize the Conscience of America Toward the Goal of a Negotiated Settlement in Vietnam." A list of sponsors of this march which was scheduled for November 27, 1965, was set out. Included on this list was "James Farmer, National Director, CORE." (100-444664-312)

Mr. Farmer is the author of a book, "Freedom-When?" This book was published in 1966.

Enclosed is a copy of an article captioned "Growing Negro Militancy is Cited by Farmer," which appeared in the "New York Times" on February 10, 1966. This article contains a review of Mr. Farmer's book which, it was stated, is intended as a prod to white liberals to shed their illusions and face the realities of the Negro's aspirations to a rightful place in the American sun.

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 **Department of State

James Leonard Farmer

A leaflet bearing the name of the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, which leaflet called for mass mobilizations in New York, New York, and San Francisco, California, on April 15, 1967, contained the name of James Farmer, not otherwise identified, among a list of "Endorsers." According to this leaflet, the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam was composed of individuals from many organizations who represented a wide variety of views. (100-426761-1626)

A report entitled "Communist Origin and Manipulation of Vietnam Week (April 8-15, 1967)" by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, now known as the House Committee on Internal Security, states in part, "Communists are playing dominant roles in both the Student Mobilization Committee and the Spring Mobilization Committee."

According to an article in the July 21, 1967, edition of the "New York Times," James Farmer, former head of CORE, was among those who attended the opening session of the National Conference on Black Power held in Newark, New Jersey, from July 20, 1967, to July 23, 1967. Approximately 400 persons representing about 45 organizations reportedly attended this conference. (62-111166-114)

In September, 1967, information was received that Mr. Farmer was among individuals who were present at a meeting of the Black Peoples Convention in Chicago, Illinois, on September 1, 1967. This convention was reportedly made up of individuals who had withdrawn from the National Conference for New Politics held in Chicago, Illinois, from August 29, 1967, to September 4, 1967. (105-171384-12, source is Chicago Police Department)

Mr. Farmer was reportedly one of the speakers at an International Day of Protest Against the War in Vietnam held on April 27, 1968, in Washington, D. C. Attached is a copy of a leaflet which indicates CORE was one of the organizations sponsoring this affair. This leaflet lists Mr. Farmer among the scheduled speakers. (14-2965-53-19)

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Attached is a copy of each of the following:

Article entitled "Apostle of Gandhi, James Leonard Farmer," which appeared in the May 27, 1961, issue of the "New York Times."

Article captioned "2 Negroes With Opposing Views Debate Segregation-Integration," which appeared in the March 8, 1962, issue of the "Ithaca Journal," a newspaper in Ithaca, New York. According to this article, in a debate with Malcolm X, mentioned previously, and described in the article as a top sergeant for Elijah Muhammad's Black Muslim movement, Mr. Farmer labeled Malcolm X's views on complete separation of blacks and whites as impractical.

Article captioned "Speakers Blast HUAC's Aid to Monroe Racists," which appeared in the May 27, 1963, issue of "The Militant," a publication of the Socialist Workers Party. This article listed Mr. Farmer among speakers on May 15, 1963, who denounced the "grilling" of an attorney for the Committee to Aid the Monroe Defendants (CAMD). The CAMD was reportedly formed by the Socialist Workers Party in 1961 to afford financial support and counsel for individuals who were involved in a racial incident in Monroe, North Carolina, on August 21, 1961.

Article entitled "Hold Rights March Sunday to City Hall," which appeared in the October 20, 1963, issue of "The Worker," a publication of the Communist Party, New York, New York. According to this article, CORE announced that Mr. Farmer was to be among speakers in connection with a march on October 20, 1963, to demand action on construction jobs for Negroes and Puerto Ricans on Harlem slums, and on total school integration.

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Article captioned "UC Ovation for Farmer" in the December 16, 1964, issue of the "San Francisco Examiner," a newspaper in San Francisco, California. According to this article, Mr. Farmer spoke at a meeting on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley, California, on December 15, 1964, as a guest of the Free Speech Movement.

Article entitled "U.S. Negroes and Africa," which was contained in the January 11, 1965, issue of the "Honolulu Advertiser," a newspaper in Honolulu, Hawaii. This article noted that Mr. Farmer was among leaders of the American Negro Leadership Conference, an organization "aimed at influencing U.S. foreign policy, especially towards black Africa."

Article entitled "Farmer Links Feelings About Rights, Vietnam" in the February 17, 1968, issue of the "Lewiston Morning Tribune," a newspaper in Lewiston, Idaho. This article stated that at a symposium on Vietnam at the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, Mr. Farmer linked the civil rights movement with opposition to the war in Vietnam, saying Negro veterans of the Vietnam war would not return from duty willing to accept second-class citizenship.

Article captioned "Black Revolt, Student Protest Symposium," which appeared in the "San Francisco Examiner" on May 9, 1968. According to this article, in a statement at the University of California, Berkeley, California, Mr. Farmer said, "In a sense the student revolt is the same kind of revolt as the black revolution - a revolt of the powerless seeking control of their destiny."

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Article captioned "Farmer Failed to File Post-Election Report," which appeared in the February 12, 1969, issue of the "Washington Daily News," a newspaper in Washington, D. C. This article stated Mr. Farmer had failed to file a post-election campaign expenditure report with the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives as required under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. It was stated his name was contained on a list of candidates in the November, 1968, election who were delinquent in filing required reports. According to this article, the list had been sent to the Department of Justice.

It was ascertained during this investigation that by letter dated January 28, 1969, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., furnished the Department of Justice a list of individuals, including Mr. Farmer, who failed to file required reports listing contributions and expenditures in connection with the November, 1968, election. A representative of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice advised that this matter is currently being studied and no investigative or prosecutive action concerning Mr. Farmer has been initiated.

Informants who are familiar with the activities of the Communist Party and related organizations, as well as those familiar with the activities of black extremists, were contacted during this investigation. They furnished no information of an unfavorable nature concerning Mr. Farmer. One of those contacted described Mr. Farmer as sound and "middle of the road politically," and stated he is a strong civil rights activist of unquestioned loyalty and trustworthiness. Another informant said Mr. Farmer is not known to advocate an extremely militant position regarding racial matters.

Passport Record

The files of the Passport Office, Department of State, indicate that Mr. Farmer was issued a passport on September 18, 1958, for proposed travel to various countries in Africa for two months for the purpose of "extending greetings

James Leonard Farmer

to and securing information regarding the needs of unions of public employees in Africa." He was issued a passport on July 1, 1964, for a proposed business trip of four days to England. These files contain no additional pertinent information concerning him.

Agency Checks

Information has been received from the following governmental agencies indicating their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Farmer:

Bureau of Personnel Investigations,
Civil Service Commission; House
Committee on Internal Security;
Office of Internal Security, Department
of Health, Education, and Welfare;
Office of Economic Opportunity,
Executive Office of the President;
 United
States Secret Service; and the White
House Office.

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The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Farmer.

Enclosures (12)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 24

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