



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

January 26, 2007

MR ERNIE LAZAR
APARTMENT 6
577 SOUTH THORNHILL ROAD
PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264 7884

Subject: WHITE, WALTER F/FIRST 20 SERIALS PLUS
1941-1942 AND 1954-1955
FOIPA No. 1036354- 000

HQ 100-328241
1 X = 9-23-42
14 = 4-12-54

Dear Requester:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

Section 552

Section 552a

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|--|---|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(1) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B) | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(3) _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(6) | | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

85 page(s) were reviewed and 83 page(s) are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

- ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

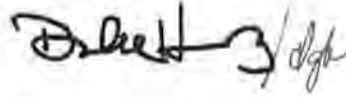
☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s).

If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☐ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", followed by a stylized flourish or date "3/1/96".

David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 2
Page 32 ~ b1
Page 72 ~
Illegible

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X Deleted Page(s) X
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U. S. Department of Justice

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FOIPA

SE: [REDACTED] REQUESTERS FULL NAME

COMPUTER TO [REDACTED]
NO. OF: [REDACTED]

BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION



SERIALS 1-

100-HQ-328241

SECTION 1

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MADE UP

Serial 9
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FOIPA

JUN 2 1977 BY 154

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FOIPA # A23065

1036354

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call



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EAT:DS

September 23, 1943

[redacted]
The American Embassy
London, England

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Dear [redacted]

On September 22nd, Mr. Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called at my office and advised me that he is making a trip through various battlefronts in connection with his official activities. Included in Mr. White's itinerary will be a stop in London and I have furnished him with your name and suggested that he get in touch with you. Mr. White has been friendly and cooperative with the Bureau and I want to be sure that you are very courteous and pleasant to him.

Sincerely yours,

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/mh ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
ON 4/8/81 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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DATE _____ BY _____
100-328241-X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 25 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED & INDEXED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 3

SEP 23 1943

RECEIVED THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JH: LB

DO-11

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE September 23, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NICHOLS

Reference is made to the attached letter dated September 15, 1943, from Arthur B. Spingarn, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in which he requests a testimonial letter from the Director, directed to Walter White, Secretary of that Association, on the occasion of White's completion of 25 years of service therewith.

A review of the Bureau files was made in connection with Mr. White, and it is interesting to note that we do not have a main file on him. There are many many see references, all of which pertain in the most part to his activities concerning the Association.

On several occasions he has been in to see the Director concerning the cases that we had under investigation involving civil rights.

The files reflect that he is a militant type of individual and is active in every conceivable program in which the betterment of the Negro race might be involved. In such participation, of course, he is alleged to have made numerous statements which are of critical nature of various individuals. An example of this would be the Detroit riot case in which he is alleged to have placed the blame therefore on the lack of intelligent administration of law enforcement in the city, as well as the allegation that Fifth Columnism was behind the entire affair.

White has apparently incurred the suspicion of many people of possibly being communistic, although this is not definitely known. It is believed that a very guarded and cautious statement could be made, and would certainly do the Bureau no harm, but would on the other hand aid us in our relations with the Negro race.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

Attachment

Respectfully,
[Signature]

16 OCT 8 1943

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

September 28, 1943

JKM:BK

100-328241-X3

94-4-66-2

RECORDED

Mr. Walter White
Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
69 Fifth Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Mr. White:

I have your letter of September 23, 1943,
and your telegram sent the next day, concerning your
contemplated trips to the various theaters of war.
I assure you I shall be most happy if our discussion
of the matter proves to have been of assistance and
shall look forward to hearing from you on your return.

You may be interested to know your personal
security questionnaire was received from the War
Department on the afternoon of September 24 and was
cleared on the morning of September 25.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Piper _____
Mr. Starke _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 11

SEP 28 1943 P.M.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Ed PH JPM

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

SEP 24 1943

RECEIVED

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WUX NEWYORK NY SEP 24 302P 1943

✓ EDGAR HOOVER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/ww

WAR DEPARTMENT INFORMS ME MY PERSONAL SECURITY APPLICATION
HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. WOULD DEPLY
APPRECIATE ITS CLEARANCE WITH ATTACHMENT OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION
WE DISCUSSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS WISH LEAVE ABOUT
NOVEMBER 1. THANKS AND KINDEST REGARDS

WALTER WHITEOK.

RECORDED

100-328241-X3

94-11-1646-2

IF IF
33 OCT 5 1943

Has it been reviewed?
just what is the procedure?
K.

340P.

Blue memo
for signature
9/24/43
S.P.S.

WHITEOK 1.

CT:DS

September 30, 1943.

RECORDED

100-328241-X4

Mr. Walter White
Secretary, National Association
for the Advancement of Colored People
69 Fifth Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter of September 28 has
just been received.

I shall be very glad indeed to
see you upon your return from your trip to
California and before you leave for Europe.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mc

SEP 30 8 35 PM '43
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S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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★ OCT 1 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Humphreys
Marke
Mann
Tamm
Trotter

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Pittsburgh
Toledo, Ohio
Tulsa, Okla.
Washington

Wilmington, Del.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

69 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, 3, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: ALGONQUIN 4-3550

Official Organ: The Crisis



September
28th
1943

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It is hard for me to tell you how grateful I am for all that you have done to expedite my clearance and to insure my seeing all that you and I think I should see. If it isn't asking too much, I would like very much to come in again to see you after I come back from California and before I set out for the European theatre.

Ever sincerely,

Secretary.

