



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JOSEPHINE BAKER

PART 1 OF 2

BUFILE: 62-95834



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

Subject of Request: JOSEPHINE BAKER

FOIPA No. _____/190-_____

Dear :

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 and/or Section 552a. In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

Section 552Section 552a

- ☒ (b)(1)
☒ (b)(2)
☒ (b)(3) 26 (USC) 6103

☐ (b)(4)
☐ (b)(5)
☐ (b)(6)

- ☐ (b)(7)(A)
☐ (b)(7)(B)
☒ (b)(7)(C)
☒ (b)(7)(D)
☒ (b)(7)(E)
☐ (b)(7)(F)
☐ (b)(8)
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- ☐ (d)(5)
☐ (j)(2)
☐ (k)(1)
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☐ (k)(3)
☐ (k)(4)
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☐ (k)(6)
☐ (k)(7)

(See Form 4-694a, enclosed for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, 615 page(s) were reviewed and 359 page(s) are being released.

During the review of material pertinent to the subject of your request, documents were located which

- ☐ originated with another Government agency(ies).
 These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

FBI/DOJ

2

FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT JOSEPHINE BAKER

FILE NUMBER 62-95834

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-160

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

~~SECRET~~

Transmit the following message [REDACTED] (S)

CABLEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

REFERENCE

JOSEPHINE BAKER, SPECIAL INQUIRY. SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION YOUR
FILES [REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (S) BAKER AMERICAN BORN NEGRESS, NIGHTCLUB ENTERTAINER
IN FRANCE SINCE NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE, MARRIED TO DOULLION,
ORCHESTRA LEADER, PRESENTLY IN UNITED STATES. ~~SECRET~~
IMMEDIATELY.

CC FOREIGN SERVICE DESK del [REDACTED] b7C # 814

DJS [REDACTED] b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Enc. MSC 0215-0240

CK IB
340-1410

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

65 [REDACTED] (S)

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

SENT VIA cable [REDACTED] (S) 950 PM

Per [REDACTED]

b1

b7C

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Belmont ☒
Mr. Clegg ☒
Mr. Glavin ☒
Mr. Harbo ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Tracy ☒
Mr. Laughlin ☒
Mr. Mohr ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Mr. Nease ☒
Miss Gandy ☒

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CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/psk

DATE OF REVIEW 0000 9/4/82 b1

[REDACTED] RECEIVED VIA THE
STATE DEPARTMENT. (s)

URGENT

JOSEPHINE BAKER, SPECIAL INQUIRY. REBUCABLE TODAY.

[REDACTED] b1
per
State
Dept.
(s)

ROLLAND O. L'ALLIER 9

RECEIVED: b1 [REDACTED] (s)

5:00 PM MW

RECORDED - 562 - 95834 - 2

[REDACTED] cc: Mr. Tolson
Mr. Felt

[REDACTED] (s)

b1

pe

Doc
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 5, 1951

Jo Baker

The attached letters were sent in by Walter Winchell. They concern Josephine Baker, the colored singer who was recently involved in the incident at the Stork Club.

Concerning the top letter, which is from one [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] alleges that he saw Josephine Baker in Leningrad, as a guest of the Soviet Union, in 1936, Mr. Winchell states: "Hoover, can we check this please?"

Attachments
eff

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. Ladd ☒
Mr. Nichols ☒
Mr. Belmont ☒
Mr. Clegg ☐
Mr. Glavin ☐
Mr. Harbo ☐
Mr. Rosen ☐
Mr. Tracy ☐
Mr. Laughlin ☐
Mr. Jones ☐
Mr. Mohr ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Mr. Nease ☐
Miss Holmes ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

no answer required
11/5

67X
7644 9

RECORDED - 5

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/4/82 BY SP-1 GSK/AR

50 DEC 6 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

-76

Room 4236, 1951

645
646
647

Director 5633 Mr. Newman 5524
Tolson 5744 Mr. Renneberger
Ladd 5736 B-114
Belmont 1742 Mr. Rogers 5228
Clegg 5256 Mr. Sizoo 7204
Glavin 5517 Mr. Trotter 7204
Harbo 7625 Mr. Wick 5640
Nichols 5640 Records Section
Rosen 5706 Personnel Files
Tracy 4130IB Mail Room 5533
Miss Gandy 5633 Supply Room B118
Holloman 5636 Tours 5627
Leonard 6222IB Reading Rm. 5531
McGuire 5640 Photo Lab. 7620
Mohr 5744 Miss
Nease 5633 Room

CRIME RECORDS SECTION

Mr. Jones Call Me
Mr. Bishop See Me
Mr. Carroll APPROPRIATE ACTION
Mr. Carter NOTE & RETURN
Mr. Dalbey SERIALIZE & RETURN
Mr. Hart Room 4240
Mr. Kemper Miss Copeland
Mr. Nagel Mr. Coppel
Mr. Stukenbroeker Mrs. Isles
Mr. Suttler Miss McNally
Mr. Youngblood Miss O'Briant
Miss Miss Qualls
Miss Miss Reichert
Miss Mrs. Stadel

INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

Crime Records Section

DO-8

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 26, 1951

38921

From Walter Winchell

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Belmont ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Laughlin ✓
Mr. Jones ✓
Mr. Mohr ✓
Tele. Room ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Holmes ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

Attachment
arm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

Provenance
ack
Action 1/18/52
SP-1

200
b7C
[REDACTED]
Monday
October 29th, 1951

Dear W. W. (Walter Winchell)

Just read your column on J. B. (Josephine Baker) in today's Daily Mirror, in your last paragraph Mr. Rayburn gives a summation of J. B.'s attitude in the year 1935, In 1936 I visited Leningrad from Helsinki, Finland on a 3 day visit. The month was June "I think"? Anyhow the correct dates on, still on, the U.S.S.R. visa issued in Helsinki on my old passport, a British passport, I'm a Scotchman. Well I wandered into the Russian bar at the hotel one night of the 3 I was there & who was the "Big Shot" of the evening, surrounded by Red Commisars & French Reds, & actually singing & drinking with them to her heart's content, but J. B. The only colored person there. She came to the U.S.S.R. with a large group of French Reds, who in 1936 were being rewarded by the Politbureau for their work in the French Elections that year by a free trip to the U.S.S.R. "as guests of the Soviet Union." If you with your connections "check up" you will probably find J. B. is just a highly colored copy & a poor one at that, of Matti Hari. But still doing her stuff for Uncle Joe. The Reds wined & dined her no end & were laughing up their sleeves at her, as they have no Negroes in the U.S.S.R. she was just a novelty, & a good stooge. Looks to me she is still following the line everywhere she goes.

Sorry she implicated you Walter, but that might have been one of her assignments? You know how the Reds "love you."

Sincerely,
[REDACTED] b7C

COPY-eff

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

101 NY TELETYPE 29 -
INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/10/02 BY SP-1 OS/102
38922
This please? W.H.

DEAR W. W. ^{6K} JUST HAND YOUR LETTER TO J.B. IN TODAY'S
DAILY MIRROR, IN YOUR LAST PARAGRAPH MR RAYBURN GIVES A
SUMMATION OF J.B.'S ATTITUDE IN THE YEAR 1935, IN 1936
I VISITED LEWINGRAD FROM HELSINKI, FINLAND ON A
3 DAY VISIT, THE MONTH WAS JUNE "I THINK"? ANYHOW
THE CORRECT DATES ON, STILL ON, THE U.S.S.R. VISA ISSUED
IN HELSINKI ON MY OLD PASSPORT, A BRITISH PASSPORT,
IN A SEETCHANN, WELL I WANDERED INTO THE RUSSIAN
BAR AT THE HOTEL ONE NIGHT OF THE 3 I WAS THERE
& WHO HAS THE "BIG SHOT" OF THE EVENING, SUR-
ROUNDED BY RED COMMISSARS & FRENCH REDS,
& ACTUALLY ~~SUBMITTING~~ DRINKING WITH THEM TO HER
HEARTS CONTENT BUT J.B. THE ONLY COLORED
PERSON THERE. SHE CAME TO THE U.S.S.R. WITH A LARGE
GROUP OF FRENCH REDS, WHO IN 1936 WERE BEING REWARDED
BY THE POLITBUREAU FOR THEIR WORK IN THE FRENCH
ELECTIONS THAT YEAR BY A FREE TRIP TO THE U.S.S.R.
"AS GUESTS OF THE SOVIET UNION" IF YOU WITH YOUR
"CONNECTIONS" CHECK UP YOU WILL PROBABLY FIND J.B. IS
JUST A HIGHLY COLORED COPY, & A POOR ONE AT THAT
OF MATI HARI. BUT STILL DOING HER STUFF FOR
LIVELY JOE. THE REDS WINED & DINED HER NO END &
WERE LAUGHING UP THEIR SHOES AT HER, AS THEY HAVE
NO NEGROES IN THE U.S.S.R. SHE WAS JUST A NOBILITY, &
A GOOD STODGE, LOOKS TO ME SHE IS STILL FOLLOWING
THE LINE EVERYWHERE SHE GOES -
SORRY SHE IMPLICATED YOU WALTER, BUT THAT MIGHT
HAVE BEEN ONE OF HER ASSIGNMENTS? YOU KNOW THE
PLEASE LOVE YOU
Sincerely
[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE
RECORDED - 5 62-95834-3
NOV 14 1951
W.H.



Hotel New Yorker

Monday AM

Dear Mr. Winchell,

At 57 this happens to be my first letter to Press etc. etc.

Re-Jos. Baker business, you are now on right tract. J.B. is a #1 phoney as you knew all along. I was surprized that it took you so long to collect your wits this time. Don't slip.

 b7C and have lived in Brunswick, Ga. my entire life. Our population happens to be unusual, 50% white, 50% colored. It's one of the few communities in U.S. not counting Talmadge, Rep. (He has yet to get a majority vote out of our county, neither has ).

We have never had a race riot, lynching or trouble of any sort, thought you'd be interested in this --- BUT!

We also (Jews I mean now) have the famous "Cloister" hotel at our famous Sea Island, which is definitely restricted to Jews. Of course the dining rooms & club rooms are open to the public, but from what I understand the service is also slow. Of course or should I say I have yet to patronize their public rooms.

But I have tried several times to get a reservation at the Stork Club and they are always "So Solly." Aren't you hanging out at the wrong Bistro???? Forgot to mention I'm supposed to be a nice Jew.

 b7C
Brunswick, Ga.

COPY-eff

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

dining room & club rooms
 are open to the public. But
 from I understand the
 service is also slow -
 of course or should I say
 I have yet to patronize
 their public rooms.
 But I have tried
 several times to get a
 reservation at the Stork
Club and they are always
"So Sorry". Aren't you
hanging out at the
wrong Teatro ??? I forgot
 to mention I'm supposed to
 be a nice Jew. [redacted]
 BK



Monday
 7 AM

HOTEL NEW YORKER

THIRTY-FOURTH STREET AT NINTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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 DATE 9/10/00 BY SP-1000

Dear Mr. [redacted]
 This happens to be
 my first letter to
 Pres. etc etc -
 Re. Joo. Baker
 Business you are now
 on right tract
 is a #1 Phil
 you know all along

ENCLOSURE
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 NOV 4 1967
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 107
 DUPLICATE

not counting ³ Talmadge Rep-
"He got to get a majority vote
out of our county, Georgia (Confederate)
We have never had
a race riot, lynching or
trouble of any sort. I
thought you'd be interested
in this — But!

We also (just I mean
"non") have the famous
"Christie" Hotel at our famous
Sea Island — which is
definitely restricted to
Jews — of course the

I was surprised that
it took you so long to
collect your wits this
time — Don't slip — b/c

~~_____~~ and have lived in
Brunswick, Ga my entire
life — Our population
happens to be unusual
50% white 50% colored,
to one of the few
communities in U.S.

Springfield, Mass.
October 28, 1951

Dear Walter Winchell,

I have always considered you to be a good judge of character, and after reading your Sunday column on my notorious countrywoman, Jo Baker, I am convinced of it. It was good to see that you had seen right through her race hating campaign. She professes to want to help our race, and yet she calmly goes about destroying the little progress made toward better race relations. It seems that instead of aiding our race, she is instead just stirring up every little incident that could possibly be interpreted as racial. Not to say that she should sit by while Negroes are insulted, but it does seem funny that no matter where she goes, some white person always picks her out to abuse. If she is so terribly anxious to do something about racial prejudice, why doesn't she join the various colored organizations or contribute to our charities? Maybe she does, but I've never heard of it. Her chief ambition in life seems to be to make fabulous salaries, wear priceless gowns, marry European counts and arrest Texans for supposedly calling her a nigger. It made me sick to read how she had gone to France and depicted us as near slaves in this wonderful country of ours. I know there is still a lot to be desired in the treatment of Negroes, but her running to Paris to be "treated like a human being" isn't helping any. Why couldn't she stay here and fight like millions of other Negroes are doing? My mother says that years ago when she saw Jo Baker perform in New York, her act was so immoral that its no wonder they "panned" her. I know she has come a long way from what she was, but from what I've read, she had no scruples about how she got there either. If she loves Paris so much, why didn't she stay over there and "live like a human being"? Since all Negroes can't afford Parisienne hospitality, we'll just have to stay here and improve our country. When Miss Baker forced Miami Club owners to admit Negroes while she was acting there, it probably never occurred to her that the minute she left, the barriers would again be resumed. Most of my race don't want to be "tolerated." All we ask is a fair chance to prove ourselves. I suggest Jo Baker copy our Negro celebrities like Ray Robinson, Lena Horne, Duke Ellington and others. Of course if she can't stand this wicked treatment, she can always go back to her beloved France, and good riddance.

Sincerely yours,

A colored student

COPY-eff

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP1 GSK/RS

Springfield, Mass.
October 28, 1951

Dear Walter Winchell,

I have always considered you to be a good judge of character. And after reading your Sunday column on my notorious countrywoman, Jo Baker, I am convinced of it. It was good to see that you had seen right through her race hating campaign. She professes to want to help our race, and yet she calmly goes about destroying the little progress made toward better race relations. It seems that instead of aiding our race, she is instead just stirring up every little incident that could possibly be interpreted as racial. Not to say that she should sit by while Negroes are insulted, but it does seem funny that no matter where she goes, some white person always picks her out to abuse. If she is so terribly anxious to do something about racial prejudice, why doesn't she join the various colored organizations or contribute to our charities? Maybe she does, but I've never heard of it. Her chief ambition in life seems to be to make fabulous salaries, wear price less gowns, marry European chumps and arrest titans for supposedly calling her a nigger. It made me sick to read how she had gone to France and depicted us as near ~~the~~ slaves in

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DATE 9/26/82 BY 60322/UC/BAW

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this wonderful country of ours. I know there is still a lot to be desired in the treatment of Negroes, but her running to Paris to be "treated like a human being" isn't helping any. Why couldn't she stay here and fight like millions of other Negroes are doing? My mother says that years ago when she saw Jo Baker perform in New York, her act was so immoral that it's no wonder they "panned" her. I know she has come a long way from what she was, but from what I've read, she had no scruples about how she got there either. If she loves Paris so much, why didn't she stay over there and "live like a human being"? Since all Negroes can't afford Parisienne hospitality, we'll just have to stay here and improve our country. When Mrs. Baker forced Miami Club owners to admit Negroes while she was acting there, it probably never occurred to her that the minute she left, the barriers would again be resumed. Most of my race don't want to be "tolerated". All we ask is a fair chance to prove ourselves. I suggest Jo Baker copy our Negro celebrities like Ray Robinson, Lena Horne, Duke Ellington and others. Of course if she can't stand this wicked treatment, she can always go back to her beloved France, and good riddance.

Sincerely yours.

A colored student.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: November 2, 1951

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

CLASS. BY SP-1CSE/IN

DATE OF REVIEW

PURPOSE:

To advise you, pursuant to your request, of information appearing in our files relative to Josephine Baker, Negro singer and entertainer.

SCOPE OF SEARCH:

In the preparation of this memorandum Baker's name was searched through the single initial and with a combination of the first name with various middle names and initials. Baker's known married names were also searched. The search was not limited to locality and included a search of both criminal and subversive references.

PERSONAL HISTORY:

According to the April 2, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, Negro washer woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be 45 years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

This "Life" article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a Negro tap dancer and supposedly married one Pepito Albertino in the 1920's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Boullion, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

DJS:djb:dm

RECORDED - 122

INDEXED - 122

1951

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16

BUREAU INVESTIGATION:

~~SECRET~~

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau relative to Josephine Baker.

INFORMATION APPEARING IN BUREAU FILES:

Activities in Defense of Willie McGee

As you will recall, the Communist Party during the early part of 1951, took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 23, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known Negro entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York City would also speak at the same rally. (100-350512-393)

In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "For years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control."

[REDACTED]

(100-25869-129)

b7D

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~~SECRET~~

17

~~SECRET~~

According to the April 14, 1951, issue of "L'Unita Del Popolo" Josephine Baker was very interested in and urged the salvation of Willie McGee. (100-122084-184)

The California Committee on Un-American Activities in a 1948 report characterized "L'Unita Del Popolo" as being among publications which the Committee found "to be Communist initiated and controlled or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin Solar System."

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED] (S) (100-270288-6) (U)

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED] (100-3-73-334)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited as Communist by the Attorney General.

b7D

[REDACTED] (U) (S)

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7D [REDACTED]

(100-9-90-218) [REDACTED]

Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker" carried a story under the by-line of William Allen entitled, "'Pulitzer Prize' Paper Gagged Josephine Baker." According to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater in Detroit, Michigan, contacted the editor of the "Detroit Free Press" and advised him that she would like to make a statement on the "legal murder" of one of her people, Willie McGee, who she stated was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman. This article went on to state that after receiving assurances that her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the statement never appeared.

b1 [REDACTED]

(100-340539-17) [REDACTED]

b1 (S) [REDACTED]

Alleged Racial Discrimination by Stork Club

On October 16, 1951, according to newspaper articles appearing in numerous newspapers throughout the country, Josephine Baker, Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, Harlem service leader, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Rice, of the French theater, alleged that they had been made to wait an unreasonable length of time before being served

- 4 -
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

feed at the Stork Club in New York City. The principals involved complained that they had been subjected to racial discrimination.

As you will recall, Walter Winchell, in his Sunday night broadcast of October 21, 1951, in referring to this incident stated that he had been at the Stork Club at the same time as Baker on October 16, 1951, but had left before she had, and at no time while he was there had he noted anything proximating an "incident." Winchell continued to the effect that he had later heard that after he had left, Baker and her party became involved in some "incident" and that Baker had been insulted. Winchell stated that he himself deplored the situation but that he was equally perturbed that he was being brought into the picture and that pressure was being brought to bear upon him to denounce the alleged discriminatory actions of the Stork Club management against Baker and her party.

In his broadcast of October 28, 1951, Winchell mentioned the Baker incident and in effect stated that he could not be pressured into denouncing Sherman Billingsley and the Stork Club.

In Winchell's syndicated column appearing in the public press on October 29, 1951, Winchell quoted a letter which had been addressed to him by George S. Schuyler, New York editor of the "Pittsburgh Courier," a leading Negro newspaper. This letter in effect accused Baker of being "used" by the Communists and Communist Party front organizations and denounced the criticism of Winchell which resulted from the alleged discrimination against Baker at the Stork Club.

The Stork Club has been subjected to periodic picketing since October 16, 1951.

b7D

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SECRET

FOREIGN ACTIVITIES:

According to a report of the United States Military Attache, Paris, France, dated May 13, 1949, a copy of which was furnished to this Bureau, Josephine Baker provided part of the entertainment at a rally sponsored by the DeGaulle Political Party held in Paris, France, on May 1, 1949. General Charles DeGaulle was the principle speaker at this particular rally. (109-12-231-637)

MISCELLANEOUS:

(100-48754-101)

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

b7D [REDACTED]

b1 [REDACTED]

b1 [REDACTED]

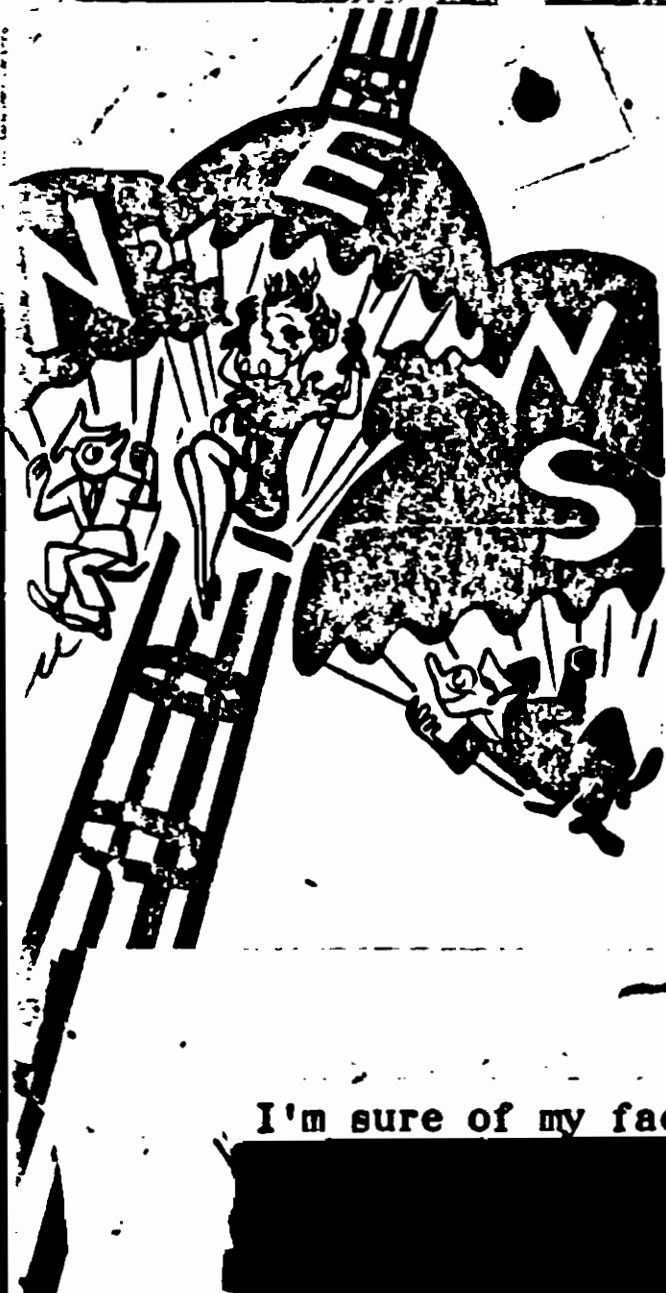
Under date of June 19, 1951, Dorothy B. Ferebee, President, National Council of Negro Women, Inc., 1318 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., addressed a letter to you advising that the National Council of Negro Women would present Josephine Baker on July 2, 1951, at the National Guard Armory in Washington, D. C. An invitation was extended to you to attend.

By letter dated June 27, 1951, Miss Helen W. Gandy, acknowledged the above referred to letter for you and advised that a prior engagement would prevent you from attending. (100-345801-8)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For your information. ✓

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~~SECRET~~



38920

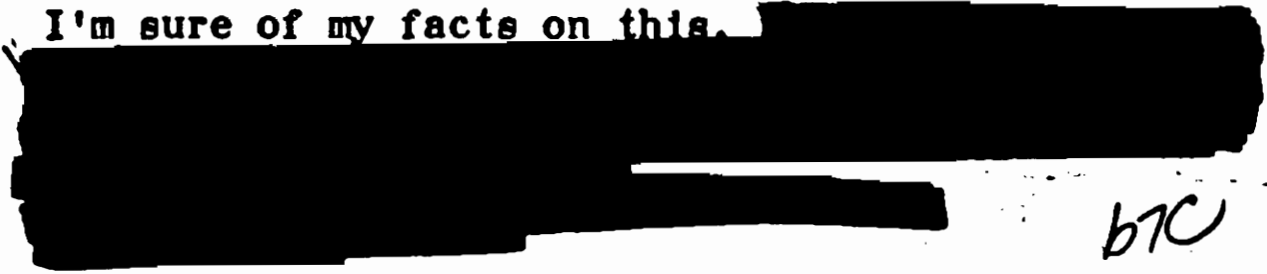
W-1-1

G.I.R.-6

When Josephine Baker came over
on her last trip, she was delayed
for many hours because she was
trying to bring in a Russian maid
She was not permitted to do this.
How do you like that? She won't
even employ a Negro maid.

To Hoover - True? h w

I'm sure of my facts on this.



b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GCL/BCL

RECORDED - 132
INDEXED - 132

63 DEC 19 1951

62-95834-5
NOV 30 1951

Five
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23

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XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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



Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C), (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.



Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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For your information: _____



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24

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

4-11

7-17, 1952

TO:

Director
Mr. Tolson, 5744
Mr. Ladd 5736
Mr. Belmont 1742
Mr. Clegg, 5256
Mr. Glavin 5517
Mr. Harbo 7625
Mr. Rosen 5706
Mr. Tracy 4130 IB
Mr. Laughlin 1742
Mr. Nichols 5640
Mr. McGuire 5642
Mr. Wick 5625
Mr. Crosby 5636
Mr. Jones 4236
Mr. Leonard 6222 IB
Mr. Trotter 7204
Mr. Eames 7204
Mr. Wherry 5537
Mr. English 5627

Mr. Mohr 5744
Miss Gandy, 5633
Mr. Holloman 5633
Records Sec. 7235
Pers. Records 6631
Reading Room 5531
Mail Room 5533
Teletype 5644
Leave Clerk 2266
Mechanical B-114
Supply Room B-118

Miss Lurs
Mrs. Chisholm
Miss Corrigan
Miss Pownell
Miss Beals
Miss Dumas

See me
For your info

Note & return
For appropriate action

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

L. B. Nichols
Room 5640, Ext. 691

b7D

MR. A. H. BELMONT

June 23, 1952

MR. L. L. LAUGHLIN

MCCARRAN COMMITTEE REQUESTS;

JOSEPHINE BAKER.

[REDACTED] of the McCarran Committee called today and asked if it would be possible to have a summary of any information in the Bureau's files concerning [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] also asked if it would be possible to have a summary of any derogatory information in the Bureau's files on Josephine Baker, the Colored chanteuse, who it will be recalled, recently was involved in an incident at the Stork Club in New York City in which she alleged that she had been discriminated against.

Appropriate memoranda are being prepared and will be submitted to you for approval.

LLH:mp
CC: Mr. Ladd
CC: Mr. Nichols

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

62-95834-✓
NOT RECORDED

147 JUL 1 1952

331
JUL 15 1952

JUL 15 1952

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson
FROM : L. B. Nichols
SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

DATE: June 30, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/8/82 BY SP-1 GSK/REK

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

[REDACTED] b7C b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7C

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Belmont

LBN:MP 368

RECORDED - 42

162-95834-6

13 JUL 24 1952

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson
Re: Josephine Baker

June 30, 1952

RECOMMENDATIONS:

mem to
McCarran Com
7/15

1. || It is suggested that a summary be prepared on
Josephine Baker for the McCarran Committee.

mem to
Sec. 9 Internal
Rev. 7/15/52

2. [REDACTED]

b7D

b7C

I concur.

d.

✓

July 15, 1952

JOSEPHINE BAKER

b7D

[REDACTED]

The above information is furnished for whatever action you deem appropriate.

[REDACTED]

Memorandum, Nichols to Tolson 6/30/52 Re: Josephine Baker)

Original to Bureau of Internal Revenue

62-95834

[REDACTED] b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/8/82 BY 9108/PLK

10 Direct to
[REDACTED] b7C
Action Head-Grand
Pr: Detail Unit
J.R. - Agent of Saco
per Mr. Nichols R/S
also furnished
[REDACTED]

AB

62-95834-6
ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: July 15, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
(McCarran Committee Request)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/82 BY 9-1641/BK

PURPOSE:

To furnish information concerning Josephine Baker -
pursuant to the request of the McCarran Committee.

BACKGROUND:

Reference is made to Mr. Nichols's memorandum to Mr. Tolson
dated June 30, 1952.

and that a summary of information
contained in Bureau files be furnished to the McCarran Committee.

There is attached hereto a blank memorandum for the Bureau
of Internal Revenue. There is also attached a blind memorandum,
thought suitable for dissemination, which incorporates information
received from reliable Bureau informants and from public sources.

SCOPE OF SEARCH:

In the preparation of these memoranda, the search was
limited to the main file and any references since November, 1951,
at which time all previous references were reviewed in connection
with a memorandum for the Director concerning Josephine Baker.
Baker's name was also searched in the Identification Division where
no criminal record was found. However, an Alien Registration print
received in January, 1951, was located on one Josephine Baker, a
French Negro artist who was born on June 3, 1906, at St. Louis,
Missouri, in connection with Visa Application No. 1510052.

BUREAU INVESTIGATION:

No investigation has been conducted by the Bureau concerning
Josephine Baker.

Attachments (2)

62-88217

cc - 62-95834

EFT/sjd

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RECORDED - 9162-95834-7
INDEXED - 917 AUG 8 1952

memo 4/2
7-31-52

INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED IN BLIND MEMORANDUM:

The following information is not being included in the blind memorandum as there is no evidence that Miss Baker actually took part in these Communist activities on her behalf.

According to the November 12, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, a Conference on Equal Rights for Negroes in Arts, Sciences, and Professions was held on November 10, 1951, at "The Pythian" in New York City, under the auspices of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. The November 14, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker" stated that one of the measures adopted at this conference was a telegram to Josephine Baker commending her forthright action in the Stork Club incident. (100-3-4212 p. 86; Dissemination: [REDACTED] b2
McInerney, D/R, 8/14/52)

The National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions has been cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities in a House Report No. 1954, dated April 6, 1950.

b7C
b7D [REDACTED] 100-3-4-7089 p. 30; Dissemination: ONI, OS
G-2, D/R, 3/21/52)

In regard to the Stork Club incident, it will be recalled that on October 16, 1951, according to newspaper articles appearing in numerous newspapers throughout the country, Josephine Baker, Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, Harlem service leader, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Rico, of the French theater, alleged that they had been made to wait an unreasonable length of time before being served food at the Stork Club in New York City. The principals involved complained that they had been subjected to racial discrimination. (62-95834-4)

DISSEMINATION:

The substance of pertinent information appearing in the blind memorandum has been appropriately disseminated.

ACTION:

That the attached blind memorandum be forwarded to the McCarran Committee.

That the attached blank memorandum be forwarded to the Bureau of Internal Revenue via liaison channels.

July 15, 1952

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

JOSEPHINE BAKER

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to the April 2, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, washer woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be forty-five years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

The article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a tap dancer and supposedly married one Pepito Albertine in the 1920's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Bouillon, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

ACTIVITIES IN THE DEFENSE OF WILLIE MCGEE

Josephine Baker took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 29, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York City would also speak at the rally. (100-350-512-393)

ORIGINAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL

1 - McCarran Committee

ENCLOSURE

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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b7D
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] Diss: [REDACTED] Criminal Div 181
 5/7/51) In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "For years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control."

b1
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] (S)
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] Diss: D/R, 7/13/51)
 Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, carried the story under the by-line of William Allan, State Board member, District No. 7, Communist Party, and Michigan correspondent for the "Daily Worker," entitled "'Pulitzer Prize' Paper Gagged Josephine Baker." According to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater in Detroit, Michigan, contacted the editor of the "Detroit Free Press" and advised him that she would like to make a statement on the "legal murder" of one of her people, Willie McGee, who she stated was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman. This article went on to state that after receiving assurances that her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the statement never appeared. (100-3-90-216)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7C

[REDACTED]

100-3-75-594)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

b7D

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

100-340533-17; 100-359582-25 p. 4; Dissem., D/R, MISCELLANEOUS: 9/11/51; G-2, ONI, OSI, 1/8/52)

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

100-3-12-2501 p. 75; Dissem.: ONI, G-2, OSI, D/R, 10/16/51; "Daily Worker" of May 25, 1951, reported that the Committee for the Negroes in the Arts was planning a brunch on May 27, 1951, at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, to pay special

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

tribute to Josephine Baker and twelve other personalities for their work on behalf of Negro artists.

b1
b7D
10/19/51;
b2

(Criminal Division 10/19/51)

Disse: ONI, OSI, D/R, G-2

b7E
b7C
b7D
b7E
(100-368227-15, 16)

Disse: D/R, G-2

ONI, OSI - 11/21/51)

b1
(Disse: D/R - 5/20/52)

omit
This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

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CONFIDENTIALITY INFORMATION - ~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Mr. L...
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont

Mr. Laughlin
Mr. D. J. Sullivan

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 31, 1952

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62-95834-7

DIRECTOR, FBI

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY
(McCARRAN COMMITTEE)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Attached are memoranda containing data in the files of this Bureau, copies of which have been furnished to a representative of the McCarran Committee pursuant to requests received from that Committee for information concerning the following individuals;

Josephine Baker

[REDACTED]

b7C

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RCR

DATE OF REVIEW

CONF

9/29/82

In response to requests for information in the Bureau's files concerning the following individuals, the Committee's representative was advised orally that there was no derogatory information identifiable with the subjects of their inquiry:

[REDACTED]

b7C

G.I.R.-3

The Committee's representative was advised orally that there was no information in the Bureau's files which could be identified with the following individuals, concerning whom a request for information was made by the Committee:

[REDACTED]

b7C

Attachments (8)

68 AUG 18 1952

LLL:met
DJS:

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
AUG 4 1952

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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



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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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Pursuant to a request from the McCarran Committee for information regarding Communist infiltration of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UERMIA) in the Philadelphia area, the Committee's representative was orally advised that Tom Delaney and Sam DiMaria, both former Communist Party members and both organizers of Local 155 of the UERMIA in Philadelphia, recently led an attempt to oust the Communists from this Local. Further advice was given that the anti-Communist activities of Delaney and DiMaria, as regards the UERMIA in Philadelphia, were given considerable publicity in the local press in Philadelphia, and, further, that both Delaney and DiMaria had given representatives of the "Philadelphia Evening Bulletin" information for a series of articles on the Communist Party infiltration into the UERMIA in the Philadelphia area.

Further oral information was furnished that Delaney and DiMaria had been interviewed by representatives of the House Committee on Un-American Activities as a result of the publicity they received in the Philadelphia area.

In answer to a request for information concerning the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - IMU the Committee's representative was orally advised that there was in publication a book entitled "Official Proceedings of the 47th Convention, International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Held in Nogales, Arizona, 9-10, 14-51." The Committee's representative was further advised that this book contained the identities of all persons participating in the Convention and also included all of the talks and statements made at the Convention verbatim, and all of the resolutions which were proposed and passed at the Convention. Further oral information was

- 4 -

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

given to the Committee's representative that according to reliable reports, the resolutions passed at the Convention were entirely consistent with the then current Communist Party line.

It was further stated that a pamphlet entitled "It's a Trick," published by the Educational Department of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - IUMS, Chicago, Illinois, encouraged Union members to fight for the rights of Communists to be members of this Union and of any Union.

Further oral advice was furnished to the Committee's representative that the January 29, 1951, issue of "The Union," the official publication of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - IUMS, contained an attack against the McCarran Act, charging that it was a thought-control law. This attack is consistent with the Communist Party propaganda directed against the McCarran Act.

Further information was furnished that the July 30, 1951, issue of "The Union" carried a statement issued by the Executive Board of the Union on July 18, 1951, which condemned the Supreme Court's decision upholding the conviction of the national leaders of the Communist Party under the Smith Act.

[REDACTED] b1

- 3 -

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

(S)
Also pursuant to requests, the following addresses were furnished to a representative of the McCarran Committee:

John Clark
President, International Union of Mine, Mill
and Smelter Workers
3403 South Lincoln Street
Englewood, Colorado.

Orville D. S. Larson
Vice President, International Union of Mine,
Mill and Smelter Workers
408 Hicks Canyon
Miami, Arizona.

[REDACTED] b7C

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 CSK/PSK

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
September 4, 1952

AIR COURIER

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 EKR

JUL 11 1977

Director, FBI

Re: JOSEPHINE BAKER
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

Dear Sir:

Attached is a clipping from the Rio de Janeiro afternoon newspaper, "O Globo," dated August 29, 1952.

The article, with two photos of JOSEPHINE BAKER, is headed "Josephine Baker A Serviço De Uma Grande Causa" (Josephine Baker at the Service of a Great Cause). JOSEPHINE BAKER is the United States night club and musical comedy star who went to France in the '20s and became a big attraction there. It is believed that she became a French citizen. It will be recalled that some months ago, when she was in the United States, she became involved in an incident at the New York night club, The Stork Club, in which she accused the management of racial discrimination. In some way, Walter Winchell, the newspaper columnist, came into the picture in opposition to her. The writer knows of the incident only through sparse newspaper attention given it here in Brazil.

The attached article tells of her intention to form a Rio de Janeiro branch of the World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination. (Newspapers September 4, 1952, announce that the event took place.) The president of the organization in Rio is to be APOINSE ARINOS DE BELLO FRANCO, sponsor of an anti-racial law, and presently a member of the Federal House of Deputies, and just named House leader of the UDN (União Democrática Nacional - National Democratic Union - conservative party in opposition to the present government).

The article reports the results of an interview with JOSEPHINE BAKER, who is presently in Rio, where she has had a

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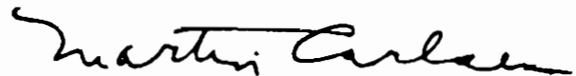
Handwritten signatures and initials, including "B. J. 289" and "J. 289".

successful run in at least two night clubs and one theater in a small revue. Other names in the World Association are ~~ELEANOR ROOSEVELT~~, ~~RALPH BUNCHE~~, ~~ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS~~, ~~BARRY GRAY~~ and ~~TED POSTON~~. She refers to the Stork Club incident, and to Winchell. As to that incident, she said that she and her friends won out, "Today there is a law against racial discrimination in the State of New York."

The closing paragraph states that she will attend the official installation ceremonies of the association in Haiti and in Cuba. It does not state when this will be. At another point in the article, it states that from Rio she will go to Uruguay.

The above is for the completion of the Bureau's files.

Very truly yours,



MARTIN CARLSEN
LA

Attachment
MC:jar

O Brasil, diz Josephine, por ter atingido a um admirável progresso dentro dos melhores princípios democráticos, é um país-símbolo da concretização do ideal por que me bata.



Josephine fala também com as mãos...

JOSEPHINE BAKER A SERVIÇO DE UMA GRANDE CAUSA

Vai ser inaugurado no Rio, por iniciativa da famosa atriz negra, mais um ramo da Associação Mundial Contra a Discriminação Racial e Religiosa — Será seu presidente o deputado Affonso Arinos de Mello Franco — O Brasil, diz Josephine, por ter atingido a um admirável progresso dentro dos melhores princípios democráticos, é um país-símbolo da concretização do ideal por que me bata.



"O GLOBO"
 RIO DE JANEIRO, BR
 AUGUST 29, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-16SK/PC

5834-8

Josephine Baker também assistir à instalação oficial da A. M. C. D. R. B. no Haiti e em Cuba. Quando regressar a Paris, dentro de alguns meses, terá lugar uma grandiosa manifestação pública em sua homenagem, quando a artista apresentará os maiores talentos.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 14, 1952

Director, FBI

JOSEPHINE BAKER

There is attached a memorandum dated October 14, 1952, concerning Josephine Baker which incorporates information appearing in our files.

[REDACTED]

The Bureau of Internal Revenue has been advised of the allegations concerning Baker's income as reflected in the attached memorandum.

1-143
143
Attachment

1 - Ross L. Malone, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

(Attachment)

JS:fjb,ack,lac

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OCT 16 1952
COMM-FBI

INDEXED - 143

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ON 10/10/82

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF

DATE

amended ef
10/26/82 OF

October 14, 1952 DATE OF REVIEW

JOSEPHINE BAKER

Summary

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to the April 9, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, washer-woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be forty-five years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

The article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a tap dancer and supposedly married one Pepito Albertino in the 1930's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Boullieu, in 1947.

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ACTIVITIES IN THE DEFENSE OF WILLIE MCGEE

Josephine Baker took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

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V.P.K.