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

RECORDED

INDEXED

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WW:DW

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

WALTER WHITE	SECRETARY
ROY WILKINS	ASSISTANT SECRETARY
	EDITOR, THE CRISIS
THURGOOD MARSHALL	SPECIAL COUNSEL
MILTON R. KONVITZ	PRENTICE THOMAS
	ASSISTANT SPECIAL COUNSEL
DAISY E. LAMPKIN	FIELD SECRETARY
ELLA J. BAKER	DIRECTOR OF BRANCHES
SHIRLEY GRAHAM	DONALD JONES
E. FREDERIC MORROW	[ON LEAVE IN ARMED SERVICES]
	ASSISTANT FIELD SECRETARIES
ODETTE HARPER	PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION
LESLIE S. PERRY	FRANK D. REEVES [ON LEAVE]
	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS,
	WASHINGTON BUREAU

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mf

100-328241-14
9/7/43
33 OCT 6 1943
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EHW:IT

June 17, 1944

Mr. Walter White, Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
69 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. White:

In my letter of June 9, 1944, you will recall I advised you that a copy of your letter to me, dated May 22, 1944, was being directed to the Attorney General. You will recall that I also informed you that any additional information which you might forward to me would be brought to the attention of Mr. Biddle.

Since writing you I have been requested by the Attorney General to ask you to continue to furnish all information concerning the status of racial conditions, not only in Detroit but in other areas, which is brought to your attention, or which might be developed by you in the course of any inquiries. I will, of course, be appreciative of your supplying me any data along these lines. You may be assured that they in turn will be brought to the attention of the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

INDEXED

DATE 5-2-5

10

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

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JUN 16 7 19 PM '44

JUN 17 2 13 PM '44



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

EAT:DS

June 16, 1944

SECURITY DIVISION
- ROUTING -

Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Alden _____
Mr. Buckley _____
Mr. Burton _____
Mr. Callan _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Cunningham _____
Mr. Fitch _____
Mr. Fletcher _____
Mr. Strickland _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

With reference to the attached memorandum addressed to the Attorney General transmitting a copy of the letter addressed to the Bureau by Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on May 22, 1944, you are advised that [redacted] called at my office concerning this matter. He stated the Attorney General did not believe that the subject matter should be investigated since there were no substantial facts, but only rumors. He stated, however, he thought it would be well for the Bureau to write a further letter to Walter White requesting him to continue to submit to the Bureau such additional data and information as he receives upon this or other matters believed of interest to the Department. Since we have already written White one letter about this, I think it would be well in addressing a further letter to him to indicate that the Attorney General has requested us to ask White to continue to furnish such information. [redacted] indicated that he thought it would be well to avoid indicating to White whether we were or were not investigating this situation.

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Very truly yours,
Edw. A. Tamm

Attachment



RECORDED

100-328241-15
1944 JUN 23 1944
35 JUN 23 1944

Office Memorandum **OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

JUN 12 1944

DATE:

JUN 10 1944

TO : The Attorney General

FROM : J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: RACIAL CONDITIONS, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

I am attaching hereto a copy of a letter dated May 22, 1944, directed to me by Mr. Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. You will note Mr. White refers to racial tension in Detroit, and urges that this Bureau institute an "exhaustive investigation" relative thereto and more particularly, an investigation concerning the source of rumors pertaining to Negroes who allegedly desire to cause trouble.

I have informed Mr. White that his letter was being forwarded to you for your consideration and stated to him that this Bureau does not institute investigations relative to rumors or actual racial trouble and tension, of a nature referred to in his letter, without your prior authorization. I also expressed a desire that Mr. White furnish the Bureau any additional information he might receive in this regard, particularly any data reflecting pro-Axis or subversive elements agitating or exploiting the situation in Detroit.

With regard to Mr. White's letter, I would appreciate it if you will furnish me with an expression of opinion as to whether any investigation should be made. As you know, I have in the past supplied you with considerable information in turn furnished to this Bureau by informants and other sources concerning racial conditions in Detroit.

With regard to the rumors referred to in Mr. White's letter, it is recalled that under date of April 1, 1944, I forwarded you a memorandum entitled "Racial Conditions," referring specifically to rumors of "Pushing Clubs" in the cities of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, Maryland, Detroit, Michigan, and New York City. Informants and other sources of the Bureau were contacted with negative results as far as developing any foundation in fact to these rumors. With regard to Detroit, it was found by the Detroit Police Department that the rumors of the "Pushing Clubs" were in most instances passed along as anecdotes at social functions. The Bureau was advised by the Detroit Police Department that their investigations of the rumors met with negative results. Furthermore, a person believed to have been the original source of a conversation relative to a "Pushing Club," advised he recalled a conversation in which he did discuss the fact that he had been confronted with a number of instances of "pushing" on the part of Negro shoppers among white shoppers. This original source indicated that possibly his conversation may have been misinterpreted and promoted a rumor concerning "Pushing Clubs" which was subsequently relayed by intermediaries to the Detroit Office of the Bureau.

With regard to Mr. White's reference to rumors of a "D Day for Negroes," it might be noted that during the month of May the Detroit Office received a number of complaints about rumors of pending race riots. The Detroit Police Department and the

ENCLOSURE

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mk

Memorandum for the Attorney General

Offices of Military and Naval Intelligence also received similar reports. Investigation conducted by the Detroit Police Department to determine the source of the rumors was conducted and no specific information was received. Military and Naval Intelligence in Detroit advised information received by them in this regard was nonspecific and without apparent foundation in fact. It has been pointed out, however, in connection with the rumors of a possible riot that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Detroit was at the time contemplating a parade scheduled for March 28, 1944, in connection with its annual membership drive. This parade was to have attracted some 5,000 participants.

Attachment

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
69 Fifth Avenue, New York, 3 N.Y.

May 22, 1944

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I returned today from Detroit where I found a racial tension as alarming as that which existed last year at this time preceding the disastrous race riot of June 20. Dangerous rumors are being industriously spread, apparently by organized effort. Virtually little has been done by either city or state officials to correct any of the conditions which led to last year's riot. It is my measured opinion that unless breeders of hate are checked and other corrective action taken it is not only possible but probable that there will be another riot when warm weather comes.