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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b1
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 100-3-3866 p. 117 Miss: [REDACTED] Criminal Div.,
5/7/51) In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on
b2 Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "For
years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture
the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They
succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the
American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been
unable to win control."

b1
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 100-270286-6 Miss: D/R, 7/13/51)
Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case
while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily
Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, carried the story under the
by-line of William Allan, State Board member, District No. 7,
Communist Party, and Michigan correspondent for the "Daily Worker,"
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to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater
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was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman.
This article went on to state that after receiving assurances that
her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the
statement never appeared. (100-3-90-216)

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- 2 - ~~SECRET~~

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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b7C

(100-3-75-594)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

b7D

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100-340533-17; 100-359582-25 p. 75, Diss: D/R, MISCELLANEOUS: 9/11/51; G-2, ONI, OSI, 1/8/52

b1

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b1

100-3-12-2501 p. 75, Diss: ONI, G-2, OSI, D/R, 10/1/51 (S)
The "Daily Worker" of May 25, 1951, reported that the Committee for the Negroes in the Arts was planning a brunch on May 27, 1951, at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, to pay special

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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tribute to Josephine Baker and twelve other personalities for their work on behalf of Negro artists.

100-3-7041 p. 105; 100-3-4100 p. 122

b1
b7D 10/19/51;

b2 Criminal Division 10/3/51)

Diss:;

b7E

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100-368227-15, 16.

Diss: D/R, G-2.

ONI, OSI - 11/21/51)

b1

100-14969-115 p. 19; Diss:; D/R - 5/20/52)

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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b1

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

*Referred to
State Dept
(b3)
(8 USC 1302(a)
for State 728/13*

[REDACTED] (62-95834-2)

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[REDACTED]
(100-392496-1)

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[REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED] (62-95834-6)

ORIGINAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL
cc-Ross L. Malone, Jr., AAG - 5 -

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

D.J.SULLIVAN:fjb:ack

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According to an Associated Press release dated Mexico City April 16, 1952, which appeared in the "Washington Star" on the same date, Baker, in Mexico City, had announced the formation of an organization known as the "World League Against Racial Discrimination." According to this release, Baker stated that the league would fight discrimination against not only the Negro race but all others who were the targets of restrictive practices. Baker further announced that headquarters of the league would be in Mexico with branches in Cuba, Guatemala and El Salvador.

According to an article which appeared in the August 29, 1952, issue of "O Globo," a newspaper published in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Baker, while in that city, announced her intention of forming a Rio de Janeiro branch of the World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination. (62-95834-8)

According to articles appearing in the public press during the first part of October, 1952, Baker was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and she was quoted as having made anti-American remarks to the press of that country.

According to Robert C. Ruark's column which appeared in the "Washington Daily News" on October 10, 1952, Baker in Buenos Aires, after visiting President Juan Peron, President of Argentina, had endorsed such quotations which appeared in "Critica," Buenos Aires newspaper as: "The persecutions are more shocking than before World War II with lynchings, condemnations without trial and electrocutions the order of the day." To this Ruark commented "She is speaking of America. How she would know about pre-World War II is rather baffling since she lived abroad and was wed to a series of Frenchmen."

Ruark's column also attributed the following remarks to Baker:

"White men prate of democracy and civilization and send the Negroes to die in Korea. In this horror of discrimination, where is democracy?"

"In America they hunt Christ with a gun and hang him from a tree."

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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"I have personally seen many lynchings and much brutality. The horror of seeing men, women and children killed like animals will never fade from my mind."

"I was terrorized on my last trip home. They wouldn't let me live in peace. My brother-in-law stumbled into a white man whose son complained 'Daddy, you promised me I could kill the next black I saw.'"

Burt further stated that Baker was quoted as having read the series in "Critics" and as having said "It's all unfortunately absolutely true."

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: October 14, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

DATE OF REVIEW

BAOR

9/2/02

PURPOSE:

To submit for your approval a blank memorandum for transmittal to the Attorney General which contains information from our files concerning captioned individual.

DETAILS:

As you will recall, under date of July 15, 1952, pursuant to a request received from the McCarran Committee, a memorandum concerning Baker was prepared and furnished to that Committee. On July 31, 1952, the Attorney General was advised of the McCarran request and the original of the Baker memorandum was forwarded to him. There is attached hereto a blank memorandum which includes the information which was furnished to the McCarran Committee in the memorandum of July 15, 1952, plus information received subsequent to that date.

However, this was not furnished to the McCarran Committee because of the sources.

The remainder of the information appearing in the blank memorandum on pages 6 and 7 has been received in the Bureau subsequent to the date of the McCarran memorandum.

BUREAU INVESTIGATION:

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning Baker.

COPIES DESTROYED

11 DEC 1 1964
Attachments

NSA/jb:ack

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63 OCT 31 1952

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EX-164

SECRET

OCT 21 1952

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Memorandum to Mr. D. M. Ladd from A. H. Belmont
Re: JOSEPHINE BAKER

sent ACTION:

If you approve, there is attached hereto a cover letter to the Attorney General transmitting a blank memorandum concerning Baker.

I am sending it through but for life of me I don't know why it is placed as a "blank" memo. It represents contents of FBI files & nothing for us to be ashamed of.

Also when did we advise Int. Rev re [REDACTED]

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~~SECRET~~

b7C
b7D

53

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : Mr. D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

DATE: October 20, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/8/82 BY 6108/PK

PURPOSE:

(1) To reply to your inquiry as to why a memorandum to the Attorney General which was submitted as an enclosure with a memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Ladd under date of October 14, 1952, was submitted as a "blank memorandum."

(2)

DETAILS:

You will recall that under date of July 15, 1952, pursuant to a request from the McCarran Committee, a memorandum concerning Josephine Baker, colored singer, was prepared and furnished to that Committee. On July 31, 1952, the Attorney General was advised of the McCarran request and the original of the Baker memorandum was forwarded to him. Under date of October 14, 1952, a blank memorandum which included information which was furnished to the McCarran Committee, plus information received subsequent to July 15 was submitted with a memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Ladd to be forwarded to the Attorney General. You commented "I am sending it through but for the life of me I don't know why it is placed as a 'blank' memo. It represents contents of FBI files and nothing for us to be ashamed of. H." You further inquired "Also when did we advise Internal Revenue re [redacted]"

With reference to the blank memorandum, it was not intended to conceal the FBI as a source of information, it being noted that this was a blank memorandum form on Bureau letterhead. This form was used for convenience sake,

RECORDED - 58

162-95834-11

OCT 21 1952

EX-164

WAA:n/n

51 NOV 4 1952

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to avoid sending a lengthy letter to the Attorney General.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The New York Office
has been requested to furnish an immediate reply to the
Bureau's inquiry.

ACTION:

None. The above is for your information.

Q

WPK
PMS

W.A.A.
S.A.S.

AIR FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

TYPE IN THIS SPACE

10-1552

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

AMEMBASSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

October 15, 1952

Embassy's Despatch 406, October 6

Received from the State Department,
through Liaison channels

Date 10-24-52

ACTION	DEPT.	OLI	I	IBS	IFI	URA	IFS	SY	PD
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SUBJECT: Josephine Baker - Anti-Race Prejudice Organization

It has been reported to Mission that Josephine Baker, now terminating a two-week engagement in Buenos Aires (see reference despatch) plans to return to Argentina within three months to establish and direct an anti-race prejudice organization in Latin America, with headquarters in Buenos Aires.

When and if there is verification of this report, Mission will advise the Department.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY DSW DATE 8/29/85

POSTED BY MR. [illegible]

TO MR. [illegible]

FROM MR. [illegible]

DECLASSIFIED X RELEASEABLE X

RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Barbara Aitken
Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

BA/MS

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62-95834-12
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5 NOV 7 1952

74 NOV 26 1952

67 NOV 17 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

INFORMATION COPY

This document is to be destroyed in accordance with security regulations.

62-95834-12

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AIR PC PRIORITY	RESTRICTED (Security Classification)	DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH		811.411/10-2052 IR: U32 Baker, Josephine
FROM	EMBASSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina	

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. October 20, 1952
REF : Embassy's Despatch 406, October 6, 1952

ACTION For Dept. Use Only a1	ARA*	DEPT.	OLI I IRS IFI IPS EUR/X SY PD							
	REC'D OCT 27	IN F O OTHER								

SUBJECT: Recent Local Reporting - Josephine Baker Interviews
Received from the State Department through Liaison channels
Date 11-3-52

For the Department's information, Mission is attaching sample clippings from local dailies which published Josephine Baker's open letter to U.S. correspondent Herbert Clark after publication of his article about her in a recent edition of the New York Daily News.

In connection with the letter, addressed to Mr. Clark and signed by Miss Baker, "Democracia", "Critica", "La Epoca" and "Noticias Graficas" described Mr. Clark's article as an attack against Miss Baker and commented editorially with the supposition that Miss Baker's comments in earlier interviews (despatch 406 of October 6th) had aroused an angry reaction in the United States which was spearheaded in Argentina by correspondent Clark. Also widely quoted by local dailies were Miss Baker's comments bitterly criticizing Mr. Clark, an Argentine correspondent who was said to have accompanied Mr. Clark, and race discrimination in the United States in general. A translation of her published letter to Mr. Clark reads, in part, as follows:

"You are a typical scandal monger. You are the type of person who fights to prevent the people from joining hands in friendship...you are of the species which criticizes other countries and sends falsehoods about them to the United States...You well know that in the United States Negroes are the object of threats and intimidations and that people of the white race who fight for our cause are the victims of terrorist acts. Nevertheless I can tell you, Mr. Clark, and all who want to hear it, that Negroes are no longer afraid. I have been telling the truth about race discrimination in the United States but now that you have attacked me in your articles, I propose to tell the absolute truth about the horrors and the atrocities which occur there and which are directed against all those who try to defend human rights...Those who attacked people like Barry Gray and Pearl Bailey, Mr. Clark, are living proof that North American democracy is a farce."

Accompanying the publication of Miss Baker's letter were reports of a protest from an organization called "Accion Innoamericana de la Republica Argentina" which expressed its support of Miss Baker's denunciation and suggested that journalists like Mr. Clark and his Argentine companion should be not allowed to remain in Argentina.

REVIEWED BY DW DATE 8/29/85
PENDING EXEMPTION. DATE
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ENCLOSURE EXISTING MARKINGS
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RELEASE DATED

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 Dep. No. 479
 From Buenos Aires.

The Argentine Communist weekly "Propositos", which appeared before Miss Baker's denunciation of Mr. Clark, features a front page photograph of Miss Baker with an article headlined "The Great Negro Artist Issues a Call for the Unity of People". After a flattering description of Miss Baker's personal appearance, the author of this account reports that Miss Baker in an interview had expressed her intention to deliver three speeches. One was to be on the subject of race discrimination, another upon religion and culture, and a third on the urgent need for the people to join together in a spirit of unity and fraternity.

Barbara Aitken
 Barbara Aitken
 Assistant Press Attaché

Enclosure:
 One envelope containing clippings

BA/wa

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EXCISE

RECEIVED BY

DSC

DATE 7/13/85

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(Security Classification)

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RPS

FOREIGN DESTATCH

7. 800.411

ENDORS: EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
 DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐ WHOSE WIRE, ☐ JUSTICE ☐
 RESPONSE DENIED ☐ (A)(7)(C)

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

October 21, 1952

REF: 2000. 400, Oct. 6, 1952, 477, Oct. 20, and Deptel 221, Oct. 23

41 Per Dept. Use Only	ACTION MFA+	DEPT. I N F O THER	R E U R 7 O L I I R S I F I U M I S E U R Y S I P D V D
REC'D OCT 30			Received from the State Department through communication channels Date 11-6-52

SUBJECT: Local Press Comment - Josephine Baker's Speech on Racial Discrimination Before Japan & Community in Buenos Aires

For the Department's information, a copy is attached of a clipping of local press reports on Josephine Baker's latest speech in Buenos Aires on the subject of racial and religious discrimination. Delivered to "a selected group of Japanese living in Buenos Aires and a number of Argentine intellectuals and professionals", Miss Baker's discourse was quoted in part by virtually all government-controlled Buenos Aires dailies and in full by evening daily critica of October 23.

Translated, Miss Baker's speech reads in part as follows:

"As you well know, I am dedicating my life to the struggle for the rights of human beings, be they black or white, because I do not believe in the superiority of the white race or in the superiority of the negro race.... I believe that you will agree with me that it is essential that the white and black races be united in brotherhood, but more especially that the colored people of the world be united so that they can recover their confidence in themselves--that confidence which they are rapidly losing because they have been told they are inferior...

"I believe that the white race is aware of the persecution of their colored brothers in all parts of the world and that their good hearts may bring them to their redemption. If everyone joins together against the terrible injustice, the situation of the world will change rapidly....

"I remember that at the beginning of the last war, France had no particular reason to go to war with Germany; but when she was informed of the atrocities and injustices committed against Jews, negroes and other innocent (victims) of the white race, the spirit of fraternity, equality and liberty lifted her to the point of arms and she pledged herself to join the crusade to save the ideals and justice of the world. I am with her, and I will again be with her should it be necessary because this is of us, the Negroes and the colored must protect our weaker brothers.

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The next four paragraphs of Miss Baker's speech describe the "hasten, confused, miserable, humble and profoundly sad" situation of the Japanese in the United States during the war years, and conclude with her description of the ways in which the white citizens of the United States would occasionally allow a Japanese actor, painter or artist ("not more than one or two in a generation") to attain limited success "as a pretification" because "the whites know that a little would calm the Japanese race and the white race could continue being master."

Miss Baker continued: "This same system is being employed with the negroes, Hindus, Indians and other colored races who live in North America...."

"It is for this reason that I am calling for unity of all the colored people of the world to regain their dignity and their self-confidence, I am also calling upon our white brothers to join us.. in proving to those who believe that the colored race is inferior...that all men are equal... that there is but one race, the human race."

Miss Baker concluded her remarks with the announcement that she will go to Japan in April or May for the official inauguration of the World Cultural Association Against Racial and Religious Differentiations. To supply the necessary financial backing of this organization, Miss Baker announced that she would perform in fifteen recitals, proceeds from which would be given to the organization's fund.

Before leaving Buenos Aires, it is anticipated that Miss Baker will give additional lectures on race discrimination, and the pattern which she has established indicates a likelihood that the treatment of Latin American minorities (Puerto Ricans, Mexicans) in certain sections of the United States may be the subject of some of these.

Since Miss Baker is presently a citizen of France, an information copy of this despatch is being sent to our Embassy in Paris.

Barbara Aitken
Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

cc: Tokyo and Paris

Attachments:
Newspaper clippings

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

EXCISE

REVIEWED BY DSW DATE 9/3/85RDS or XDS EXTENDED

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REASON(S) (Security, Classification)ENDORSE EXISTING FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

01.411/10-532

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐RELEASE DENIED ☒ IN THEFROM EMBASSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina DESP. 406PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS (A)(7)(C)

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON.

October 6, 1952

REF :

18 For Dept.	ACTION IPB*	DEPT. I N F O	ARA CLI I DES INT BY PD	Received from the State Department
Use Only	REC'D	OTHER		Date <u>10-15-52</u>
51	OCT 9			

SUBJECT: Josephine Baker - Press Interviews in Buenos Aires

Of possible interest to the Department, Embassy is attaching representative clippings of a series of local press interviews with Josephine Baker, presently in Buenos Aires for a two-week engagement at a local film and vaudeville theatre.

Representing herself as a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, (a group to which - as all government dailies point out - Ralph Bunche also belongs), Miss Baker delivered a series of detailed and impassioned accounts of race prejudice in the United States, all of which have been given dramatic play by most newspapers in Buenos Aires. Evening daily "Critica" has presented the interview in a series of five chapters to date. Among quotes attributed to Miss Baker are the following:

"I will not cease (in my mission) to awaken the conscience of the world against the gravity and urgency of the problem. Above all, because I know that now is the moment to strike at the heart. As you know, the persecution of my race in the United States, and considerably less in South Africa, has been renewed in a most alarming degree since the relative respite during the second World War. Lynchings, condemnations without trial, electrocutions, are dealt out coldly to negroes in order to foment the climate of racial violence. These are the order of the day. In the country where I was born they continue to speak of 'democracy' and of 'civilization' while negroes are sent to die in Korea in the same miserable way as they are treated in the Yankee South."

"There are many, very many people, who, with the greatest naivete, look upon the United States as a model. It is necessary to open their eyes."

"Let me recall to the inhabitants of Latin America the card placed in the houses in Texas; until yesterday a Mexican State but later appropriated with blood and fire by the Yankees: 'This is a clean establishment and neither negroes nor Mexicans are admitted.'"

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Page _____ of _____
Desp. No. _____
From _____

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Page 2
End No. _____
Desp. No. 405
From _____

SPIONAGE

"What does the famous statue of Liberty represent? There is the democracy about which so many North Americans speak with conviction?The people in the United States who struggle against race prejudice and for justice live in terror."

On days subsequent to the interview Miss Baker paid tribute to Eva Peron at a meeting with General Confederation of Labor and made a personal call on Señor Raul Alejandro Apold, Subsecretary of Information.

She has been acclaimed by the local press as "Queen of African Rhythm" and "Venus of Ebony".

Barbara Hatten

Barbara Hatten
Assistant Press Attaché

Attachment:

1 envelope containing clippings

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/ MR

REVIEWED BY *DSW*DATE *9/3/55*

CONFIDENTIAL

(Security Classification)

NOT FOR RELEASE

PDS or XDS EXT. DATE

AIR ROUTE

TO AUTH

PERSON(S)

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

811.411/11-632

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐DECLASSIFIED REL *CONFIDENTIAL* *Buenos Aires, Argentina* *567*RELEASE DENIED *(1961)*

SA or IDOI EXEMPTIONS DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

November 6, 1952

DATE

REF

18 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION ARA*	DEPT. IN OTHER	OLI	IDS	IFI	IPS	SY	PD	Date
REC'D NOV 10									

SUBJECT:

Josephine Baker - Lecture Series in Buenos Aires

For the Department's information, Mission attaches sample clippings from local dailies which reported the first of Josephine Baker's series of three lectures on racial and religious discrimination to be delivered before public gatherings in Buenos Aires. Admission to these lectures is free although it has been reported to Mission that tickets from the Subsecretariat of Information must be obtained before entrance actually is granted.

Miss Baker delivered her opening discourse on Tuesday, November 4, the evening following her benefit performance at the Teatro Colon for the Eva Peron Monument fund. The speech was delivered by Miss Baker in English and simultaneously translated into Spanish by interpreter Julio Cesar Barton.

Embassy officer who attempted to attend the lecture given at Teatro Odeon reported that although the theatre itself was not over-filled, its entrance was crowded with would-be attenders who were not permitted to enter without tickets, obtainable at the Subsecretariat of Information. (Although all local dailies had announced previously that entrance would be "absolutely free", they neglected to publish the information that it was necessary first to obtain tickets from the Subsecretariat.) Embassy Officer attending reports that among those denied admission to Miss Baker's lecture was a group of negroes who complained about being barred from entrance while the audience was filled with white citizens.

Typical headlines of dailies reporting Miss Baker's speech is Democracia's "There is no Civilization where the Spirit of the Ku Klux Klan is latent, Said Josephine Baker" and El Mundo's "It is Not Wise to Trust North American Promises Says Josephine Baker". The following are translated excerpts taken from the complete text of Miss Baker's speech as published by El Mundo.

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Today I am

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(Classification)

"Today I am going to talk to you about discrimination and all its horrors. I have selected South Africa—where the situation is deplorable—and North America where it has arrived at its peak, although this is where one least would expect it considering the preachings of Democracy and the (U.S.) criticism of other countries which they consider not democratic."

After a short discourse on race discrimination as, according to Miss Baker, it is practiced in South Africa, she continued; "In North America there are states which have laws to defend discrimination and there are also states which lack these laws, but who practice discrimination as if they had laws which gave them this right."

Miss Baker then quoted extensively from several issues of Jet Magazine and the Pittsburg Courier on the subject of race discrimination. In the Pittsburg Courier of August 30, 1952, Senator John Sparkman is attacked; among Miss Baker's quotations from Jet (October 9, 1952), one attacks Vice-President elect Richard Nixon on grounds that he is anti-Jewish and anti-Negro in his attitudes. Other quotations cite alleged instances of negro persecution in various sections of the United States. A situation involving the visit of Burmese judge S. Thaw Mahah to the State Department in Washington, which, according to Miss Baker, was reported in the September 4, 1952 issue of Jet, was also quoted.