I therefore take the liberty of urging that the Federal Bureau of Investigation institute an exhaustive investigation as soon as possible and that the Department of Justice take appropriate action based upon that investigation, to stem the tide which is running high.

Specifically, it is recommended that investigation be made of the sources of the rumors regarding the so-called "Bumping Club" and a "Negro D Day." [redacted] of our Detroit Branch whose offices are located at 446 East Warren Avenue (Telephone: Temple 1-3609) has at my request supplied me with the following information regarding these two rumors.

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1. Rumors are again circulating throughout Detroit which follow the general pattern of those which circulated last year. The most prevalent one, which is most widely circulated among white people is the story about the "bumping club". The variations of this rumor all center around a Negro maid who either will not work on Tuesday or takes off Thursdays to go downtown and bump white people on streetcars, buses, and crowded pedestrian traffic. The maid is alleged to have told her employer that she is a member of the "bumping club".

2. Rumors about "D" Day coming from School Administrators who in good faith have been told that Negro students are circulating among themselves statements about "D" Day for Negroes. We have traced this rumor from the president of the Teacher's Federation who got it from one of the attendance officers who in turn got it from a principal of a southeastern school in the city. This is as far as we have been able to trace the rumor, but to date have received no evidence that such an idea is prevalent among Negroes themselves.

I do not need to add that any assistance that we may be able to give in running down and checking these rumors will be gladly and freely given to the extent of our ability.

Sincerely yours,

Walter White

Secretary

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

TRUE COPY

100-328241-15

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/M



WILLIAM PENN HOUSE
Philadelphia

Dear Sir.

I am taking my time and
yours to report a condition that you must
already be well aware and one that cannot go on a
minute longer.

There is a Dr. Walter White who speaks for "The
Advancement of the Colored People" and he is
advancing them the wrong way of I can read between
the lines.

Let me tell you about [redacted] she always was the
sweetest darkey in all the world until recently. She
attended one of these meetings [redacted] that this
doctor (?) claims our boys are put behind the
front lines and colored troops go first, [redacted]
running rampant down South but not printed in the
paper, conditions in Southern camps are intolerable, etc



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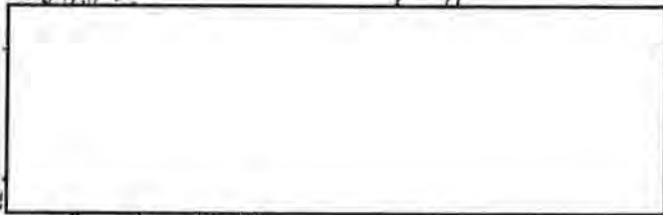
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I believe the I.B.I. have their fingers on the pulse of everything but this Mr White is a rattle rouser, has been in some instances. He hate the colored are nursing towards us is building up and like an avalanche, may some day envelope us. Please look into this as I hate to see such an evil thing consume the colored race, which could be a wonderful credit to themselves if their footsteps are directed in the right pathway and ways of thinking.

Thanking you for any answer,

I am,

Sincerely yours,



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INTERNAL SECURITY
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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. S. S. ALDEN

DATE: 12/11/44

FROM : Mr. R. R. ROSEN

RRR:edm

SUBJECT: WALTER FRANCIS WHITE, SECURITY MATTER - C

At the request of [redacted] in the Internal Security Division, the files of the State Department were checked concerning the alleged issuance of a passport to Walter Francis White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the indication being that he was proceeding to Russia.

The passport files reveal that under date of September 24, 1943, subject made application for a passport to proceed to the British Isles. At this time he advised that he was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 1, 1893, and that his permanent address was 409 Edgecomb Avenue, New York City. Passport number 789499 was issued to him on December 24, 1943. Under date of November 29, 1944, the subject made application for revalidation of his passport, stating that he had received an assignment to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet and other war theaters as a correspondent for the New York Post. Under date of November 30, 1944, the subject's passport was revalidated for a period of six months, valid for travel to such countries as the bearer may desire to travel by reason of his assignment to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet. With reference to his desire to go to other theaters, the State Department advised that clearance had not as yet been received from the War Department.

In reviewing the passport file, it was noted that apparently White's application for revalidation of passport was not cleared through the FBI files.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

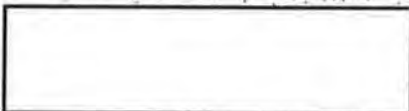
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-16SK/MAH

JTW:mr
100-328241-1

July 24, 1944

RECORDED



b6
b7C

Dear

Your letter postmarked July 5, 1944, is before me for acknowledgment.

I have carefully noted the content of your communication and wish to thank you for bringing the information contained therein to my attention.

Should you obtain any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Newark Field Division which is located at 1836 Raymond-Commerce Building, Newark 2, New Jersey.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/6/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUL 24 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

23 1944
164

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: WALTER WHITE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mjs

DATE: November 7, 1946

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

I thought you would be interested in knowing that the "People's Voice," Negro Communist newspaper for October 26, 1946, carried an article which reflected that Walter White has begun writing a syndicate column for daily newspapers.

According to the "People's Voice," his column will appear in the New York "Herald Tribune," the Chicago "Daily News," the Philadelphia, "Bulletin," the Akron, Ohio "Beacon Journal" and the Detroit "Free Press."

This matter is being called to your attention in view of the fact that the Bureau is constantly receiving complaints from White concerning alleged violations of civil rights perpetrated primarily against the Negro race which necessitate a reply from the Bureau. It is felt that possibly these answers he receives from the Bureau will be used by him either in whole or in part in his column and consequently we should be more cautious in directing any communications to him.

JJC:MJP

RECORDED 100-328241-2

We should always assume that our letters may be made public.

367

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mgr

Dear Sir: I am sending you the enclosed newspaper clippings for your information re. "W.W." he is a yellow colored negro. The clippings - taken from the Detroit Sunday Free Press. his articles appear in the paper every Sunday and in other newspapers in the country. It might be of interest to know if his organization pay the F.P. to have his title of the "N.A.A.C.P." appear under his name in the articles in question. It appears he has close connection with the gang in Moscow in organizing the colored race in this U.S. Some time ago he visited Poland - saying he did so to collect information about the polish people to write a book about them - no book - it was to report his work to the 'gang' at the border line - and receive instructions for to further his work among his race - and pay for expenses? The 'gang' pays well to those who can help them. Colored C. organizations are forming in all large cities in the U.S. - in a one-sided way. He recently married a white woman in New York to show that there is no race distinction between whites and blacks and to have blacks follow his example as often as possible. He is interested in a firm in New York. That makes a preparation to turn black skin white - a racket. see clipping. On his honeymoon with his white wife he visited Turkey as his wife could collect data for a book on Turkish life etc. No book but to contact at the border line between Russia and Turkey to report his work in connection in the U.S. with

with the colored race and receive further instructions re his work - all expenses, travel, etc. paid by the gang. In a check up on him you may find that he is a paid agent for his work.

In this connection, I would say that W.W. is one that is a good organizer of colored race in general and the false propaganda he gives them is a menace to the best interests of your country and mine. A check on him no doubt would reveal much value in the good work you are prosecuting along similar lines. More power to you -

With the complements of the season and Best Wishes to you for 1950.

I remain
Yours faithfully



Enclosures:

b6
b7C

Cleaver cover up stuff in a measure. His "thumb nosing" remarks - as red lined should receive attention -

RECEIVED
NOTICES SECTION
JAN 6 1950
JAN 9 4 47 PM '50
RECEIVED

Handwritten signature/initials

New Bleach Turns Black Skins White

NEW YORK, Aug. 16 (INS) — Walter White reported yesterday that scientists have discovered a chemical that can change the color of skin from black to white.

He identified the chemical as monobenzyl ether of hydroquinone.

White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a magazine article said if the chemical is made available at moderate cost "the racial, social, economic and political consequence would be tremendous."

Racial Prejudice Fading in Japan

BY WALTER WHITE

Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

TOKYO—One of the most fascinating experiences in revisiting war zones is that of measuring the extent of survival of racial prejudices or of democratic practices initiated by American soldiers during the fighting.

Here and there one encounters residual remains of fantastic myths about Negroes—for example, the one that all colored people have tails or that Negroes in the United States occupy virtually the same status as untouchables once did in India.

But one finds far more frequently that the deliberate efforts a minority of white Americans made during the war to create difficulties for colored ones have either been totally forgotten or have resulted in a materially increased sympathy for Negro occupation troops. This is especially true among those who themselves have been the targets of color prejudice.

For example, we talked with a brilliant and charming graduate of Wellesley College who had undergone considerable persecution from her fellow-Japanese during the war because of her outspoken pro-American views. "The thing which hurt most and proved to be one of the most valuable aids to the war lords in whipping up hatred of the United States was Americans calling us 'yellow . . .'", she told us. "We knew the Germans weren't being called 'white . . .' and we couldn't convince the people we talked to that the United States wasn't as evil as Japanese propagandists said when we were attacked because of our color."



White

IT IS A PLEASURE to report that we found here a remarkable absence of friction or prejudice between white and Negro troops or civilian occupation personnel although a very high percentage of Americans here are from the deep South.

Seven out of ten soldiers who stood in line in front of me at the PX window where Americans can purchase yen or military scrip spoke in accents redolent of Mississippi

or other deep South states, which seems to be about the average of sectional origins of occupation personnel.

Despite this fact, according to Maj. Gen. Doyle O. Hickey, deputy chief of staff of the Far East Command, himself a Mississippian, there has been only one minor instance of friction between whites and Negroes in Japan the last six months.

THIS IS TRUE in spite of and possibly because of the new army policy of racial integration. It appears that only a beginning of compliance with the armed services' order to wipe out segregation has as yet been made here in Japan.

I discussed this briefly at luncheon with Gen. MacArthur whose views on the necessity and practicability of abolishing racial discrimination in the armed forces seem to have grown materially since we last discussed the subject in 1945 during the battle of Manila.

But it is obvious that the use of racial friction in the United States by both Russia and Britain to create distrust of Americans in Asia has made Gen. MacArthur acutely aware of the problem.

THIS AWARENESS seemed to underlie much of his alarm over the worsening of the situation in Asia, especially in China.

"Even if Chiang Kai-shek had been the devil incarnate, we should have backed him to the limit as we should back every anti-Communist," MacArthur told us. He added that the race question plagues and complicates every phase of American diplomatic and military policy in the Far East.

That his concern is abundantly justified is to be seen on every hand here by the frequency of the questions asked of the two Negro members of the 'round the world Town Meeting seminar.

The questioners seem to find it almost impossible to understand why or how Negro Americans can continue to have faith in a country which does nothing, apparently, to stop lynching and discrimination, which is about all they hear about Negroes in the United States.

Walter White

Editorial - Sunday

FROM COLUMNIST WHITE: *and black,*

Some Advice to GOP Rebuilders

BY WALTER WHITE

Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

OMAHA—Guy Gabrielson of the Republican National Committee did not include me among the 16,000 Americans of whom he asked advice on what needs to be done to stop the GOP from passing totally from the American scene.

But as a passionate advocate of the two-party system I want to share with him (and you) a few observations made in the last six weeks in Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, Michigan and New York.