Miss Baker continued: "Ladies and gentlemen, I have read to you about some of the horrors existing in a country which calls itself the guiding democracy of the world. I ask you - should such horrors exist in any country and especially in one which wishes to govern the world?"

"The United States is not a free country and, believe me, I am not jealous of those who live there....I have heard that steps are being taken to prohibit my return to the United States. This would not worry me in the slightest if I knew that the negroes no longer needed me. The reason I had to flee from that country two and one-half years ago was to put my name and myself at their disposal, and to do for them which I knew they could not do for themselves....If my entry into the United States is forbidden, for me this (will be) an honor because it will show that my work for humanity has been successful."

Miss Baker concluded her speech with a dissertation on North American troops in France, alleging that, despite French participation in the liberation forces, the North Americans "had the unscrupulous idea of taking possession of France", and that only by the "miraculous arrival of Free French troops led by General De Gaulle" had Paris been saved for the French. One of the final paragraphs which, in

CONFIDENTIAL

EX-100

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CONFIDENTIAL

End No

Doc No 947

From Buenos Aires

El Mundo is emphasized by being set in large capital letters, reads, in translation as follows: "While the North American army needs us, (the United States) smiles and makes promises. But when we are no longer necessary, it humbles us and reveals that it feels no great love for us. This proves that it is not wise to trust in North American promises."

Miss Baker terminated her remarks with the statement: "This is the same thing that happened with the liberation of the slaves."

Barbara Aitken

Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

Attachments:
4 newspaper clippings

BA/ws

CONFIDENTIAL

69

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *at 3:00*
 FROM : V. P. KEAY *(VPK)*
 SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
 NAME CHECK REQUEST

DATE: November 14, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9/21/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BJ

SYNOPSIS:

Name check request received from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for information concerning Josephine Baker. Reason for request, may apply for admission to U.S. Baker has been associated with several Communist-front groups and active in the defense of Willie McGee, who was convicted in Mississippi on the charge of rape in May, 1951, and was defended by the Civil Rights Congress. [REDACTED] *b7D*

[REDACTED] Baker has recently made numerous anti-American remarks in South America. Recommended that memorandum and report be furnished INS.

PURPOSE:

To advise that a name check request has been received from INS concerning captioned individual and to recommend that the attached memorandum and report be disseminated in answer thereto.

BACKGROUND:

INS has submitted a name check request concerning Josephine Baker, born June 3, 1906, St. Louis, Missouri. The reason for the request was given as "may apply for admission to U.S."

DETAILS:

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning Josephine Baker.

On November 2, 1951, a memorandum was prepared for the Director containing information in Bureau files concerning Baker. Under date of July 15, 1952, pursuant to a request from the McCarran Committee, a memorandum concerning Baker was prepared and furnished to that Committee. Under date of October 14, 1952, a memorandum was prepared and furnished to the Attorney General.

Attachment

RECORDED - 57

EX-130

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Memo to Mr. A. H. Belmont
from V. P. Keay

RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER
NAME CHECK REQUEST

Josephine Baker, a colored singer, gave up her United States citizenship in 1937 when she married a French broker named Jean Lion. She has been associated with several Communist-front groups. She was active in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and subsequently, during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense. McGee was defended by the Civil Rights Congress.

b7D [REDACTED]

Baker left the United States in June, 1952, for South America. While in South America she has made numerous anti-American remarks to the press of that country.

There are attached for dissemination to INS a copy of the memorandum furnished the Attorney General on October 14, 1952, and a report dated October 30, 1952. [REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached memorandum and report be furnished INS in answer to this request.

Done
11/17/52
b7C

gms

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~SECRET~~
November 12, 1952

JOSEPHINE BAKER
Born June 3, 1906 at
St. Louis, Missouri

Photo
CC TO: *OSI 41342*
REQ. REC'D *10-17*
NOV 13 1962
ANS.
BY: *Shay and*

CLASS BY *SP-1 GSK/PA*

DATE OF REVIEW *DATE*

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

According to the April 2, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, washer woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be forty-five years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

The article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a tap dancer and supposedly married one Papito Albertino in the 1920's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Bouillon, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

Josephine Baker took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

RECORDED - 57
INDEXED - 57

162-25834-15

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 23, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York City would also speak at the rally. (100-350-512-393)

Attachment

Original to INS-Washington, D. C.

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

NOV 26 1952

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SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7C [REDACTED]
(Tesur; 100-3-75-594)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

b7D [REDACTED]
100-340533-17; 100-359582-25 p. 43 Diss.; D/R, 9-11-51; G-2, ONI, OSI 1-8-52

b1 [REDACTED] (S)

b1 [REDACTED] (S)

b1 [REDACTED] (S)

b1 [REDACTED] 100-3-12-2501 p. 73 Diss: ONI, G-2, OSI, D/R, 10-1-51)

The "Daily Worker" of May 25, 1951, reported that the Committee for the Negroes in the Arts was planning a brunch on May 27, 1951, at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, to pay special tribute to Josephine Baker and twelve other personalities for their work on behalf of Negro artists.

b7C [REDACTED] (S) b1 b2
b7D 100-3-7041 p. 105; 100-3-4100 p. 149 Diss
and Criminal Division 10-3-51)

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(100-368227-15, 16)

Miss D/R, G-2, ONI, OSI - 11-21-51)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b1

(S) D/R - 5-20-52)

100-14969-115 p. 19 Diss; ,

b1

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Rm.
- Holmes
- Gandy

[REDACTED] (S)

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SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Referred to
State Dept.
(b)(3)
(USC 1802(a)
for State 9/28/53

[REDACTED]
(62-95834-2)

[REDACTED]

(100-392496-1)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

62-95834-6)

According to an Associated Press release dated Mexico City April 16, 1952, which appeared in the "Washington Star" on the same date, Baker, in Mexico City, had announced the formation of an organization known as the "World League Against Racial Discrimination." According to this release, Baker stated that the league would fight discrimination against not only the Negro race but all others who were the targets of restrictive practices. Baker further announced that headquarters of the league would be in Mexico with branches in Cuba, Guatemala and El Salvador.

According to an article which appeared in the August 29, 1952, issue of "O Globo," a newspaper published in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Baker, while in that city, announced her intention of forming a Rio de Janeiro branch of the World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.
(62-95834-8)

According to articles appearing in the public press during the first part of October, 1952, Baker was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and she was quoted as having made anti-American remarks to the press of that country.

Name _____
Last _____
Middle _____
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Office _____
Phone _____
Room _____
Tray _____
Mail _____
File No. _____
Name _____
Grade _____

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

76

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

According to Robert C. Ruark's column which appeared in the "Washington Daily News" on October 10, 1952, Baker in Buenos Aires, after visiting President Juan Peron, President of Argentina, had indorsed such quotations which appeared in "Critica," Buenos Aires newspaper as: "The persecutions are more shocking than before World War II with lynchings, condemnations without trial and electrocutions the order of the day." To this Ruark commented "She is speaking of America. How she would know about pre-World War II is rather baffling since she lived abroad and was wed to a series of Frenchmen."

Ruark's column also attributed the following remarks to Baker:

"White men prate of democracy and civilization and send the Negroes to die in Korea. In this horror of discrimination, where is democracy?"

"In America they hunt Christ with a gun and hang him from a tree."

"I have personally seen many lynchings and much brutality. The horror of seeing men, women and children killed like animals will never fade from my mind."

"I was terrorized on my last trip home. They wouldn't let me live in peace. My brother-in-law stumbled into a white man whose son complained 'Daddy, you promised me I could kill the next black I saw.'"

Ruark further stated that Baker was quoted as having read the series in "Critica" and as having said "It's all unfortunately absolutely true."

For your information, [REDACTED]

hereto a copy of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] 1952, at New York, New York in the case entitled [REDACTED]

there is attached dated October 30, [REDACTED]

(100-392496-5)

The foregoing information is being furnished as the result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance. It is for your confidential information and is not to be disseminated outside of your agency.

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

W

SAC, New York (105-5104)

November 12, 1952

Director, FBI (100-392426) - 5

b7C

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/8/82 BY SP-1 CEX/PSK b7C

Reference is made to the report of SA [REDACTED]
dated October 30, 1952, at New York, relative to the above-
captioned individual.

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The New York Office, as the office of origin in this
case, must follow this investigation closely and advise the Bureau
promptly of any and all developments pertaining to the activities
of [REDACTED] association with Josephine Baker.

- cc - 2 - Los Angeles (Attachment)
- 2 - Washington Field (Attachment)

VAA:amv

60 DEC 15 1952

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DEC 27 1952

62-95834

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89 DEC 11 1952

100-392426-5

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62-95834

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SECRET AIR COURIER

*0-1 Paris Spec. 1/26/53 (42)
Rpt submitted 1/27/53*

Date: November 21, 1952

To: Legal Attache
Paris, France

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW 1/28/53

Attached for your information is a copy of the report
of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 30, 1952, at New York,
entitled [redacted]

b7C

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This matter must receive preferred attention and your
reply submitted to the Bureau at an early date.

Attachment

cc - Foreign Service Desk

cc - 100-392496

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EX-112

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COMM - FBI

53 DEC 8-1952

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UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-392496-1

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New York (62-0)
SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 11/14/52

61460

Attached herewith is a photostatic copy of an undated "G-2 Log Entry" furnished to this office by G-2, Governors Island, New York City.

The above is forwarded for the information of the Bureau in view of the current publicity being given MISS BAKER.

KFC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/02 BY SP-1 GSK/JSW

EXPEDITE PROCESSING
NOV 19 1952

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162-95834-117

NOV 17 1952

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EX-108

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 17, 1952

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-0)

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER,
SOCIETY OF WORLD CULTURES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

~~SECRET~~

1-1 to Legat, Paris 12-11-52

Legat Paris adv. matter being
closely followed. SAKCE
Some internal trouble.

(s)bl 1-1

100-1

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EXPEDITE PROCESSING
NOV 20 1952

CLASS BY 50-1 GSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

2-5-59

ENCLOSURE FILE

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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TIAL

(Classification)

NOV 12 1952

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

Ambassy, Buenos Aires, Argentina

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

November 13, 1952

Embassy's Despatch 567, November 6, 1952

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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Local Press Treatment - Josephine Baker's Speech

Concluding a series of three public conferences presented on November 4, 5 and 6 to audiences in Buenos Aires, Josephine Baker spoke on the subject: "Why Non-Race Discriminating Countries Should Join the Crusade for the Liberation of Humanity".

As previously announced by many local dailies, the subjects to be included in this terminating discourse were the following: "The Octopus and Race Discrimination"; "Experience in Brazil"; "Influence of the Press"; "Negro Armies and White Armies"; "Loyalty of the Negro in the War"; "White Actors Imitate the Negroes"; "The Ku-Klux-Klan"; "Associations Against Race Discrimination". According to advance notices, Miss Baker also planned to discuss the irritation of the North American press resulting from her visit with President Peron.

Although not all of Miss Baker's proposed subjects of discussion were dealt with in detail, the following translation of excerpts from the speech as published in El Mundo indicates the subjects which were given particular emphasis:

"Racial and religious discrimination is like an octopus which releases a black liquid to conceal itself....to give you an idea as to how the octopus functions, I will tell you that I was in Brazil some months ago....There I found a fantastic change...The great buildings which circled the beach of Copacabana did not impress me...and that was my first impression of North American influence...The second was the reaction of some of the people with whom I had contact in relation to my crusade. I sensed a resistance and a fear when I told them of discrimination in North America....

"I was in Montevideo a month ago....I realized that an organization was also necessary there. The situation is not against negroes but against the Jews, which I consider equally hateful and attack with equal strength, since they, too, are our brothers.

I found

NOV 13 1952

Baitken/vs
REPLY

CONFIDENTIAL

67 DEC 23 1952

INFORMATION COPY

Retain in divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations.

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(Classification)

End. _____
De. 10-606
Fr. 10-606

"I found that the greater part of the (Uruguayan) press is a bit hostile and fears to speak about my organization, because it is based on the problem of discrimination which exists especially in North America. Upon my arrival in Montevideo, the press was very kind to me, but after my speeches, only one newspaper dared to publish my discourse, and they told me that they had received a friendly visit from the American Embassy requesting them not to publish it. Of course this did not stop them (the one newspaper) but you understand what I mean concerning the influence of the press".

Turning to a discussion of World War II during the North African campaign, Miss Baker continued: "I personally hoped that by aiding the North Americans in this war, my people would never again suffer from discrimination....I was stunned to realize that the same people with whom and for whom we were fighting would use us for their own ends..."

"Ladies and gentlemen, we, the Free French, lacked uniforms and, while the Yankos held the gold of France under their control, we, the Free French who fought by their side, struggled for sheer idealism, with empty stomachs, without shoes for our feet. Our soldiers did not receive their pay for months and months..We were considered the poor relations. They needed us and they needed us desperately because this was due to save Wall Street from a crash like that of 1929....

"We, the Free French, had discarded all material thoughts; we were fighting for an ideal....In our ranks we saw men from Argentina, Brazil and many parts of the world...They knew that that meant sacrifice, while North America was calculating how much money it could get out of the war".

Miss Baker continued her speech with references to situations involving the negro actor Canada Lee, Willie McGee, and W.C. Handy, a negro composer who was allegedly unable to obtain hotel lodging in St. Louis, and a criticism of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. She concluded:

"At this moment in North America I am branded...because I have the courage to speak of the atrocities resulting from race and religious discrimination.

"In the white newspapers of that country, there is hardly ever anything printed about negroes. But I am the latest news. I am the traitress; I am the undesirable. According to the newspapers they are taking measures to prohibit my entry to North America. I hope they know that none of those threats can prevent my carrying on my trust

Attachment

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CONFIDENTIAL
(Classification)

Page 3 of 4
End
Dep. 406
From Buenos Aires

until all men are equal...and although they can prevent my entry into their country, they will not stop my activities as long as there are those who need me....

"In North America I am considered the mouthpiece of President Peron. I would consider this a great honor if it were true; but since I am not aware of what the President thinks or says, it would not be easy for me to be his instrument' as they say. Besides, I believe that President Peron is loved and respected by his people for having ideas and his own beliefs.

"Upon hearing that for the first time, I was surprised..it even shocked me. But since then I have come to the conclusion that the thing which has most inflamed North America is not my campaign against discrimination but my being here in Argentina. North America will not pardon me for having visited this country, for admiring it and its people and its leader. She (North America) is trying to deceive you in the same way that she is deceiving so many innocent people of the world with her falsehoods....

"Every day I receive articles published in North American newspapers which angrily attack me. Every time I realize with greater clarity that it is not only for my claims against discrimination, because I have said these same things in other countries and in North America itself. It was precisely when I arrived in Argentina that the bomb exploded. It seems as though I have committed a terrible crime in coming here and in being received affectionately by President Peron and by the Argentine people... I committed the unpardonable crime of leaving flowers before the image of Señora Peron and of visiting the works of the Foundation....What most infuriated them was my visit to the social works of Señora Peron and my having signed the book of gold with the words 'Your Sister'. Ladies and Gentlemen, for the North Americans that was the crime of the year."

Miss Baker concluded her discourse with the naming of the following countries where her Association presently exists: Scandinavian countries, Italy, Mexico, North America, Japan, Cuba, Haiti, Brazil, France, Uruguay, Johannesburg, South Africa. She said she hoped a new branch would be established in Buenos Aires.

Although El Mundo printed Miss Baker's speech in full, most dailies (with the exception of the two English-language papers and Marion, which did not carry it at all) published extracts. Singled out for particular emphasis were Miss Baker's remarks about the attitude of the United States toward her visit in Argentina and her comment about the possibility of a prohibition being put upon her entry into the United States. Epoca headlined its report of November 8 "Yankee Ambassador Prohibited Uruguayan Newspapers From Reporting Josephine Baker's Speeches".

Baker/vs

El Lider

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
(Classification)

El Lider and other government dailies published a French Press dispatch detailed Washington which reported an alleged declaration made by an unidentified member of the U.S. Justice Department to a French Press correspondent indicating that Miss Baker's case was under study. All dailies publishing this dispatch, added an Editor's Note criticizing the alleged injustice of the Department of Justice action in not allowing Miss Baker to return "to her own country" because, according to these dailies, "she did not submit to the tyranny of the whites". Charlie Chaplin's case was also mentioned in this connection.

The English-language Buenos Aires Harold is the only newspaper to date which has published a Baker's (erroneously attributed to United Press) report of Representative Adam Clayton Powell's comment to the effect that if it were true that Miss Baker had made statements attributed to her, he would ask that she should not be allowed to re-enter the United States.

Coincident with the reporting of Miss Baker's conferences, La Epoca bitterly attacked local independent daily La Nacion on the grounds that its ignoring of Miss Baker, her visit to Argentina and her conferences, constituted another proof of La Nacion's foreign domination.

Copy of El Mundo's report of Miss Baker's latest discourse is attached.

Barbara Atkins
Barbara Atkins
Assistant Press Attache

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- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

December 24, 1952

Director, FBI

Attention: Mr. August F. Purcell
Assistant Commissioner

62-95834-19

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

DEC 24 1952

61458

RE: BAKER

Reference is made to your memorandum dated December 2, 1952, your reference T-4321267, IN-1781, reflecting that your Service desires to conduct an investigation in the United States concerning the subject's activities and requested to be advised if such an investigation would interfere with our investigation of the subject. *Advised per [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

You will continue to furnish me any pertinent information we receive concerning the subject and/or her activities.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

62-95834

cc - 100-398495

NOTE: No investigation has been conducted by the Bureau concerning the subject. The information from Bureau files was furnished to the McCarran Committee on July 15, 1952, to the Attorney General on October 14, 1952, and to INS on November 2, 1952. Baker is a colored singer, American born, French citizen. By virtue of her marriage to a Frenchman in 1937.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

COMM - FBI
DEC 15 1952
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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

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92



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
2 Avenue Marceau
Paris 8, France

~~SECRET~~

CLASS BY SP-1 (62-195)

DATE OF REVIEW

DATE

~~SECRET~~ - AIR COURIER

Date: January 7, 1953

To: Director, FBI (62-95834)

From: Legat, Paris (105-245)

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLON
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

G.I.R.-8

MRS. JO BOUILLON

ReBulet 11/21/52.

Attached hereto are seven copies of a blind memorandum which the Bureau may desire to disseminate to the Department of Justice, Department of State and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. No dissemination has been made at Paris.

This memorandum represents all data on the subject now available to this office, including that contained in Paris cable to the Bureau dated 11/2/51 entitled "JOSEPHINE BAKER; SPECIAL INQUIRY."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Enclosure - 1

RECORDED

JAN 21 1953

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21 DEC

INDEXED - 13

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Photo Lens
CC TO: OSE 4/24/56
REQ. REC'D 11-17
NOV 13 1962
ANS.
BY: [Signature]

93

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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62-95834-20

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INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

62-95834-20

RECORDED-52

Date: January 30, 1953

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 C. S. P. SK
ON 9/2/85

To: Mr. John W. Ford
Chief, Division of Security
U. S. Department of State
515 22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

EX-123

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE MAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

Attached for the information of each of the agencies receiving this memorandum is a communication, dated January 7, 1953, which contains information concerning the captioned individual, a French citizen by marriage.

These data are being furnished for your confidential use with the request that they not be further disseminated. No investigation will be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the absence of a specific request.

Attachment

b2

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

(Attachment)

cc - 1 - The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

(T-2321267 INV:FRH)

BY SPL MSGR

66 FEB - 3

COMM - FBI

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

63 MAR 4 1953

cc: jdb

b7C

95

SECRET

62-95834

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Date: February 18, 1953
To: Mr. John W. Ford
Chief, Division of Security
U. S. Department of State
515 22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/2/82

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

Reference is made to our memorandum of January 30,
1953, [REDACTED] (S) b1

Attached is a copy of a memorandum dated November 14,
1952, containing information from our files concerning the
captioned individual.

These data are being furnished for your confidential
use with the request that they not be further disseminated.

[REDACTED] (S) b1

Enclosure
1ct

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
(Enclosure)

RECORDED 13

62-95834-22
FEB 19 1953
137

Note: The attached memo for State [REDACTED] is a copy of a memo furnished
the Department in November, 1952, reflecting the results of a
file review.