Thirty years of experience in the battle for human rights have convinced me that democracy, especially for minorities, can survive only when there are at least two political parties reasonably equal in strength. Unbroken rule from 1920 to 1932 was good neither for the nation nor the Republican Party since it bred belief that the GOP was invincible. It is equally dangerous for Democrats to believe that they cannot be beaten; it is tragic for the opposition party to be largely responsible by its inability to formulate a program which could bring it victory.

An economics professor in a Midwestern state university told me an experience which illustrates the need of more realistic thinking by Republicans. He attended a meeting of the city's top 15 business men who talked heatedly against "outside" control of the town's affairs and Democrats ruining the nation through concentration of power in Washington. Free enterprise and local control must be preserved, they argued, or else.



White

IT OCCURRED TO THE professor to see how "local" the group was. Thirteen of the 15 were local representatives of New York, Detroit, Akron and Philadelphia corporations. Of the other two whom he classified as local, one had recently remodeled his department store at a cost of three million dollars, most of which he had borrowed from a New York bank. At least so far as that town is concerned centralization of power had been started long before the advent of the New Deal or the Fair Deal.

Senator Bricker's proposal to legalize the "affair"

which conservative Republicans and Dixiecrats have been carrying on so scandalously these past dozen years hit the headlines the day I talked with a group of western business men. They wanted to know what needed to be done to win back to the GOP the Negro vote, especially in the 17 states with 281 electoral votes where that vote is pivotal.

I suggested as a first step fulfillment of the 1948 Republican platform: "Lynching or any other form of mob violence anywhere is a disgrace to any civilized nation . . . we favor the prompt enactment of legislation to end this infamy." "One of the basic principles of this Republic . . . equal opportunity to work . . . we favor the enactment and just enforcement of such Federal legislation as may be necessary . . ." "We favor the abolition of the poll tax . . ." "We are opposed to the idea of racial segregation in the armed services . . ."

Senators who worked to translate these solemn pledges into legislative reality, Mr. Gabrielson, are today both in disfavor and in the minority among Senate Republicans. In their stead Republicans-like Senate-Minority Leader Wherry play their game so identically with that of the Dixiecrats on racial and economic issues that none can draw a discernible line of demarcation between them.

HONESTLY, MR. GABRIELSON, can you blame the Negro voters of Illinois, Ohio and California who cast the ballots which elected Truman instead of Dewey in 1948 for being somewhat less than trusting of GOP promises?

I know a goodly number of them and talk to them in their homes and churches and organization meetings. They distrust the Dixiecrat wing of the Democratic Party and the slippery Northern Democratic politicians as much as they do men like Senators Wherry and Bricker.

May I suggest you read Henry Lee Moon's excellent book, "Balance of Power," and an article, "Does the Republican Party Want the Negro Vote?", by Arnold Aronson and Samuel Spiegler in The Crisis for December if you want the facts.

Give these voters proof that the GOP doesn't make pledges on human rights only to forget them, Mr. Gabrielson, and they won't cast the deciding votes against your party. The new session of the 81st Congress will give your party opportunity to prove its sincerity when the FEPC is called up.

A trip to arrange a meeting with the rest of C. M.

playing with words and the media

FHA Accused of Discrimination

BY WALTER WHITE

Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

NEW YORK—A showdown to determine whether President Truman or the Army and the FHA shall decide what is to be done about racial discrimination is imminent and inevitable. More than a year ago the President ordered the Army, Navy and Air Force to do something about segregation of Negroes in the defense forces.

The Navy and Air Force went to work immediately and have gone a long way toward racial integration and equalizing of opportunity. The Army has stubbornly refused to budge except in a few token moves.

Recently Baltimore-born Phillip Pearlman, Solicitor General of the United States, announced on behalf of himself, President Truman and Attorney General J. Howard McGrath that henceforth no Federal monies shall be given through the FHA for construction of any housing from which American citizens are barred because of race, color, creed or national origin. No reasonable person can question the right of the government to make and enforce such a requirement. Funds loaned by the FHA and all other government agencies are obtained through the taxation of all citizens. No tax exemptions have ever been given citizens to whom equal benefits are denied. Thus the United States Government said through Mr. Pearlman's order that Americans who insist on indulgence of their personal prejudices must pay for that luxury and shall not have government assistance in enforcing them.



White

MR. PEARLMAN'S STATEMENT was widely praised all over the United States. For more than 10 years a continued

campaign had been carried on to persuade the FHA to cease its flagrantly discriminatory practices which were so brazen as to include in its Underwriters' Manual specific instructions to refuse approval of loans to minorities except in segregated areas.

It was not until 1941 that continued public pressure forced the FHA to remove the discriminatory provision from its Underwriters' Manual. But the FHA continued its discrimination by recommending inclusion of restrictive covenants in new housing developments until the United States Supreme Court ruled that no agency of government could enforce such covenants.

APPARENTLY IDENTICAL tactics are now being followed by the FHA to avoid compliance with the newest order to cease and desist from racial discrimination. An anonymous FHA spokesman is quoted in an Associated Press story out of Washington as saying that "racial segregation in public housing projects will be left up to local authorities," adding as a concession to the President's order and public opinion, "so long as equitable provision is made for all races."

It is clearly manifest now that neither the FHA nor the United States Army intends to comply with the explicit orders of the President, the Attorney General or the Solicitor General if they can get away with such thumb-nosing.

Commendable though the orders may be, they are meaningless before the ink has dried on them if the executing agencies find or devise loopholes or excuses to evade their implementation. This kind of action makes it obligatory upon President Truman to insist on compliance or resignations. To do otherwise would constitute an admission by him of weakness and of inability to lead his own administration.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/4/81 BY SP4 GSK/m

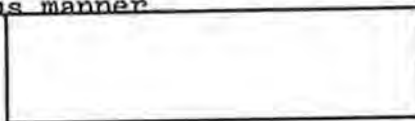
New York, N. Y.
January 25, 1952

Mr. Hoover:

When recently being interviewed by this office in connection with an extortion letter received by him, Walter White, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, was very complimentary to the Bureau and told the following story:

He said that he had recently received a telephone call from an executive of Hadassah, a Jewish women's organization in Philadelphia, who stated that they understood that Walter White had issued a statement critical of the FBI's activities in connection with the Negro bombings in Florida and that White had stated that the FBI was not diligent and not doing a conscientious job in the Florida bombings.

White said he told this Hadassah executive he had not made any such statement and that as a matter of fact, the FBI was doing an outstanding job in Florida. He further told this executive he had been down in Florida and had observed the FBI's efforts and that they had been working night and day in a most conscientious manner.



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F148
FEB 15 1952

RECORDED - 75 100-328241-3

1952

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

New York, N. Y.
January 25, 1952

Mr. Hoover:

While being interviewed the other day in connection with an extortion letter received by him, Walter White, Executive Secretary, NAACP, volunteered the following information regarding the [redacted] incident at the Stork Club:

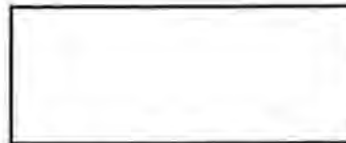
White said that [redacted] is apparently worried over this incident. According to White, [redacted] attorney, got in touch with White and told him that [redacted] would like to shake hands and forget the incident and also wanted to have Walter White and [redacted] as his guests for the evening at the Stork Club. White stated he refused the offer of [redacted] [redacted] as long as there was no guarantee that no discrimination would be practiced in the future at the Stork Club.

b6
b7C

White also said he had received a telephone call from Walter Winchell concerning the [redacted] incident and that Winchell talked to him over the telephone two hours and five minutes in a marathon tirade. According to White, Winchell stated that for twenty-five years he had been a close friend of his and of the NAACP and a vigorous supporter of their policies but that now because of his support of the Stork Club's action in the [redacted] incident that he was being crucified by the NAACP and by newspapers like the New York Post. Winchell said that as a consequence if he (Winchell) were to go into Harlem now his blood would flow in the streets.

b6
b7C

White stated that he told Winchell that it was Winchell's privilege to admit that he had made a mistake in the Stork Club incident. White stated that at the end of conversing, Winchell said "You probably have recorded this conversation and will crucify me further." White replied that there were no recording devices in the NAACP headquarters and that he had never recorded any telephone conversation, but he said to Winchell, "I don't doubt though that you are recording the conversation for your own benefit." Winchell hesitated for a moment but did not deny White's statement.



b6
b7C

G.I.R.-6
January 8, 1952

RECORDED - 44

100-328241-4

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

EX-89

Mr. Walter White
Executive Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter dated January 2, 1952,
with an enclosure has been received.

Your interest in referring a copy
of this press release to me and your cooperation
with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in
this matter are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

ELR:pdw:mc

NOTE: A copy of Mr. White's letter and a copy of the
enclosed press release is being furnished to Miami for
its information.

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

ELR 1/8/52

100-328241-4
100-328241-4

265-10

John

✓
RW
RW
JH

b6
b7c

Wm. Webster Burke - ASAC, Miami

Special Agent - Miami Division

EOD: 12-29-41

GS-13, \$8560

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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

b6

b7C

GACRE 2-6890

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

67530

January 2, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mbr

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I thought you might be interested in seeing the enclosed syndicated column I wrote about the Mims, Florida bombing and the job the F. B. I is doing.

At their request, I arranged for Messrs. Webb Burke and [redacted] to talk with [redacted] despite the fact that her condition was still quite critical. I also turned over to them the material which I had gathered, believing that they would do a better job than anyone else.

Cordially,

Walter White
Executive Secretary

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

WW:erb
Enclosure

RECORDED - 44
INDEXED - 44

100-328241-4

EX-89

h.20

Official Organ: The Crisis

FROM: Walter White
242 East 68th Street
New York, N.Y.

For release to subscribing newspapers,
Thursday, January 3, 1952

39047

MIMS, FLORIDA

63581

It may be that the background of the lush, natural beauty of blue lakes and sky, of orange trees so studded with golden fruit as almost to obliterate the green foliage and of "Millionaires' Row" in Winter Park makes the bombed home here of Harry T. Moore more incongruous and shocking than the destruction I witnessed during the war in Europe and Asia. For here is the shambles of the modest dwelling place of a man, now dead, and his wife, now lying critically wounded in nearby Sanford, because he had dared to speak out and work for enforcement of the law.

Today I turned over to the F. B. I. the names of three persons who allegedly have recently advocated mob action against Mr. Moore. They are not the only ones who have voiced resentment against him. Repeatedly since August, 1949, he had written to Gov. Fuller E. Warren urging him to assign trustworthy persons from the Governor's office instead of Sheriff Willis McCall of Lake County to transport Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin from the state prison at Raiford to Tavares, Lake County county seat, for a hearing on a motion for a change of venue in the new trial which had been ordered by the U. S. Supreme Court.

The entire world knows what happened because of Gov. Warren's refusal to act as was requested by Mr. Moore. Samuel Shepherd is dead and Walter Irvin recovering from three bullet wounds inflicted by McCall on a backroad near Eustis. McCall, backed by J. J. Elliott, Gov. Warren's personal representative, asserts that he fired in "self-defense," although neither man denies that the two prisoners were handcuffed together at the time of the shooting.