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21
11-12/1/64"

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

BY SPL MSGR

89 FEB 18

COMM - FBI

63 MAR 4 1953

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62-95834

~~SECRET~~ AIR COURIER

Date: March 2, 1953
To: Legal Attache
Havana, Cuba
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - PR

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS BY SP-1 CSK/PSK
DATE OF REVIEW 9/2/82

A news article in the "Washington Star" of February 19, 1953, reflected that Josephine Baker was quizzed by Cuba's military intelligence service on February 18, 1953, concerning Baker's alleged Communist leanings. The article also reflected that she was released after "full questioning" and that she denied any connection with Communism.

cc - Foreign Service Desk

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

68 MAR 13 1953

LEOAT

1 0 MAR 4

COMM - PM

RECORDED 105

162-95834-24
30 MAR 5 1953

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DL

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Harbo	_____
Rosen	_____
Tracy	_____
Laughlin	_____
Mohr	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Rm.	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Briggs

zy'

Josephine Baker Quizzed -
 HAVANA, Cuba, Feb. 19 -
 Cuba's military intelligence service said yesterday it had interrogated Josephine Baker about alleged Communist leanings, but released her after "full questioning." They said the American-born Negro singer, now a French citizen, denied any connection with Communism.

b7C
 62-95834

b7C

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File 5/12 62-95834

3-2-53 f. g. H. v. m.
b7C

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 DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GVS/K

Times-Herald	_____
Wash. Post	_____
Wash. News	_____
Wash. Star	7-3
N.Y. Herald Tribune	_____
N.Y. Mirror	_____

62-95834-24

Date: FEB 1 1953

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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62-95834-26

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New Orleans
SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
SM-C

b1 DATE: 3-11-53

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

38917

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

This information is being forwarded to the Bureau for any value it may have.

REGISTERED

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G L R

162-95834-27

CLASS BY SP1 GSK/ok

RECORDED 105

MAR 12 1953

DATE OF REVIEW MAR 4/62

INDEXED 105

Q 331

67 MAR 27 1953

SECRET

INT BY [REDACTED] b7C

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834) **SECRET**

FROM : Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

DATE: March 11, 1953
Havana, Cuba

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/BL

Rebulet 3-2-53.

DATE OF REVIEW - 9/2/82

b1 [REDACTED] (C)

Apparently BAKER had a contract to appear on the CMQ radio and television network but the story was put out by CMQ that because she did not show up on the date agreed upon the contracts were canceled. BAKER had also made an arrangement with an advertising agency here to appear on their television show which advertises a cigarette, but the manager of CMQ refused to let her enter the studios. BAKER promptly staged a sitdown strike at the CMQ entrance, which, according to GOAR MESTRE of CMQ, was reinforced by the assistance of a Communist clique.

b7C
b2D
[REDACTED]

There was not much attention given to BAKER here in Havana and Dr. JACOB CANTER, U. S. Cultural Affairs Officer, American Embassy, Havana, Cuba, advised on 3-3-53 that his contacts with the principal negro leaders of Havana resulted in his being informed that JOSEPHINE BAKER made no particular impression upon the Cuban negro population even if the Communist daily newspaper HOY did play up the racist views of BAKER.

Release
per
State
Dept.

b1 [REDACTED] (S)

b1 [REDACTED] (S)

Enclosures

WCS:JES

COPIES DESTROYED

11 DEC 1 1964

RECORDED
b7C RECORDED - 4

62-95834-28
MAR 17 1953

SECRET

ESP b7C

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

To: Director, FBI (62-95834)

March 11, 1953
Havana, Cuba

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

[REDACTED] b1

While in Cuba BAKER was received by President FULGENCIO BATISTA but the press did not make much out of the incident.

About two years ago when JOSEPHINE BAKER was in Havana there was some publicity at the time about her being refused a room at the Hotel Nacional, which is the leading hotel in this country. Just prior to her current arrival in Cuba she cabled to the Hotel Sevilla Biltmore in downtown Havana for a reservation, but the Sevilla Biltmore replied that they were filled up. During her stay in Havana, BAKER lived in an apartment building at Calle N & 21. This apartment house caters to American tourist trade and is known to be well patronized by American gamblers.

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] b1

Representative news clippings are attached.

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~~SECRET~~

Josephine Baker Fails In Try To Force CMQ To Let Her Perform

Josephine Baker "picketed" the Vedodo studios of CMQ yesterday afternoon and evening in an unsuccessful attempt to force the radio-TV station owners to employ her services.

Station Owner GEAR Mestre said the actress, whose contract he cancelled after three postponements on her part, could stand outside the building "until hell freezes over" before he would permit her to perform.

Mestre charged the American-born French performer with using a "Communist clique" to create a "scandal" to force him to hire her. "She had a 'show' all set up to roll for when she was refused entrance into the building," he commented.

The station owner said he would not permit Miss Baker or anyone else "to order me around." His station he added, "does not make any distinction between a famous international star and the humblest local performer."

Mestre said his troubles started around 1:30 yesterday afternoon when Miss Baker forced her way into the building and took over a studio "for rehearsal." She was ejected, he explained, but returned an hour and a half later — "with a Communist clique" — to provoke a disorder.

When he scented her purpose Mestre said, he sent down a chair for her to sit down in and told her to make herself comfortable for she was in for a long wait if she thought she was going to be admitted into the building again.

"I also sent down a newsreel crew to film the 'show'," he added, "to show to the Cuban public that CMQ has only one policy, and that it is applied no matter who it hurts." He said that Miss Baker had "insisted" that she must be presented on the Cabaret Regalias TV program last night, and "I cannot be ordered around."

Mestre had contracted Miss Baker in January, while she was in Buenos Aires, for a \$14,000 fortnightly series of theater, television and nightclub shows. When she arbitrarily postponed her opening date three times he added, he advised her by cable that her contract was cancelled.

When Miss Baker replied "rejecting" his cancellation, Mestre said, he warned her twice that she would proceed to Havana "at her own risk and expense." Mestre displayed photostatic copies of the cables exchanged to support his statement.

After her arrival in Havana, Mestre said, Miss Baker negotiated a contract with a local advertising agency to appear on the tobacco sponsor's Wednesday night program, but without the station's prior consent, as is required in all of its time contracts. He notified the agency that Miss Baker was unacceptable. Mestre said, since CMQ already had cancelled her prior contract with them.

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 CSE/BJX

"Havana Herald"
2-12-53
Havana, Cuba

DEC 7 1972

MAK 7332
REPROD ORIGINAL-RETAIN

62-95834-28

ENCLOSURE

file 5 b7C

"The agency acted on its own," he declared. "No client can use talent without first clearing it with the station. The station has refused her. Our decision is irrevocable."

Earlier, in a press conference called for local newsmen, Miss Baker had expressed "pain" over the coolness of her reception in Cuba and inferred she was being "persecuted" for her convictions. The anti-American sentiments she expressed in Buenos Aires, she alibied, "were to defend myself from the uncalled-for aggressions of North Americans."

In the press conference, held at her apartment in the Pizarrero Building, N and 21 Streets, Vedado, Miss Baker denied she was "in anybody's service." (She has been accused by American newspapers of being a "transmission belt" for Communist anti-American propaganda.)

Miss Baker also denied she was seeking publicity. She said she

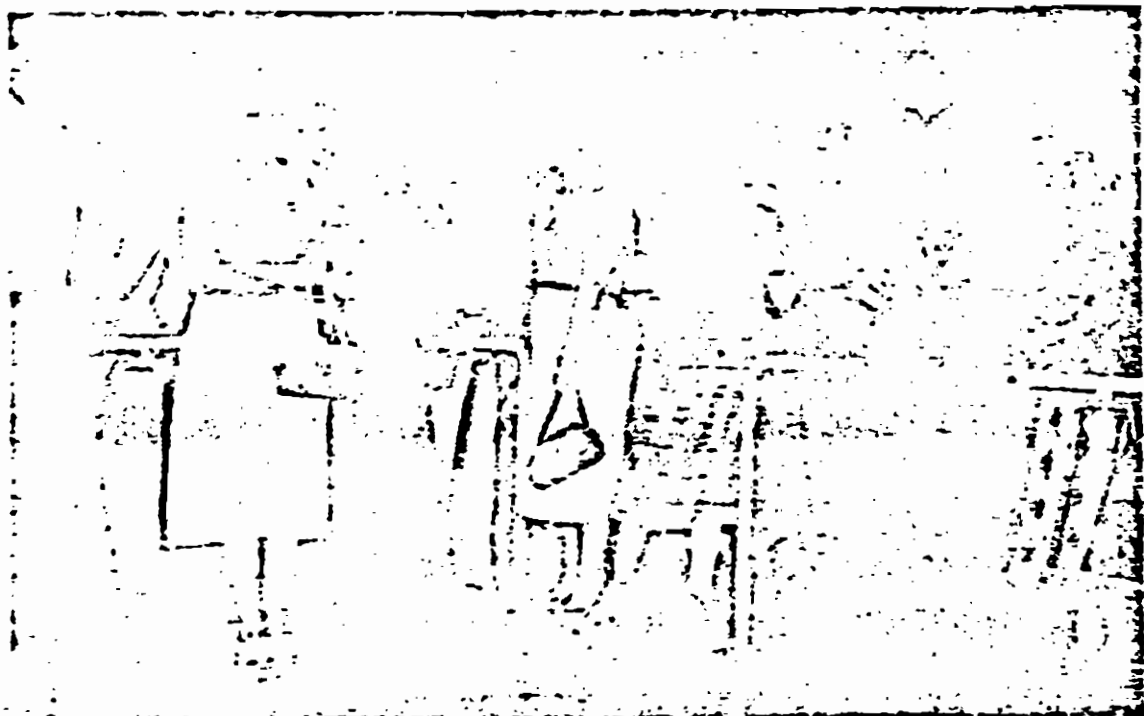
had come to Cuba to "work as an artiste... and not to lecture... but in view of what I see and hear, I feel I must (speak out)..."

"When one is gravely ill," she added, "one must do something to save one's self."

She said that since her arrival she had "almost" signed a contract to appear at the America Theater but that the manager Gabriel Guzman, had backed out because he did not want to run the risk of losing his American films franchise.

She said if her alleged "persecution" continued, she would "not hesitate" to appeal for support of the "millions of human beings of beaten races."

She reiterated her admiration for Argentina's dictator, Juan Peron, and said his "friendship" was worth much more to her "than the enmity of a number of foreigners."



PICKET — Miss Josephine Baker attempted to enter the UNQ studios at 21 and 22nd Streets yesterday afternoon to protest the cancellation of her contract to appear on the "Cabaret Argentina" program. She was detained by a guard, and refused admittance. Miss Baker is seen above (left, facing camera) with her costume thrown over the rail of her side. She remained at her post for several hours until her lawyer arrived. (HERALD photo by Suarez)

2-15-50
b7c
10

Una hermosa batalla por la libertad



"A mí me interesa más ganar esta pelea por la dignidad humana, que ganar 12 mil dólares." Así expresó Josephine Baker en la puerta de la CMQ, al civil notificado que había sido controlado en Caracas. Ante la insistente y vejatosa actitud

de los empresarios de la empresa de radio y televisión, negándole la entrada a los estudios a la artista nortea, donde tenía que complementar un contrato, Josephine Baker anunció su firma definitiva de no ir a Cuba, para reclamar sus derechos a actuar ante el público cubano.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/4/02 BY SP/CSH/PAK

"Hoy"
2-12-53
Havana, Cuba

"En las batallas por la libertad, muchos han caído; quizás a mí me toque ser sacrificada, pero eso no me importa: hay que luchar por el progreso"

Hermosa batalla por la libertad, la justicia y los derechos humanos libró ayer en la CMQ Josephine Baker. Negóse la empresa radiotelevisora a permitirle la entrada en los estudios, para que no pueda cumplir su contrato

"A las cuatro de la tarde de hoy he recibido una oferta de Caracas. Quieren que enbajeque para allá con un contrato de 12 mil dólares. Pero no me voy. Sé que en Cuba, a mí me interesa más ganar esta pelea por la dignidad humana, que ganar 12 mil dólares."

Esto declaró para HOY Josephine Baker.

Y en esta misma entrevista, rechazada en las expresiones las circun-

Por O PINO

"Hay que luchar por el progreso; si muchos no hubieran caído en esta batalla, ¿cómo seríamos libres?"

Libertad, mucho. Hay caído. Quizás a mí me haya tocado ser la sacrificada. Eso no me importa. Hay que luchar por el progreso; si muchos no hubieran caído en esta batalla, ¿cómo seríamos libres?"

Lugar de la entrevista
La entrevista fue en el vestíbulo de los estudios de CMQ-Televisión. En ese lugar, ayer por la tarde, una grande y valiente artista protagonizó una hermosa batalla

Entrevista en la casa de la CMQ

670

"En las batallas..."

Continuación de la PRIMERA

por la libertad, la justicia y los derechos humanos con su gallarda actitud frente a los monopolios yanquis y sus testaferreros en nuestro país.

Josephine Baker, la genial actriz francesa, permaneció ayer durante varias horas, en el citado lugar, de pie, mientras varios policías y porteros, obedeciendo las órdenes de la empresa CMQ-TV, impedían su entrada a los estudios para cumplimentar su contrato.

La Baker, tenía un contrato con la firma "Repalías El Cuño", para trabajar anoche miércoles en el programa "Cubaret Repalías".

En cumplimiento de las fórmulas del mismo, la artista concurre ayer por la tarde, a efectuar los ensayos correspondientes.

La Empresa CMQ-TV, sin embargo, le manifestó que había decidido rescindir el contrato.

CMQ-TV, según con esto, evidentemente, la contriga emanada de la Embajada yanqui de impedir la actuación en Cuba de la gran denunciadora de las atrocidades de la discriminación racial en Estados Unidos.

LLEGADA DE LA ARTISTA

La Baker concurre a ensayar tal y como se había convenido ayer a la una de la tarde.

Se le impidió entonces que ensayara.

Volvió a la una y media: tampoco pudo hacer nada.

Entonces se le dijo que a las tres y media podía volver.

A esa hora exacta volvió... para encontrarse que se habían dado órdenes a la Policía para que impidiera su entrada.

Lo que sucedió entonces es un capítulo del que debe quedar constancia en nuestra historia.

Representa un caso de los más escandalosos de sumisión de un sector de la clase dominante a una orden ciego del imperialismo.

Implica un verdadero ultraje a la cultura, a lo más noble del arte, a lo más esencial de la dignidad humana.

Y es también un ejemplo de firmeza, de valentía, de pura firmeza, brindado por una extraordinaria mujer.

705-670

A LAS 3 Y 30 P.M.

La Baker llegó con sus dos acompañantes a la entrada de los estudios CMQ TV a las 3 y 30 minutos exactamente.

Después rápidamente del ascensor. Una de sus acompañantes portaba los vestidos del ensayo que la artista se disponía a estrenar.

Luego de ascender los escalones que conducen al vestíbulo de entrada, las dos se detuvieron y se adelantaron para cruzar la mini alfombra ante la separación de una baranda de hierro.

En ese momento el portero alzó la mano y dijo:

—¿Un momento! Ustedes no pueden entrar.

Las visitas respondieron con un gesto de sorpresa:

—¿Cómo? ¿qué no podemos entrar?

—No.

—Mire, haga el favor de apartarse.

El portero persistió:

—Les digo que no pueden entrar.

—Nosotros estamos citados por la empresa.

—Y la empresa me dio órdenes de que le impidiera entrar!

—No me alborote.

El ambiente se puso tenso. Intervino el policía de la entrada, con gesto de rampante:

—¡Váyanse! Hay órdenes de que no pasen y no para.

La Baker exigió:

—Tráigan a Mr. Wilkenson.

—Este es un insulto a una ciudadana francesa!

Alguien dijo entonces: —¿Qué caballada!

Y una de las secretarias de Madame Baker, cubana, agregó:

—¿Algun día los cubanos nos gobernaron a nosotros mismos!

La artista avanzó.

—¡Atrás!

—No me toque!

—No le hace, pero no intente entrar!

En ese momento llegó un empleado de la radio-emisora. Traía consigo los trajes de baño que la artista había dejado a la una de la tarde. Al verlos, la Baker exclamó:

—Yo no le he pedido esos vestidos.

Yo le he pedido a Mr. Wilkenson.

—Buena—respondió el empleado— pero esto es lo que le mandé de allá arriba, —y señaló las oficinas.

—Pero yo no le he pedido.

El empleado dejó el vestido sobre la baranda de hierro y se fue.

La Baker aclaró:

—Eso, préndese los dejó arriba.

Y arriba los buscaré. Si usted lo deja ahí, usted será el responsable.

A las 3 y 45 le trajeron a la tar-

raz artista una silla para que se sentara.

Se sentó a ella.

Y se alejó rápidamente de la silla con un gesto que daba la impresión de que la quemaba.

SE RETRATA

Durante varias horas, la Baker siguió en pie en el vestíbulo.

Cientos de personas estaban expectantes por los alrededores. Por

contorno se escuchaba el comentario en voz alta y las expresiones de admiración a la artista.

Fra. amigable, conversaba con todo el que se acercaba.

Cerca de las 4 de la tarde de-

caron varios fotógrafos. La Baker se retrató, pero junto a media docena de jóvenes jóvenes que estaban en la terraza.

Al hacerla, los tendió las manos por las espaldas y junto con el símbolo a lazo colocó una correa.

ENTREVISTA

En unos breves momentos en que estaba sola, tuvimos la extraordinaria oportunidad de hacerle una entrevista a la valiente mujer.

Al presentarnos, nos preguntó de cual Periódico éramos. Se lo dijimos. Y ella respondió sencillamente:

—HOY, sí, lo conozco.

—Que coraje, que firme determinación de lucha, que generoso desprendimiento, centamos en las palabras de la Baker!

Al comenzar la entrevista, sacó de su bolso tejido un cablegrama y nos lo dio a leer.

Decía así:

Josephine Baker.

CMQ. Vedado.

Habana.

4 de la tarde.

Tengo Empresa en venta contra-
taría 15 días prorrogables. Debutar medidos de Marra, 12 mil dólares. Tengo todo arreglado. Teatro, vivado, ingreso, etc. Aceptando cablegramas para salir inmediatamente. Puede estar segura quedará contenta. Abramos.

Barnon.

Caracas.

La Baker le guardó de nuevo.

Y entonces, con una sonrisa que jamás olvidaremos, nos dijo:

—Son 12 mil pesos. Pero eso no importa. He rechazado la oferta. A mí me interesa más ganar por la dignidad humana, que ganar 12 mil pesos.

Y agregó:

—Hay alguien que tiene que comprender que con el dinero se compra mucha gente. ¡Pero no a todo el mundo!

Y, siguió en su magníficamente pronunciado inglés:

—¿Usted sabe? Hay que pelear para progresar. Si muchos no hubieran caído en la batalla por la verdadera libertad, ¡podríamos ser libres!

—Luego añadió, pero no con un gesto de amargura, sino de firme y valiente orgullo:

—Claro. Algunos caídos en la lucha. Quizá a mí me haya tocado ser la primera en el sacrificio. Pero ello no le hace. Seguramente adelante.

—Claro. Algunos caídos en la lucha. Quizá a mí me haya tocado ser la primera en el sacrificio. Pero ello no le hace. Seguramente adelante.

—Claro. Algunos caídos en la lucha. Quizá a mí me haya tocado ser la primera en el sacrificio. Pero ello no le hace. Seguramente adelante.

—Claro. Algunos caídos en la lucha. Quizá a mí me haya tocado ser la primera en el sacrificio. Pero ello no le hace. Seguramente adelante.

—Claro. Algunos caídos en la lucha. Quizá a mí me haya tocado ser la primera en el sacrificio. Pero ello no le hace. Seguramente adelante.

—Claro. Algunos caídos en la lucha. Quizá a mí me haya tocado ser la primera en el sacrificio. Pero ello no le hace. Seguramente adelante.

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"AQUELLOS QUE RECIBEN ORDENES DE EE. UU. Y LAS EJECUTAN, HAN PERDIDO SU SENTIDO DE LA DIGNIDAD" - JOSEPHINE BAKER

*"Me duele pensar que aquí
en Cuba el "pulpo" tenga
una tan grande influencia"*

**ANUNCIA LA EXIMIA ACTRIZ QUE
DARA CONFERENCIAS EN EL PAIS**

Revela Josephine Baker la presión de los monopolios
yanquis para que impidan su actuación en Cuba

Por Hugo CERVANTES

"Me duele pensar que aquí en La Habana, en Cuba, el "pulpo" ha tomado una influencia tan grande". Así dijo a los periodistas cubanos Josephine Baker, en la Conferencia de Prensa que convocó antes de ayer para explicar las condiciones de que viene siendo objeto, y a la que asistieron en representación de nuestro HOY.