Following the 1944 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court against the barring of qualified Negro voters from so-called "white Democratic primaries," the number of registered Negro voters in Florida, as in other Southern states, has measurably increased. Today it is estimated to number close to one hundred thousand voters in Florida--a bloc large

blast of either nitroglycerine or TNT. Explosives experts are convinced that dynamite could not have done such destruction. They are also convinced that the crime was painstakingly planned, timed for the only period of the year when the entire family would be gathered together. Mr. Moore traveled constantly for the NAACP. Mrs. Moore is a teacher in a rural school near Palm Beach. Both she and Mr. Moore were denied renewal of their contracts as teachers in Brevard County because of hostility of the school officials to Mr. Moore's participation in a legal campaign against educational inequalities inflicted on Negroes. One of the Moore daughters is a secretary in the Department of Labor in Washington and the other is a secretary in the public school system of Ocala. The bombers waited until the entire family gathered to spend Christmas--birthday of the Prince of Peace--together. So shattered is the modest cottage that ^{no} one knows why one of the Moore daughters and Mr. Moore's 71-year-old mother, who slept in an adjoining room, were not also killed. It is obvious that the criminals intended to wipe out the entire family.

Gov. Fuller Warren, irritated by criticisms of the failure of the State of Florida to act against bombings here and in Miami, has issued daily blasts at this commentator as "a disturber of the peaceful relations between the races." How peaceful those relations have been are best mirrored in a front-page story in the December 29 issue of the Miami Herald. Here is a part of the background of terrorism which preceded the assassination of Harry Moore. Last March 31 Melvin Womack, an orange grove worker, was taken from his home in Oakland by four white men late at night. The following morning he was found beaten and shot to death. No arrests have yet been made.

Last February 6 Luther Coleman, Negro janitor at the Winter Garden elementary school, was beaten unmercifully by several white men in the heart of downtown Winter Garden. No arrests of his assailants have yet been made.

39049

These are samples of the unpunished crimes against Negroes in Florida now highlighted by the assassination of Harry Moore and by the spreading of mob violence against Jews, Catholics and others.

To Florida's credit are the vigor and courage of most of its newspapers, especially in the metropolitan areas, in exposing the breakdown of law and order. Many citizens of the state, Negro and white, are shocked and aroused. Hotel men, proprietors of tourist resorts and Chambers of Commerce are awakening to the fact that millions of dollars may be lost by the unsavory developments here. Already an alarming number of cancellations of reservations for the winter tourist season have been reported. It is possible that this combination of moral indignation and economic interest may result in action. If the energy and determination of the F. B. I. can be approximated by Florida law enforcement officials, there is hope that Harry Moore's tragic and violent death may diminish if not put an end to the violence which has become an epidemic here.

DATE: 01-17-2007

CLASSIFIED BY 60324 AUC BAW/CPB/RYS

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1)

01-17-2032

WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Born, 1 July 1893, Atlanta, Georgia.
Educated, Atlanta University; LLD, Howard University.

Executive Secretary, National Association for Advancement of Colored
People, 1931 to date;
Acting Secretary, NAACP, 1929-1930;
Assistant Secretary, NAACP, 1918-1929;
Member, Advisory Council for Government of the Virgin Islands, 1935.

4-1-94
CLASSIFIED BY SP11M/JP
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1
11/23/01

REC'D BELMONT
F. B. I.
APR 18 7 58 PM '52

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Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2
Date of Review 4/8/91

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

100-328241- ✓

APR 22 1952

~~SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

125

DATE: 01-17-2007

CLASSIFIED BY: 60384 AUC/BAW/CPB/RYS

DECLASSIFY ON: 35X 1-9-1

01-17-2032 CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER

DATED 01-03-2007

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM :

SUBJECT:

WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CLASSIFIED BY SP2M/LP DATE April 14, 1952

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISEb6
b7CPURPOSE:BACKGROUND:ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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(C)

Class. & Ext. By SP1GSK/mw
Reason FCIM II, 1-2.4.8
Date of Review 4/8/91

DETAILS:

White was born on July 1, 1893, at Atlanta, Georgia. He has been employed on the staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People since 1918, and is presently employed as Executive Secretary of that organization.

There has been no Bureau investigation conducted regarding White. He is mentioned numerous times in Bureau files in connection with his work in the NAACP and has

Attachment

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EX - 80

APR 18 1952

NWP:lae

APR 22 1952

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COPY DESTROYED
R192 JAN 4 1960

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

contacted the Bureau frequently regarding civil rights matters. He has maintained cordial relations with Bureau officials and has indicated that he is attempting to keep Communists from infiltrating the NAACP.

[redacted] b1
[redacted] (S)
White appeared as a speaker, on June 12, 1940, at a meeting sponsored by the Maryland Association for Democratic Rights, affiliated with the National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights, which organization has been cited by the HCUA as a Communist front. He also appeared as a speaker before the Writers Congress, a meeting which was sponsored jointly by the University of California and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization on October 1, 1943. The Hollywood Writers Mobilization for Defense has been cited by the Attorney General as Communist. (S)

INFORMATION NOT BEING DISSEMINATED:

The report of Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate, 81st Congress, published in 1950, lists one Walter White as a member of the Advisory Board of the Film Audiences for Democracy in 1939, (pg. 1499) and a sponsor for the Greater New York Emergency Conference on Democratic Rights in 1940 (pg. 1504).

Both of these organizations have been cited as Communist fronts by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944.

This information is not being disseminated because the individual listed as Walter White is not further identified. (121-23278-267X12)

RECOMMENDATION:

(S)
gh.
H.
~~SECRET~~

[redacted] b1
(S)
✓ g
S
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 01-17-2007
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 AUC BAW/CPB/RYS
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1) 01-17-2032

CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER
DATED 01-03-2007

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Class. & Ext. By SP-16SK/mar
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 4/6/81

44-99
CLASSIFIED BY SP-16SK/mar
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1

April 14, 1952

RE: WALTER FRANCIS WHITE - Summary

G.I.R.-6

b1

RECORDED - 100
INDEXED - 100
EX-99

No investigation has been conducted regarding Walter Francis White. However, the following information was located which may be of interest in connection with your inquiry.