"Si alguien me hubiera dicho —continúa la eximia actriz— que esto pasaría aquí en Cuba, yo hubiera jurado que es imposible."

Y a continuación con un rictus de tristeza en su expresivo rostro:

"La fuerza del "pulpo" es tan grande aquí en Cuba, que tiene toda las finanzas y la prensa en sus garras."

Josephine Baker es una afamada artista, cuya fama corre por todo el mundo. Supo levantarse, paso a paso, hasta los últimos pedregales de la popularidad y de la gloria.

Pero Josephine Baker, es sobre todo, una gran mujer de su tiempo. Cuando Francia lo exigió, Josephine se unió a la resistencia francesa. Su arte no sirvió para deleitar a los nazis. Hoy, ante los brutales atropellos de que son objeto sus hermanos de raza en los Estados Unidos, Josephine se sienta en el puesto de honor, junto al gran patriota americano Paul Robeson.

Esta doble personalidad artística y cívica, le ha granado a la Baker el cariño entrañable de los pueblos de nuestra América, que aprendieron con Martí a aborrecer a los discriminadores, a los que, por motivos inconfesables de desmedida explotación, quisieron mantener a los pueblos francesados, divididos y sujetos por barreras de color o de creencia.

Y le ha granado, por otra parte, la sabida persecución de los discriminadores, de los tenebrosos kulakluchistas, de los linchadores que promueven a cada rato una horrenda cacería de negros en el "norte recueta y bruto".

La simpatía que sienten los pueblos se acrecienta cuando la mujer, la infatigable luchadora por los derechos de sus hermanos prósperos, supera a la artista y destacando fuertes contrastes, que estarían a su disposición tan pronto abjura de sus principios, monta su valerosa actitud de siempre.

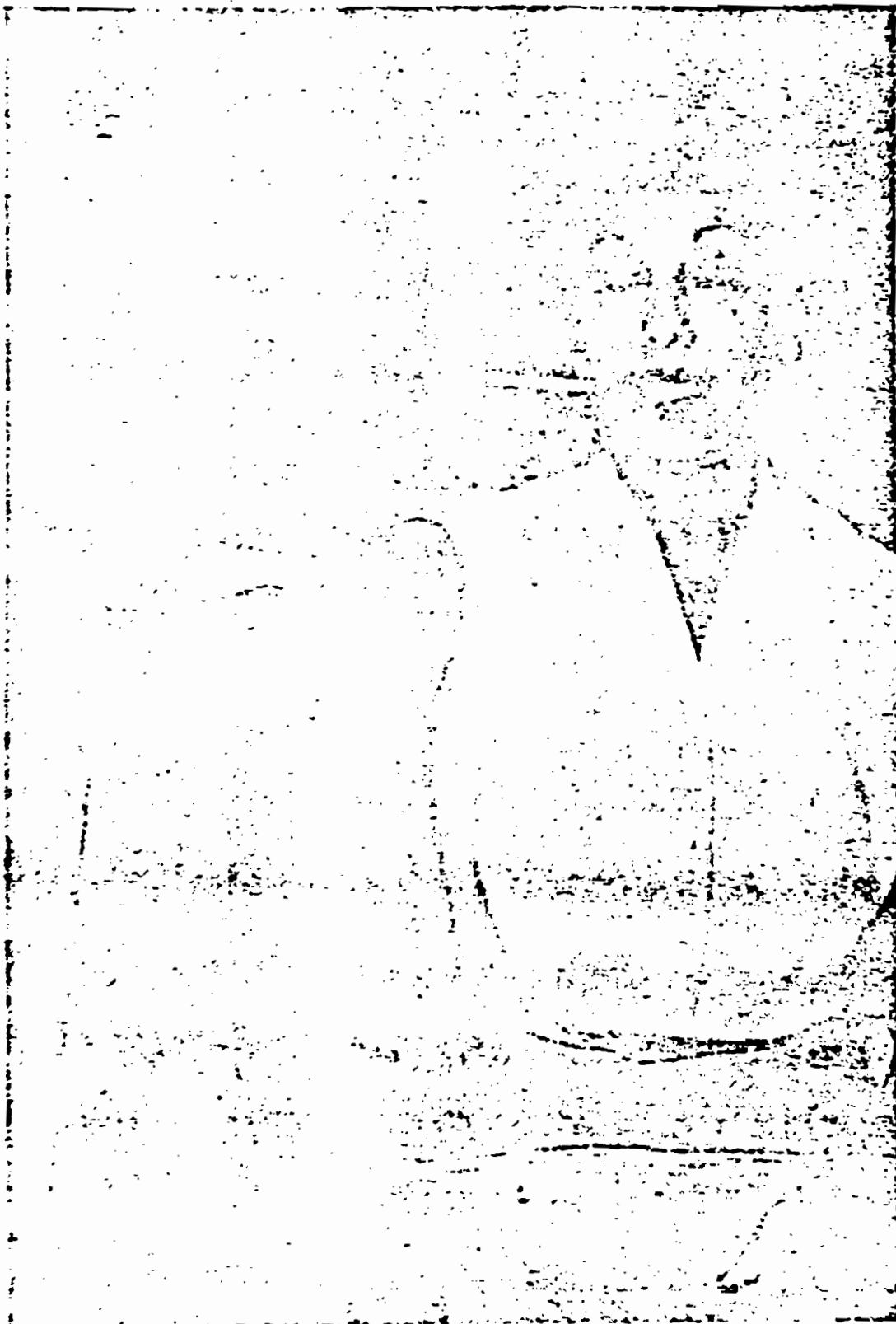
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DATE 9/2/02 BY SP/001034

"Hoy"
2-12-53
Havana, Cuba

62-95884

51 APR 29 1953

670
2/15/53



"Me duele pensar que aquí en La Habana, en tan grande", expresa Josephine Baker alzando-
Cuba, al "pulpe" haya ganado una influencia os en toda su vibrante dignidad

67C

2115

"Aquellos que reciben órdenes de E.E. UU. y las cumplen, han ..."

—Entrevista a la PRIMERA—

...a nadie ni a nada, "con el valor de sus convicciones".

HABLA LA ACTRIZ

La esbelta figura de Josephine se agita en su asiento. De pronto se pone de pie. Sus ojos, bellísimos, se hacen más expresivos y en su rostro, tenso y fresco, a pesar del tiempo, se retrata su valiente decisión.

"Ha llegado la hora de romper el silencio. Explicaré muchas cosas que han sucedido antes y después de mi llegada a La Habana, a fin de que quede claro que no soy una provocadora, ni una agitadora", nos dice la Baker.

Y explica inmediatamente:

"Soy fundadora de la "Asociación Cultural Mundial, contra la discriminación racial y religiosa", que estoy organizando en diferentes países del mundo... Las asociaciones son para fomentar la buena voluntad y las relaciones armónicas entre la Humanidad, haciendo conocer las realizaciones de las gentes de color del mundo, en el terreno de las artes, la ciencia, las profesiones y los deportes. También para darles a conocer a las gentes de color del mundo, las realizaciones de sus hermanos blancos, en este mismo terreno."

"La asociación es para proteger firmemente los derechos humanos de todos los individuos, sin distinción de raza, color o credo. Para luchar por la completa abolición de los prejuicios raciales y religiosos, donde quiera que se encuentren. Para defender con lógica y justicia, a todos aquellos que son objeto de represalias, o de ataques debido a su color, raza o credo."

"Creo que ha llegado el tiempo para todas las razas, religiones y credos, de surse para la futura paz del mundo."

"La Asociación se propone dictar conferencias que tienden a acercar a todas las gentes del mundo. Existe un dicho que expresa: "La ignorancia es bendita", pero para mi manera de ver, el enemigo mortal de la civilización y el progreso, es la ignorancia."

Josephine se detiene. Se golpea su cuerpo estatuaria, su palabra es más firme ahora:

"Esta es la razón de por qué me atacan los gobiernos norteamericanos. Pero se equivocan si creen que lograrán detenerme y hacerme desistir de mi lucha en fa-

vor de la Humanidad. Esta campaña la mantengo en los propios Estados Unidos durante todo el tiempo que permaneci allí, para a las amenazas de que fui objeto."

PRETENTOS PARA IMPEDIR SU ACTUACION

"Para impedir mi actuación en Cuba —explica Josephine Baker— se ha pretextado que llegué después de la fecha señalada para comenzar mi actuación. Esto no es cierto, pues mi debut estaba fijado para el día 9 de febrero y yo llegué el día 4."

Y como para fijar el verdadero origen de la agresión inculca, dice, relata en seguida cómo, después de lograr rescindir el contrato firmado para actuar en CNQ, en televisión y en un cabaret, se puso en contacto con ella el señor Gabriel Guzmán interesado en lograr su actuación en el Teatro América.

"Cuán no sería mi sorpresa al visitarme el Sr. Guzmán, no para firmar el contrato moral que ya existía, sino para decirme que sentía mucho no poder hacer negocios conmigo, porque si lo hacía la Metro Goldwyn-Meyer, que le sirve películas, rompería su contrato con ella."

Josephine Baker habla con calor y sus palabras, ayudadas magistralmente por las manos, los ojos, por todo su expresivo cuerpo, hacen casi innecesario el traductor.

"¿Qué vergüenza —dice con la ira retratada en el rostro—, qué cosa tan terrible quitar ilusiones a las gentes sencillas que no pueden ver la vida de una manera más dulce, de la maravillosa manera que los cubanos la veían antes!"

"Siento mucho no poder cumplir este contrato... Lo siento porque no puedo presentarme ante el querido público cubano, al que adoro y creo que también me adora. Pero sucede así, aunque están en su país han perdido sus derechos y el privilegio de disfrutar del espectáculo de una artista que viene a su país... Eso es triste, pero de lo más verdaderamente verdadero."

Terminando en sus palabras todo el fuego de su temperamento extraordinario, Josephine clava en la pircota a los sometidos al imperianismo yanqui:

"Aquellos que reciben órdenes o insinuaciones de los Estados Unidos y les ejecutan, en mi opinión, han perdido su sentido de dignidad."

Y agrega enseguida:

"La mayoría de los cubanos no son responsables de esto, pero los responsables están cometiendo el crimen más grande que el hombre pueda concebir."

La mujer digna y cívica que hay en la eximia actriz, acepta, con toda, las responsabilidades inherentes, el reto que le han lanzado los discriminadores y terroristas del Norte, en cuyas entrañas ha vivido Josephine Baker. Ella, que no tuvo miedo enfrentarse a los nazis invasores de su patria, tampoco lo tiene ahora al enfrentarse a los que han tomado el lugar de Hitler.

"Cuando un enfermo está grave, el deber del médico es hacer todos los esfuerzos posibles por salvarle la vida", dice ella, y termina expresando su decisión inquebrantable: "No había previsto dar conferencias en Cuba, pero ahora creo necesario darlas para que la gente comprenda lo que está sucediendo."

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

65-35834-28

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

RECORDED-98

*State referred
6-14-54
R.B. 6-1-54*

mt

To: Mr. John W. Ford
Director
Office of Security
Department of State
215 22nd Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - PR

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Reference is made to our memorandum of February 17, 1953, a copy of which was designated for the Central Intelligence Agency, containing information from our files concerning the captioned individual.

Recent news articles reflect that the subject was in Havana, Cuba, during the month of February, 1953.

b1

[REDACTED SECTION]

*b7C
b7D*

Released per State Dept. The representative of another Government agency advised on March 2, 1953, that his contacts with principal Negro leaders in Havana, resulted in his being

*Classified per 2/20/53 State Dept.
Letter 4/1/53*

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

BY SPL MSOR
45 MAR 31
COMM - FBI

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67 APR 2 1953

RECEIVED
MAR 27 4 20 PM '53

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

113

SECRET

Released for State Dept.

Delayed in
Type Section
Letter copy

It is noted that Josephine Baker, having particular expression
from the Cuban people, popularized through the Communist
daily newspaper "El" did play a role in the racist views of Baker.

[REDACTED]

While in Cuba, Baker was received by President
Fulgencio Batista; however, the press did not publicize this
incident to a great extent.

[REDACTED]

These data are being furnished for your confidential
use with the request they not be disseminated outside of
your Agency.

[REDACTED]

cc - 2 - The Commissioner (your reference T-2321267 dated
Immigration and Naturalization Service December 9, 1952
INT:FKH)

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114

DATE 9/3/83

Mr. Pouch

1174

FRANCHISE

RELEASE FROM DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

ONS 552(1)(7)(C)

March 3, 1953

21

REF : Embassy Despatch No. 1312 of February 19 and previous

ACTICA	DEPT.	CLY I DS DI DS HX/7 BY	Received from the State Department
For Dept	REC D	OTHER	by Bureau change's
For Only	SEP 5		Date 3-11-55

SUBJECT: **Joseph Lee Baker**

With even less fanfare than at her arrival, Josephine Baker left by air for Europe on February 25 after a three-week stay in Mabana during which she vented anew—but with limited results—her views on racial discrimination in the United States and her admiration of President Perón.

Miss Baker's visit to Cuba must be considered of little value to her cause. She failed to enroll President Batista in her World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination. She made no talks, and the press conference she called was attended only by communist-line reporters and a few from papers of little significance.

She did not appear on television or at the night club where she originally had been booked, but did entertain for a week at the Teatro Campeonor, a run-down house which a year ago was a burlesque palace. She is also reported to have attended a play put on by a company under the Argentine director Francisco Petrone, and sang one or two numbers afterward. The applause given her was termed perfunctory.

Miss Baker's artistic activities were a far cry from what she had expected in Cuba. Her contracts on CMQ-TV and at the Montmartre night club were cancelled because she had delayed her arrival date so many times by telegram that her local employers said they were fed up. The Communist press, naturally, charged the American Embassy had intervened, which was not the case.

All in all, Miss Baker's influence on Cuban Negroes may well be appraised as negligible. The Negro press ignored her, and Negro societies made no fuss over her.

Gastón Baquero, city editor of Diario de la Marina, explained to an Embassy officer that the attitude of the Cuban Negro toward the United States has changed radically in the last few years and that the Cuban Negro is now aware that real progress is being made in the United States toward the elimination of racial discrimination.

For the Ambassador:

RC Crubling/1st

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

Richard G. Cushing
Information Officer

50 MAR 23 1953

INFORMATION COPY

Retain in divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations

62-95834-29

FBI

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Belmont

Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

March 27, 1953

Director, FBI

⁶
JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FB

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/BK
ON 9/3/82

Reference is made to our memorandum to the Attorney General dated October 15, 1952, entitled "Josephine Baker" with an attachment containing information taken from our files concerning Baker.

Attached for your information is one copy of a memorandum dated March 27, 1953, to the State Department, which contains information concerning the captioned individual.

62-95834

Attachment

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[redacted] app. [initials]

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED - 58

MAR 31 1953
130

RECEIVED BY AIR MAIL ROOM
MAR 27 4 20 PM '53

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Conroy
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gine
- Miss Gandy

MAILED 9
MAR 30 1953
COMM-FBI

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- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of Justice, Criminal Division, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 4, 1953

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Director, FBI
Attention: Mr. Raymond Farrell
Assistant Commissioner

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

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62-95834

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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CLASS BY SP4 BSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/3/82

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
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- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Laughlin _____
- Mohr _____
- Winterrowd _____
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- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

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MAY 4 - 1953
COMM - FBI

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MAY 15 1953

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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INFORMATION - CON. (C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

July 22, 1953

Attention: Mr. Raymond F. Farrell
Assistant Commissioner

Director, FBI

61360

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - PR

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62-95834

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

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COMM - FBI

JUL 22 1953

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

December 23, 1953

Director, FBI

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

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DATE OF REVIEW 9/3/02

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62-95834-37

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- Tolson
- Ladd
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- Harbo
- Rosen
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- Quinn
- Nease
- Gurnea
- Harbo
- Glavin
- Tolson
- Belmont
- Nease
- Gandy

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DEC 23 1953
COMM. FBI

58 DEC 30 1953

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

62-95834

BY COURIER SERVICE

Date: February 2, 1954

To: [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/3/82

Reference is made to our memorandum of
March 27, 1953, to the Department of State, a copy
of which was designated for [REDACTED]

It would be appreciated if you could
furnish this Bureau any information in your possession
concerning the subject.

RECORDED - 78

EX 126

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BY COURIER SVC.
FEB 3 1954
63MM - FBI

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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EX - 106
62-95834-40

Date: April 7, 1954

To: [REDACTED] b2

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - PR

Reference is made to [REDACTED] dated March 23, 1954, furnishing information on the captioned individual and requesting any additional pertinent data on subject in our files. b1 b2

Your attention is invited to our memorandum dated March 27, 1954 to the Department of State, [REDACTED] and to previous communications in this case which contain a summary of all of the pertinent information on the subject in our files.

We would appreciate receiving any additional information concerning the subject which comes to your attention.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS BY SP-1 G32/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW [REDACTED]

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Mohr
- Trotter
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

BY COURIER SVC.
APR 7 1954
APR - 8
DEPT OF JUSTICE
COMM - FBI

58 APR 13 1954

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

b7C



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

Date: April 5, 1954

To: Director, FBI (62-95834)

From: Legal Attache, Paris (105-245)

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Reourlet January 7, 1953.

Re of possible interest to the Bureau, there is
enclosed herewith one copy of a Confidential Report prepared by
WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD, Political Section of the U. S. Embassy,
Paris. The Report is dated March 21, 1954, and is on the subject
"JOSEPHINE BAKER on Race Prejudice." (S)

Enclosure (1)

ROL:AM

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/3/82

RECORDED-85

INDEXED-85

EX-127

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

APR 12 1954

5 5 APR 19 1954

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/C

RECEIVED BY DSW

4/3/55

EXCISE

W. E. B. DUBOIS

FOI or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED RELEASEABLE

RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS 552 (A)(4)

March 31, 1954

Despatch No. 982 of March 10, 1954

Josephine Baker on Race Prejudice

In the light of Embassy Copenhagen's reference despatch on Baker's recent public talks in Denmark on race prejudice, it is deemed desirable to comment on her activities in France in the connection. Highly regarded in France as an entertainer, she has also established something of a reputation here in the past for being a defender of the racially oppressed. Although her activities in this regard have occasionally exposed her to charges of pro-Communism, the Embassy has uncovered no supporting evidence to give them substance. It is noted that an article of hers appeared in 1949 in a Soviet review and that she has supported several racial cases such publicized by the Communist press involving American negroes.

Miss Baker long since gave up her American citizenship to become a French citizen. According to her statements, she had suffered the adverse consequences of racial discrimination in the United States, and apparently she is now bent on exposing such conditions wherever she goes. In doing so, she represents a French organization, the "Comite International contre le Racisme et l'Antisemitisme (ICARA)", under the leadership of which she has made a number of speeches in France and elsewhere. The last such speech prior to her Copenhagen trip was delivered on December 20, 1953 in Paris at the Palais de la Mutualite. Her talk, as published in serial form in the January, February and March issues of Droit de Vivre, was almost identical to that given in Copenhagen. In both talks, she was careful to state that she was not hostile to any of the countries she mentioned but was merely fighting against intolerable conditions wherever she found them. She also stated that whereas she has been charged with being a Communist because of the stand she has taken on race prejudice, she is not associated with any political party.

At the same time, it is worth noting that Miss Baker's attacks on race prejudice are preponderantly directed against the United States and that any criticism of race prejudice in Soviet-controlled countries is conspicuously absent from her remarks. Moreover, after a trip to South Africa and the United States, Miss Baker in 1949 wrote an account of her experiences entitled Mon Voyage aux Etats-Unis, which was published in the French Communist youth front weekly Avant-Garde, No. 261 for October 24-November 2, 1949, with the notation that it was

Source: W. Crawford:cz

CONFIDENTIAL

62-95834-41

ENCLOSURE

62-95834-41

120

reproduced from the Soviet review, Detourn du Monde. The article was highly critical of racial conditions in the United States, and its appearance in such periodicals was an indication that she apparently had no objection at the time to the use of her name and photograph by the Communists. Moreover, she has not hesitated to defend such Communist-touted "causes célèbres" of so-called racial discrimination in the United States as those of Willie McGee and Walter Scott.

However, LICIA, with which she is associated, is not a Communist front, unlike its local counterpart in the sphere of racial relations, the Mouvement Contre le Racisme, l'Anti-Sémitisme et pour la Paix (M.A.P.). LICIA was organized in 1927 and claims to be one of the oldest groups of its kind in the world. Its monthly organ, Droit de Vivre, takes a vigorous stand against what it regards as racial discrimination wherever it occurs, and it has from time to time published strong denunciations of anti-Semitism behind the iron curtain, particularly at the time of the Prague trials. Although it has a left-wing orientation, it is strongly anti-Stalinist. A list of its officers, elected at the 16th National Congress in October 1953, is attached (Enclosure 1). There are some ex-Stalinists and neutralists among them, but none is known to the Embassy as a member of the Communist Party.

In sum, Miss Baker appears to have confined her political interest to the question of race prejudice. Although in several instances of this kind, she has identified herself with Communist-supported causes, her activity of a representative character seems to have been limited to her association with LICIA, an anti-Communist organization against racial discrimination, whose position in regard to the Willie McGee case and other cases in question happens to have coincided with that of the Communists. There is no evidence, however, that she has otherwise identified herself with campaigns backed by the Communists, is a Communist herself or has been associated with any Communist organization or front. In view of her occasional visits to the United States, it is believed particularly desirable that the Department be fully informed of the foregoing views of the Embassy in her regard.

G. McArthur Godley
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure: 1. Central Bureau of the Central Committee of LICIA

Embassy pouching copy to: American Embassy, COPENHAGEN

Embassy distribution:

AMB	Logan	12
MIN	DeLoach	12
POL/ACG	Tolson	12
Public Affs	Harrison	12
Pres. Sec	Board	12
Legal	ISA	12
	Visa Section	12

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

CENTRAL BUREAU OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COLLECTION OF LIA, 1953-1954

President

State
Bc
B6

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UNCLASSIFIED

67C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

While in Cuba, Baker was received by President Fulgencio Batista; however, the press did not publicize this incident to a great extent.

[REDACTED]

b1

(62-95894-28)

You may also desire to check the records of the State Department, Immigration and Naturalization Service for information concerning Josephine Baker and the

b2

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

Attachment

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandy _____
Winters _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

13

0102637

62-95834

Date: April 21, 1954

~~SECRET~~ AIR COURIERTo: Legal Attache
Paris, FranceALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

From: Director, FBI

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - PRCLASS. BY ~~SP-1 E.S./PSK~~
DATE OF REVIEW ~~9/18/82~~The following appeared in Walter Winchell's
column of April 9, 1954, in the "New York Daily Mirror":

"How does the U. S. Consul at Paris, France, explain issuing an American visa to anti-American speech maker, Josephine Baker? Isn't he acquainted with her rantings against the U. S. in Argentina and elsewhere? Isn't he familiar with the regulations at U. S. Immigration? They stopped admitting persons to these shores for being a Nazi, Commy or Fascist sympathizer...We aided in getting this Ingrate into the U. S. a few years ago. After her manager said: 'She asked me to find out what you would do or say about her giving up her U. S. citizenship,' to which we said: 'Oh, how's her act?'...we plugged her act into \$26,000 a week until she staged a 'show' at the Stork Club...When her trick boomeranged, she staged some 'shows' against the U. S. and has been since."

You should determine from the U. S. Embassy, Paris, if the captioned individual has recently been issued a U. S. visa or if the foregoing information pertains to a U. S. visa which she was issued when coming to the United States in 1953. You should also be alert to furnish the Bureau any information reflecting her return to the United States.

cc - 1 - Foreign Service Desk

b7C [redacted] etc

NOTE: Legal Attache has background information in this case.

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandy _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED - 78

62-95834-5

LEGAT

27 APR 23

EX-122 APR 23 1954

132

~~SECRET~~

APR 23 1954

DECLASSIFIED BY SA/CSA/PC
ON 01/10/02

b7C



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Paris (B), France

~~SECRET~~

Date: May 13, 1954

To: Director, FBI (62-95834)

From: Legal Attache, Paris (105-245)

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

ReBulet April 21, 1954.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

chp 1-1

(b)(3) per
State Dept.
ltr. 9/28/83
(8 USC 1202(f))

[REDACTED]

b3
(8 USC
1202(f))
9/28/83

RUC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/1/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
DATE OF REVIEW 9/3/82

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EX-106

SE 3312-95834-44

MAY 19 1954

INDEXED-45

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CNY
6.7.54

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b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

JUNE 7, 1954

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FB

38910

DATE BY 62-1034/125

DATE BY 62-1034/125

b1

(c)

b1(3)
or State Dept
usc 1202(f)

MAILED 7
JUN 7 1954
COMM-FBI

62-95894-44

NY - 2 - New York (62-0)

NOTE FOR NY:

b3

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

JUN 9 1954

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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137

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Immigration and Naturalization Service, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

- ☐ For your information: _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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TRUE COPY

Los Angeles
June 7 - 52

Dear Sirs -

Daily papers proclaim Josephine Baker to be -
allowed to roam U.S.A - She is a renowned Red -
defiant of law & order. I am ashamed to admit I
paid money to see an ignorant, insulting and the
poorest performer I ever saw at our downtown
theatre her last time here. her inuendos to
public on behalf of Blk & white sex stuff too
much -- lets watch who employs this trouble
maker She's here for no good., an intermediary
for something or some one--

[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1 CCK/PSK

RECEIVED
JUN 10 1952
FBI - LOS ANGELES

100-111111-100000
JUN 25 1954
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[REDACTED] b7C

file in
62-95834

TRUE COPY

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did not live

Rose. Bu, Calif.

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[REDACTED]

JOSEPHINE BAKER

Non-Calif., N.Y.

62-95834

[REDACTED]

1537

[REDACTED]

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Called D.
N.Y.

5 copies.

Is Angeles
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED - 5
 DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
 Daily paper, publication
 Josephine Baker to be
 allowed to roam U.S.A.
 She is a renowned Red
 defiant of law & order
 I am ashamed to admit
 I paid money to see an
 ignorant, insulting and the
 poorest performer I ever
 saw at our downtown
 theatre her last time here.
 Her intrigues to public on
 the stage of white sex
 stuff which - to match
 who employ the trouble maker
 She is here for no good
 are intermeddling for something
 or some other

RECORDED
INDEXED

JUN 11 1954

AIR-TEL
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEW YORK, 7/9/54

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

JOSEPHINE BAKER - IS-FRENCH. REBULET 6/7/54 AND NY 6/9/54. RECORDS USDC, SDNY, CIVIL DOCKET NUMBER 72-74, REFLECTS THAT JOSEPHINE BAKER FILED A LIBEL ACTION 12/21/51 VERSUS WALTER WINCHELL, HEARST CORP., AND KING FEATURES, INC. INDIVIDUALLY AND JOINTLY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000. BAKER ALLEGED THAT WINCHELL IN HIS COLUMNS INDICATED THAT BAKER WAS "A FASCIST, A COMMUNIST, OR ONE WHO CONSORTS WITH COMMUNISTS, AN ANTI-SEMITES, AN ANTI-NEGRO, AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE OF HER OWN RACE, INTELLECTUALLY DISHONEST, A FRAUD, AND A PERSON OF LOW OR DOUBTFUL CHARACTER." DOCKET REFLECTS THAT ON 6/28/54 CASE WAS "ON CALL OF SPECIAL PRETRIAL BEFORE JUDGE KNOX. HEARING ADJOURNED TO 10/27/54."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1054/PSK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

3 - BUREAU (62-95834) (REGULAR)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1054/PSK

Mr. Belmont

(1)
105-8241

CLASSIFIED BY SP-1054/PSK

DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1054/PSK

RECORDED-95

62-95834-47

20 JUL 10 1954

EX-12

55 JUL 16 1954

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

Per _____

~~SECRET~~

de Braviza

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NEW YORK, 6/9/54

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

JOSEPHINE BAKER. OFFICE OF INS, INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NY
ADVISED ON 6/9/54 THAT JOSEPHINE BAKER, INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN
NEGRO ENTERTAINER, ENTERED THE US ON 6/5/54 AT INSTANT AIRPORT.
BAKER HAD VISITOR'S PERMIT TO STAY IN US FOR ONE MONTH. INS
ADVISED THAT BAKER STATED THE PURPOSE OF HER VISIT WAS TO SUE
WALTER WINCHELL FOR COMMENTS WRITTEN BY HIM IN HIS DAILY COLUMN
ABOUT HER. ABOVE SUBMITTED TO BUREAU FOR INFORMATION.

b7c [redacted] Unclassified per 11/13/81 [redacted]
MAC/PSK 12/1/81

3 - BUREAU (REGULAR MAIL)

Mr. Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE [redacted] BY [redacted]

CC: MR. BELMONT
MR. SUPERVISOR
DCM. INTEL. DIVISION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1 [redacted]/PSK

62-95834-48

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11 DEC 1 1964

air 6/11/54
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13 JUN 14 1954

62-95834-2709

b7c

b7c [redacted] #6)

Approved: [signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent [redacted] M Per [redacted]

AIR-TEL DEFERRED

MAIL

JUNE 11, 1954

RECORDED-98

102-95834-48

~~102-95834-2789~~ SAC, NEW YORK (62-0)

X
JOSEPHINE BAKER, IS - FR. REUR AIR-TEL 6-9-54, AND BULET
6-3-54. CONDUCT NO ACTIVE INVESTIGATION OF SUBJECT, BUT
IMMEDIATELY FURNISH BUREAU ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING HER
ACTIVITIES COMING TO YOUR ATTENTION THROUGH INFORMANTS,
ESTABLISHED SOURCES AND PUBLIC SOURCES.

HOOVER

62-95834

NOTE: Relet requested NY determine status of lawsuit and keep Bureau
advised of developments.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JUN 11 6 00 PM '54

COMM - FBI
JUN 11 1954
MAILED 28

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

68 JUL 23 1954

68 JUN 25 1954

RECEIVED - BOVICH
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

August 1, 1954

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

JOSEPHINE BAKER

DATE OF REVIEW DATE

9/3/82

Attached hereto is a Photostat of a memorandum dated November 14, 1952, concerning Josephine Baker, born June 3, 1906, at St. Louis, Missouri. There is also attached a memorandum dated January 7, 1953, concerning Josephine Baker.

62-95834-15,20 Serial 42

In addition to the attached information, newspaper articles during the month of February, 1953, indicated that Josephine Baker was in Havana, Cuba.

The representative of another Government agency advised on March 3, 1953, that his contacts with principal Negro leaders in Havana, resulted in his being informed that Josephine Baker made no particular impression upon the Cuban Negro population even though the Communist Daily newspaper "Hoy" did play up the racist views of Baker.

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

Attachment

Orig. to: STATE EX-128

RR:

RECORDED 2105

AUG 5 1954

132

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

71 AUG 13 1954

Unclassified per 9/1/80
State Dept. letter
6/2/82 1/1/83

Released
per
State Dept

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

While in Cuba, Baker was received by President Fulgencio Batista; however, the press did not publicize this incident as a great honor.

The records of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, Civil Docket Number 72-74, reflects that Josephine Baker filed a libel action on December 31, 1951, against Walter Winchell, Hearst Corporation, and King Features, Inc., individually and jointly in the amount of \$400,000. Baker alleged that Winchell in his columns indicated that Baker was "a Fascist, a Communist or one who consorts with Communists, an anti-Semite, an anti-Negro, an enemy of the people of her own race, intellectually dishonest, a fraud, and a person of low or doubtful character." The docket also reflects that on June 28, 1954, the case was "on call of special pretrial before Judge Knox. Hearing adjourned to October 27, 1954."

You may desire to check the records of the State Department, [redacted] and the Immigration and Naturalization Service for information concerning Josephine Baker.

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

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~
CONFIDENTIAL ~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: 8/30/54

FROM : SAC, New York (105-8241)

SECRETSUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS - FR

CLASS. BY SP-1 G. J. P. S. K.

DATE OF REVIEW

Rebuar tel, 6/11/54 and NY air tel to Bureau, 7/3/54

7/9/54

Record of the Clerk of Court, SDNY, under Civil Docket No. 72-74, reflects that on 12/21/51, JOSEPHINE BAKER, represented by Attorneys HAYS, ST. JOHN, ABRAMSON and SCHULMAN, filed a libel action against WALTER WINCHELL, Hearst Corporation and King Features, Inc. individually and jointly charging that defendant WINCHELL indicated in his syndicated column that the plaintiff, JOSEPHINE BAKER, was a Fascist, Communist or one who consorts with Communists, an Anti-Semite, an Anti-Negro, an enemy of the people of her own race, intellectually dishonest, a fraud and a person of low or doubtful character.

A claim for \$400,000 damages was filed as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Damage for unemployment | \$100,000 |
| 2. Publication caused damage | 200,000 |
| 3. Punitive damage | 100,000 |

The complaint filed by ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, 120 Broadway, Attorney-at-Law, alleged that on or about 10/16/51 JOSEPHINE BAKER, in company with friends, visited the Stork Club, was treated discourteously. It continued that friends of BAKER formed a picket line for a few evenings thereafter. It alleged that WALTER WINCHELL was present on 10/16/51 at the Stork Club and resented publicity and thereafter embarked upon a public campaign to vilify, libel and damage BAKER in her reputation and professional standing in the community. Further, the complaint alleged that on or about 10/22/51 and day to day up to 12/21/51, WALTER WINCHELL maliciously, wantonly and recklessly printed and published information of and concerning BAKER in the "NY Daily Mirror" and in various papers throughout the US.

Further that on 10/28/51 an article was written by WINCHELL intended to mean that BAKER was an Italian Fascist or sympathizer of Italian Fascists, that she invited and

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/19/82 BY SP-1 G. J. P. S. K.

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11 DEC 1 1964

55 SEPT 13 1954

RECORDED 94

INDEXED 94

SECRET 12562-95834-50
SEP 3 1954

~~SECRET~~

Letter to Director
NY 105-8241

planted incidents for purposes of publicity and self-display; that on 10/29/51 an article by WINCHELL intended to mean that BAKER has "horn swoggled", deceived and cheated colored people into accepting her as a heroine and champion; that she has in some improper way been connected with Communism, pro-Communists and fellow travellers; and that she approved of their views and philosophy; that she did not protest against discrimination in Cuba; that the Stork Club incident was a "job"; that she engaged in lascivious dancing; that the places where she performed did not want colored patronage; that she did not mix with colored people and did not want to be associated with them and that she was anti-Negro and wanted to be only with the white people.

The complaint further alleged that an article written by WINCHELL on 11/4/51 intended to mean that JOSEPHINE BAKER planned to act in a disorderly fashion in a Washington, D.C. Department Store in order to incite publicity against discrimination, but the newspapers having failed to help her in a false endeavor she did not go ahead.

It alleged that an article written by WINCHELL on 11/5/51 intended to mean that there was something illegal or suspicious in connection with the status of BAKER in the US and that she was under surveillance by the Government and might be prevented from ever entering the US again; that she was intellectually dishonest and a complete opportunist.

According to the complaint, an article written by WINCHELL on 12/9/51 intended to mean that JOSEPHINE BAKER hates Jewish people.

The record reflected that the Attorney for defendants WALTER WINCHELL, Hearst Corporation and King Features, Inc. was MC CAULEY and HENRY, 959 8th Ave., NY, NY.

The following notations appeared on the docket:

12/21/51 filed complaint and summons issued.

12/27/51 issued additional summons as of 12/21/51.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Letter to Director
NY 105-8241

1/2/52 filed summons and returned.
1/14/52 filed additional summons and returned.
1/15/52 filed stipulation and ordered extending time to answer to 2/11/52.
2/6/52 filed answer of defendant.
2/6/52 notice of taking disposition of plaintiff.
2/20/52 filed stipulation and order adjourning disposition of plaintiff to 4/25/52.
4/30/52 filed and ordered adjourning disposition of plaintiff to 5/28/52.
6/5/52 filed stipulation and order adjourning disposition of plaintiff to 9/24/52.
1/26/53 filed stipulation and order adjourning disposition of plaintiff of 2/26/53.
12/15/53 special pre-trial before Judge KNOX. Hearing held and adjourned to 4/1/54.
1/3/9/54 filed notice of issue for trial.
3/12/54 filed jury demand by defendants.
4/1/54 on call of special pre-trial before Judge KNOX. Hearing adjourned to 6/28/54.
6/28/54 on call of special pre-trial before Judge KNOX. Hearing adjourned to 10/27/54.

Inasmuch as no further action in connection with instant law suit is scheduled until 10/27/54, this investigation is being placed in a pending inactive status.

The Bureau will be kept advised of all developments.

~~SECRET~~

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-95834-NR 8-26-54

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-95834-NR 9-9-54

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XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

- ☐ For your information: _____
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-95834-NR 9-14-54

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: DEC 2 1954

FROM : SAC, New York (105-8241)

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS-PRALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

38909

ReNYlet, 8/30/54.

Referenced NY letter advised that the records of the Clerk of the Court, SDNY, under Civil Docket # 72-74 reflected that the pre-trial hearing before Judge KNOX scheduled for 6/28/54 was adjourned to 10/27/54.

The Docket, under dated of 10/27/54, contained the following notations:

"On call of special pre-trial before Knox, Ch.J.
Hearing adj. to 2/31/55."

It is also noted that the records of the INS, NYC under file # T 2321267 reflects that JOSEPHINE BAKER departed from the United States from Idlewild Airport NYC on 6/16/54 via Pan-American Airlines flight 140.

Inasmuch as no further action in connection with instant law suit is scheduled until 3/31/55, this investigation is being placed in a pending inactive status.

The Bureau will be kept advised of all developments.

RECORDED - 54

EX-103

DEC 6 1954

66 DEC 14 1954

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Immigration and Naturalization Service, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

62-95834-52

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CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Stacey

~~SECRET~~

The Commissioner (original and 1)
Immigration and Naturalization Service

December 22, 1954

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

- ☐ Gandy
- ☐ Holloman
- ☐ Tele. Room
- ☐ Winters
- ☐ Sizoo
- ☐ Tamm
- ☐ Rosen
- ☐ Parsons
- ☐ Mohr
- ☐ Harbo
- ☐ Belmont
- ☐ Nichols
- ☐ Boardman
- ☐ Tamm

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW MAR 9/3/55

RECORDED-53 62-95834-52

EX-125

You will be notified promptly when the results of
this inquiry are determined.

62-95834

cc - 2 - New Orleans (Attachment)

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

- ☐ Tolson
- ☐ Boardman
- ☐ Nichols
- ☐ Belmont
- ☐ Harbo
- ☐ Mohr
- ☐ Parsons
- ☐ Rosen
- ☐ Tamm
- ☐ Sizoo
- ☐ Winters
- ☐ Tele. Room
- ☐ Holloman
- ☐ Gandy

VTKS:ajr:trf
(6) FBI

55 JAN 3 1955

CONFIDENTIAL

COMM - FBI
DEC 22 1954

MAILED 24

71 JAN 7 1955

~~SECRET~~

33:324

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
RECORDS SECTION

12-14-1954

~~SECRET~~

- ☐ Name Check Unit-Room 6523
☐ Attention
☐ Service Unit-Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☒ Return to Stacey Ext. 1537
Room 1537

- ☒ All References since April '54
☐ Subversive References
☐ Main References Only
☐ Main References Only
☐ Restrict to Locality of
☐ Breakdown ☐ Buildup ☐ Variations
☐ Exact Name Only
☐ Exact Spelling
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

SUBJECT
Address

Localities
Birthdate & Place

RF _____ Date 12-14 Searcher Initial del
FILE NUMBER SERIAL 240

MF 62-95934

~~SECRET~~

NUMEROUS REFERENCES

4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Josephine Baker ~~SECRET~~
Supervisor Stacey Room 1537
Searcher del
Date 12/14 Initial del

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

MF 62-95834-	42/summary
4-16-54 100-365980-	25
6-2-54 123-1191-	9
7-26-54 100-145150-	119
7-11-54 140-5078-	5
101-4053-	1058
100-392496-	27
(S)	b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
DATE OF REVIEW 9/29/82

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. E. E. ROACH

DATE: December 10, 1954

FROM : H. B. PHILCOX

61356

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FB
(Bureau File 62-95834)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

On December 8, 1954, Mr. Mario Noto, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), advised that Commissioner Swing of INS has taken a personal interest in the case of Josephine Baker and has directed that INS obtain sufficient information with which to order her exclusion from the U. S. Mr. Noto explained that recently the Department ruled that there was insufficient derogatory subversive information to use as a basis for her exclusion, and, therefore, INS is conducting additional inquiry in order to attempt to obtain additional information.

Mr. Noto has requested that Bureau files be reviewed to insure that all pertinent derogatory information in possession of the Bureau has been furnished to INS. Mr. Noto also directed attention to Bureau memorandum dated November 14, 1952, page 4, paragraph 5 (Serial 15).

Mr. Noto stated that he would forward this request to the Bureau in a formal communication.*

ACTION:

It is requested that this memorandum be furnished to the Espionage Section for handling.

ADDENDUM:

HP:hke

(3 copies)

VTKS:mg

1-Mr. Philcox
1-Section Tickler

RECORDED - 17

62-95834-53

19 DEC 29 1954

* Letter Attached

2 NO 12/15/54

SECRET

EST-SEC

INS info. unchanged per review
letter of 9/15/54. MCA/PC 12/15/54.

cc - V. Stacey

~~SECRET~~

SAC, New Orleans (original and 1)

December 15, 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Director, FBI (62-95834)

61355

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/BSL

RECORDED #17

62-95834-53

DEC 15 1954

9/3/82

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

12-28-54
VTS

VTSingiff
(4)

DEC 12 1 00 PM '54

DEC 12 1 14 PM '54

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Nease
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

MAILED 48
DEC 15 1954
COMM-FBI

JAN 18 1955

~~SECRET~~

RECEIVED - ROYAL
WTS

Pickler - Mr. Stacey

SECRET

AIR-TEL

RECEIVED

DECEMBER 28, 1954

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (Original and enc)

JOSEPHINE BAKER, INTERNAL SECURITY - PR. REFUGES 12-13-54,

12-22-54. REPEATED REQUESTED INQUIRY AND STATE-TEL NEWARK.

62-95834

ROOBER

61354

NOTE:

info 'Unclassified' per their 9/1/61 letter. No further info.

Liaison advised that the Commissioner of IES has taken a personal interest in captioned case. IES requested that leads be expedited.

b1

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW 1/1/62

RECORDED - 17

62-95834-54

DEC 30 1954

EX-103

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

VTES: Jan jaa
(4)

DEC 28 5 33 PM '54

RECEIVED IF PRICE

E B I

MAIL ROOM

WMB

5 JAN 18 1955

COMM - FBI
DEC 28 1954
MAILED 31

SECRET

DEC 28 1954

~~SECRET~~

ATR MÀ

REGISTERED

12-30-54

AM

SEVEN

b1

RTU

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

WP:eah
105-493

DATE OF REVIEW:

1231

Mr. Seimont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

RECORDED-80

7 JAN 2 1955

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Boni

• Poz

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Stacey

The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalisation Service

(original and 1)

January 6, 1955

Director, FBI

RECORDED-80

62-95834-55

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - PR

Reference is made to your memorandum dated December 10, 1954, containing the numbers and initials T-2321267, INV:C3B:emp, and this Bureau's memorandum dated December 22, 1954, concerning captioned individual.

[REDACTED]

62-95834

VTKS:baw:nff
(4)

[REDACTED]

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/7/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

COMM E FBI
JAN 6 1955
MAILED 80

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Rosen _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Nease _____
Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

58 JAN 10 1955

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

162

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Transmit the following teletype message to: BUREAU

JOSEPHINE BAKER, IS-PR. THE "NY HERALD TRIBUNE"
OF 1/21/55 CONTAINED AN ARTICLE AND PHOTO OF THE
SUBJECT STATING SHE ARRIVED AT IDLEWILD AIRPORT FROM
PARIS, FRANCE ON INSTANT DATE, EN ROUTE TO MEXICO CITY.
SHE WAS DETAINED FOR FOUR HOURS BY IMMIGRATION AGENTS,
NO EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN. BAKER LEFT FOR MEXICO
CITY AT 12:15 PM THE SAME DATE. SUBMITTED FOR INFO
OF BUREAU.

③ - BUREAU (62-95834)(RM)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/02 BY SP4 CCE/PL

105-8241 (1-6)

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 106

62-95834-56

10 JAN 29 1955

cc - Branigan

APPROVED FEB 3 1955
Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per 31

163

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: 5/5/55

FROM : SAC, New York (105-8241)

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS - FRALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/1/82 BY SP-1 CLK/CK

Re NY letter 12/2/54.

ReNYlet advised that the records of the Clerk of Court, U. S. District Court, SDNY, under civil docket number 72-74 contained a notation indicating that a hearing on the subject's libel suit against WALTER WINCHELL was adjourned to 3/31/55.

The docket checked again on 5/2/55, contained the following notations under the dates indicated:

DateEntry

3/31/55

Special pre-trial before KNOX. Hearing held. Case dismissed with leave to reopen by 6/30/55. Settle order on notice, etc. Counsel to return 4/28/55 unless final order is entered beforehand.

4/12/55

Filed unsigned order.

4/12/55

Filed order dismissing complaint with leave to modify or vacate as indicated above. CH. J. KNOX

In view of the fact that the case was dismissed, but with leave to modify or vacate, the complaint by 6/30/55, the case in the NYO will be maintained in a pending inactive status awaiting the final disposition of the court action.

RM

RECORDED - 76

EX-126

MAY 8 1955

55 MAY 12 1955

164

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

DECODED COPY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-10/SLP

FROM SAN FRANCISCO 5-3-55 NR 032252 7:33 PM

DIRECTOR DEFERRED

JOSEPHINE BAKER, NEGRO ENTERTAINER FROM FRANCE PRESENTLY
IN SF. INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Sizoo
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

RECEIVED:

5-3-55

7:50 PM

MAP

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED 28

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

MAY 12 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tic - Stacey

RECORDED - 28

62-95434-58

62-9584

BY COURIER SERVICE

EX-100

Date: May 10, 1955

To: Mr. Dennis A. Flinn (orig and 1)
Director
Office of Security
Department of State
515 22nd Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-1 GSK/OK

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/OK
ON 9/29/82

Your attention is invited to previous correspondence furnished
your Department and other receiving agencies concerning the subject.

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

The above is for your information and the information of the
other receiving agencies and is not intended for further dissemination.
No investigation concerning Baker is contemplated by this Bureau.

[REDACTED]

b2 BY COURIER SERVICE

MAY 10 8 02 AM '55

cc - 1 - San Francisco (Information)
cc - 1 - New York (105-8241) (Information)
cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General (By O-6, same date)
William F. Tompkins

VTKS: Jmm
(9)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEE NOTE ON PAGE TWO

BY COURIER SVC.

27 MAY 11

COMM - FBI

Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
Wick
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

5 MAY 17 1955

WAB
1160

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

cc - 1 - The Commissioner [OUR REFERENCE T-232127, REV. 10-1-54, 1-5-54]
Immigration and Naturalization Service (December 25, 1954)

NOTE: Josephine Baker is a negro entertainer who gave up her American citizenship and secured French citizenship in the 1930's. Information concerning Baker's connections with pro-Communist organizations has previously been furnished to the Department as well as to State and INS.

[REDACTED] b7D

- 2 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

165

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: 8/31/55

FROM : SAC, New York (105-8241)

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS-FRANCE

38908

Re NY letter 5/5/55.

Civil docket #72-74 at USDC, SDNY, was checked on 8/31/55 and the following entry was noted:

DateEntry

6/29/55

Filed Judgment dismissing action and that deft. recover their costs

In view of the fact that the act by the subject has been dismissed by the court and since this case had been maintained in a pending inactive status for the purpose of reporting the final disposition of the case, no further action is contemplated by this office and the case is being closed.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/82 BY SP4 CJK/ASE

RECORDED-11

62-95834-59

17 SEP 1 1955

EX-108

MXG

SEP 12 1955

168

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: October 18, 1955

FROM : *esa*
Legal Attaché - Havana, Cuba (62-19)

SECRET - AIR COURIER

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FR

On 10/17/55, Mr. Richard G. Cushing, the Public Affairs Officer of the U.S. Embassy in Havana, advised that he has been informed that the CMQ Radio and Television Network now has a new contract with JOSEPHINE BAKER for her services as an entertainer in Havana starting November 1, 1955. Mr. Cushing states that BAKER is reported to be in Montreal, Canada, at the present time traveling under a French passport. He had no other pertinent information concerning her proposed trip to Cuba.

You will be advised of any available information re her future itinerary. UACB this office will conduct no active investigation of subject [REDACTED]

Extra copies of this letter are submitted in the event the Bureau desires to forward them to the Ottawa or Paris representatives.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

AGENCY *NY, Dept. Paris*
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. *10-27-55*
PCV FORW. *VS*
BY *VT KS/sls*

RECORDED - 11

62-95834-60

OCT 20 1955

EX-121

CLASS. BY *SP-1 GOW/PSL*DATE OF REVIEW *9/6/82*SECRET
SECRET

OCT 27 1955

169

Released
per State
Dept.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: December 20, 1955
Havana, Cuba

FROM : Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba (62-19)

61353

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

SECRET - AIR COURIER

Monylet October 18, 1955, advising that information had been received to the effect that JOSEPHINE BAKER had contracted with CMQ Radio and Television Network in Havana for performances starting November 1, 1955.

Mr. RICHARD G. CUSHING, Public Affairs Officer of the U. S. Embassy in Havana, advised on December 19, 1955 that the original contract between subject and CMQ had been broken because subject had become involved in a law suit in Montreal, Canada and was unable to fulfil her engagement.

CUSHING states that executives of CMQ told him that they have no future plans for a contract with the subject and there is no information indicating that she intends to come to Cuba at the present time.

Extra copies of this letter are submitted in the event the Bureau desires to forward them to the Ottawa or Paris offices. RUC.

AGENCY NY, Legat Paris
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 12-29-55
HOW FORW. R/S
BY VTKS/dm

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/RSK
ON 9/10/82

RECORDED 97
EX-126

62-95834-
11 DEC 22 1955

6 DEC 29 1955

170

REVIEWED BY *ASW*DATE *8/3/85*

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

514/6-757

INDEXED - 39

RDS or XDS EXT

FOREIGN OFFICE DESPATCH

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED *UNCLASSIFIED*, French West AfricaRELEASE DENIED *in part*PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS *22(2)(7)(C)*

June 7, 1957

REF : CanGen's Desp. No. 271, May 15, 1957

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	<i>Mem-4</i>	<i>IN</i>
	RECD	OTHER
	<i>5/13</i>	<i>Can-12 US-A-10 UCB 1 1124 Curry-4 Navy-2 Air-3</i>

SUBJECT: Anti-American Propaganda in French West Africa

The anti-American press campaign being waged in French West Africa through the local press, with the tacit approval if not material support as well of the French Government, has received added impetus from an unexpected quarter, in the person of Josephine BAKER and her travelling companion, Bernard LECACHE.

Miss Baker and Mr. Lecache arrived in Dakar the last week in May 1957 on a brief but busy tour of the area, which included a visit to Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Ostensibly in Dakar as the guest of honor at a ball given by the local chapter of the Order of the Legion of Honor in behalf of its charitable organizations, both Miss Baker and Mr. Lecache found the time to engage in a great deal of verbal anti-American propaganda. They both spoke at a series of conferences and meetings held in Dakar and Abidjan. One of the meetings took place in Dakar at the Rialto open-air movie theater in the presence of 4,000 persons. It was one of the occasions on which Josephine Baker and Bernard Lecache were most vehemently outspoken in their attacks on the United States and its domestic and foreign activities. Especially taken to task was American aid for underdeveloped areas which, in the words of Miss Baker, was merely a cloak to disguise the real twin motives of the United States: cultural domination of the populations and the economic exploitation of their lands. She frequently cited Liberia as the best that could be expected as a result of American interest and assistance. The recent African trip and subsequent report of Vice President NIXON was cited by Miss Baker as a fore-runner of the dire things that would befall the underdeveloped areas of Africa if left to the double-edged solicitude of the United States, with its lynchings and double standards where black peoples are involved. The continuation of the evils of discrimination in the United States, despite the laws passed abolishing segregation, was a recurrent theme in all of Josephine Baker's speeches.

It must be said that both Miss Baker and Mr. Lecache were well-received by their audiences, and their utterances, for the most part, brought sympathetic and at times enthusiastic applause from African and European listeners alike. Josephine Baker made a point at one of her conferences of putting Uncle Sam, Colonel MASSER, and King IEN SAUD all in the same basket for, as she put it, the first was a racist, the second anti-Semitic and the third a slaver. Her criticism of Masser did not go over too well, as a large proportion of her audience consisted of Moslem Africans. It appears, threatened to throw her out if she continued on the Masser anti-Semitic theme.

Touring Dakar and Abidjan under the auspices of the International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism, the former Paris music-hall star reminded her audiences again and again of her American East St. Louis origin and subsequent naturalization.

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Page 2 of
Dep. No. 310
From Dakar

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Page 2 of
Ref. No.
Dep. No.
From

as a French citizen. Bernard Leache, an excellent speaker incidentally, made no attempt to disguise the fact that he is left-wing and made it abundantly clear where his political sympathies lie. Josephine Baker at 51 is still an arresting personality on the stage or rostrum and can convey her thoughts orally with warmth and conviction, completely captivating her African listeners in particular.

W. Mallory-Brown

W. Mallory-Brown
American Consul General

Dept: Please repeat to Paris.

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172

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

61351

Date: September 5, 1957
To: Director, FBI (100-57453)
From: Legat, Paris (65-160)
Subject: [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/27/82 BY SP1 GSK/BR

Re Paris letter 8/2/57.

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Enclosure - 1

WTB:CM
(6)

cc. 105-245

7 2 SEP 18 1957

162-95834-1
NOT RECORDED
46 SEP 16 1957

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-57453-197

173

Director

61352

9/5/51

Paris files reflect the case of "JOSEPHINE BAKER;
Internal Security - France" (Bufile 62-95834).

Four extra copies of this letter are provided for
possible transmittal to New York, Mexico City and for inclusion
in the Bufile on JOSEPHINE BAKER.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: June 19, 1959

~~SECRET~~

FROM : R. R. Rosen

SUBJECT: THE BUREAU FOR REPRESSION OF
COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Josephine Baker

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

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

CLASSIFIED BY SP-1 ASX/SP-1
DATE OF REVIEW 9/8/82

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

ENCLOSURE

Enclosures

- 1-Mr. Belmont
- 1-Records and Communication Division

JUN 22 1959

~~SECRET~~

NAT. INT. SEC.

64-38101-12

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET6

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b) (1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

~~SECRET~~

DATE: February 10, 1960

FROM : MR. G. H. SCATTERDAY

~~SECRET~~

MRS. JOSEPHINE BOULLION

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

MRS. JOSEPHINE BOULLION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

SYNOPSIS:

MRS. JEAN LION

MRS. JO BOULLION

Pursuant to Mr. Tolson's request 2-9-60 Bureau files reviewed on Josephine Baker, former Negro singer and entertainer. Bureau has not investigated Baker; however, considerable information received re her activities during past several years. She was born in St. Louis in 1905 or 1906; began her career in 1925 in Paris and has spent most of time since then in France. Married several times, last in 1947 to French (white) band leader Jo Boullion. Reportedly worked for Free French Air Force in intelligence during World War II.

In October, 1951, was involved in incident at Stork Club, alleged that she was being discriminated against in food service. Walter Winchell's column in 1951 contained information re this alleged discrimination indicating he had been urged to denounce Stork Club and Sherman Billingsley. Subsequently she brought suit against Winchell and Hearst Corporation \$400,000 for libel in connection with this incident; case was dismissed at pretrial hearing.

62-95834

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62-95834-63

1 - Mr. Parsons

DATE OF REVIEW

PAGE

1

Name Check Section

1 - Mr. Belmont

FEB 17 1960

JUL 15 1961

65 APR 19 1961

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NAME

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER.

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SECRET

In recent years, Baker has been lecturing in numerous countries throughout world; most of her speeches denounce U.S. and point up the vicious atrocities against Negroes in the U.S. State Department has furnished considerable information re her activities and consider her not definitely procommunist but pro-Negro and primarily interested in fight for racial equality.

In 1954 in Tokyo, Japan, she adopted two Japanese boys; expressed hope they would follow footsteps of Paul Robeson, whom she described as great man who has fought the battles for racial justice and world peace. Gave last stage performance in 1956 in Paris. Recent information indicates she has continued her anti-U.S. statements throughout the world.

ACTION:

This is for information.

✓

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER

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DETAILS:

In accordance with the request of Mr. Tolson on February 9, 1960, Bureau files have been reviewed concerning Josephine Baker, former Negro singer and entertainer.

The Bureau has not investigated Baker; however, our files contain considerable information regarding her activities during the past several years. She was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1905 or 1906. Her mother was a washerwoman. Our files contain little concerning her early life. According to an article in "Life" magazine in 1951, she began a Paris night club career in 1925 and has spent most of her life since that time in France; however, in recent years she has traveled over much of the world. She was reported to have at one time been married to a Negro tap dancer and purportedly married one Pepito Albertino in the 1920's. In 1937 she gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved in 1940. Baker married a French band leader, Jo Bouillon, in 1947. During World War II and the occupation of France by the Germans, she spent her time in North Africa. The magazine article stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

In the early part of 1951 the Communist Party took a great interest and engaged in extensive activities in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who had been convicted in the State of Mississippi on a charge of rape of a white woman. He was executed for that offense in May, 1951. "Counterattack" in March, 1951, carried an item entitled "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." This article stated that Baker canceled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known Negro singer and Communist Party apologist, would speak at the rally.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER

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[REDACTED] One
article appeared in the April 14, 1951, issue of "L'Unita Del
Popolo" (cited by the California Committee on Un-American
Activities).

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b1

On October 16, 1951, according to newspaper articles
appearing in numerous newspapers throughout the country,
Josephine Baker; Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, Harlem service leader;
and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Rico of the French theater alleged that
they had been made to wait an unreasonable length of time before
being served food at the Stork Club in New York City. The
principals involved complained that they had been subjected to
racial discrimination. Walter Winchell, in his broadcast on
October 21, 1951, referred to the incident at the Stork Club
stating that he had been at the Club at the same time as Baker
but had left before she did and at no time while he was there
had he noted anything proximating an incident. Winchell stated
that he himself deplored the situation but he was equally

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER

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perturbed by being brought into the picture and that pressure was being brought to bear upon him to denounce the alleged discriminatory actions of the Stork Club management against Baker and her party. He stated that he would not be pressured into denouncing Sherman Billingsley and the Stork Club. There was indication that the Stork Club had been periodically picketed since the Baker incident.

In Winchell's column on October 29, 1951, Winchell quoted a letter which he had received from George S. Schuyler, New York editor of the "Pittsburgh Courier," a leading Negro newspaper. This letter in effect accused Baker of being "used" by the communists and Communist Party front organizations and denounced the criticism of Winchell which resulted from the alleged discrimination against Baker at the Stork Club.

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b1

(S)

According to the November 12, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker," a conference on Equal Rights for Negroes in Arts, Sciences and Professions was held on November 10, 1951, in New York City under the auspices of the National Council of

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER

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the Arts, Sciences and Professions (cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities). One of the measures adopted at this conference was a telegram to Josephine Baker commending her for her forthright action in the Stork Club incident.

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[REDACTED]

On April 16, 1952, an Associated Press release, dated Mexico City, contained information that Baker in Mexico City had announced the formation of an organization known as the "World League Against Racial Discrimination." This release pointed out that the League would fight discrimination not only against the Negro race but all others who were the targets of restrictive practices. Baker announced in this release that headquarters of the League would be in Mexico and branches would be established in many other countries.

Released
per State
Subsequent to this time, our files contain voluminous information pointing up vicious anti-American remarks made in various countries in the world by Baker. They appear to stem from her establishment of the World League Against Racial Discrimination and her efforts to organize this League. The State Department, [REDACTED] have furnished copies of speeches wherein she denounces the United States and points out vicious atrocities against Negroes in this country. One such statement made by Baker was to the effect that she had personally seen a number of lynchings of entire Negro families.

Declassified per 9/2/03 State Dept. letter GSK/PSK 4/03.

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[REDACTED]

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