A report of Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate, 81st Congress, published in 1950, page 1535, exhibit 30, mentions "Walter White, Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People," as a speaker before an open meeting on "Democratic Rights and National Defense," on June 14, 1940, at Baltimore, Maryland, sponsored by the Maryland Association for Democratic Rights, affiliated with the National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights.

The National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, pages 48 and 102. (121-23278-267X12, pg. 1535)

Exhibit 31, page 1537, of the same report, mentions "Walter White, NAACP," as a speaker at an opening session of the Writers Congress under the joint sponsorship of the University of California and the Hollywood Writers Mobilization, on October 1, 1943. He was also listed as member of a panel on Minority Groups at this meeting, on October 2, 1943.

The Hollywood Writers Mobilization for Defense has been cited by the Attorney General as Communist. (121-23278-267X12, page 1537)

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

b1

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

58 MAY 14 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

b6
b7C

CONFIDENTIAL
SECRET

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

Office Memorandum
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
 WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

TO :

MR. A. H. BELMONT

FROM :

SUBJECT:

WALTER FRANCIS WHITE

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP)
 CLASSIFIED BY SP2A
 DECLASSIFY ON: 25X1
 42

DATE April 5 1952

 CLASSIFICATION PER OGA LETTER
 DATED 01-03-2007

 Tolson _____
 Board _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

 b6
 b7C
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 b6
 b7C

b1

ACTION:

SJP:lw

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 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

 100-100-328241-6
 APR 22 1952

 Class. & Ext. by SP-16SK/mw
 Reason: FCIM 11.2.4.2
 Date of Review 4/8/91

EX-991

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~68 MAY 14 1952 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1

RECORDED - 103

June 11, 1952

100-326241-7

Mr. Walter White
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
80 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. White:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/91 BY SP-1 GSK/MA

I have received your very kind letter of June 9, 1952,
together with the column concerning Canada Lee.

It is very gratifying that you saw fit to write me
concerning my participation in your new radio program, and I
would consider it a real privilege to indicate an acceptance
if it were at all possible. I must explain, however, that for
the past several years now I have had to decline all such invi-
tations, and it is necessary due to the great number of requests
received that I be entirely consistent in this regard. You
will appreciate, I know, from your frequent contacts with us
that the pressure of work here has been overwhelming, and
frankly it shows no sign of lessening.

It goes without saying that all of us here in the
Bureau are keenly aware of the danger and the irreparable dam-
age which can result from irresponsible name-calling and
vigilante action. I know you share my view that equality into
a person's loyalty belongs in the hands of professional inves-
tigators and that evaluations of the data developed should be
made by authorities appointed for that purpose.

I trust that you will accept my sincere regrets and
I do hope you will appreciate my position. One of these days
surely the international tension will lessen so that I can do
some of the things that I have had to forego.

Your good wishes concerning my health are indeed
appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

cc - New York, with copy of incoming.

(See Note Next Page)

HPL:gr

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

ROUTED
100-326241-7

NOTE: White, who is executive secretary of the NAAACP, enclosed a copy of his press release regarding the late Canada Lee, whom he defines as a supporter of his race and not as a Communist apologist. In this release he mentions talking to a FBI official regarding Lee's loyalty.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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

PERSONAL

June 9, 1952



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. Holloman	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would like to have you join me on a broadcast on my new radio program. The format is simple and somewhat different since it combines a discussion with a guest and a brief news analysis. The discussion between my guest and myself takes ten minutes, and it has been remarkable how much can be crowded into such an ad lib discussion.

The program originates from Station WLIB in New York, and other stations which have subscribed to date are WCFL in Chicago, KFWB in Los Angeles (the Warner Brothers station), WWDC in Washington, WIP in Philadelphia and WBMS in Boston. The guest on my first program was Mrs. Roosevelt, and others who have been recorded are Senator Hubert Humphrey, [redacted] Averell Harriman and Dr. Channing Tobias. I am doing a program with Senator Russell on June 30 and have invited General Eisenhower, Senators Taft and Kefauver and Ambassador Chester Bowles to appear. Mr. Bowles has accepted.

What I would like to discuss with you, if you are willing to do so, is the possibility of establishment of some machinery by which persons falsely accused of belonging or having belonged to an organization on the Attorney General's subversive list may obtain an objective hearing. You know me well enough to know that I feel strongly that if a man is guilty in the slightest degree of disloyalty the book should be thrown at him. But I have been disturbed at the manner in which people like [redacted] Dr. Channing Tobias and one or two others have been falsely accused. I feel equally disturbed about the same situation facing any person irrespective of color. But when Americans who have done so much to stop communism by fighting for democracy, as has been the case with [redacted] and Dr. Tobias, can be smeared by crackpots, the situation becomes dangerous to democracy itself.

Lou Nichols and I have discussed this several times. But as both he and [redacted] have explained to me, Congress has never given the FBI the authority to clear a person if his record is clear. Here is a syndicated column I wrote about the case of Canada Lee. It would have been enormously useful, in my opinion, to have used the talents of an earnest and sincere person like Canada Lee to offset the effect of men like Paul Robeson.

INDEXED - 103

RECORDED - 101

JUN 25 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/8/91 BY SP-1 GSK/mc

WALTER WHITE

F/103

File (copy only)
 sub 6-11-52
 bpl

b6
b7cb6
b7c

100-328241-7

PROCESSING
 X/100/11/11

2.

June 9, 1952

Knowing how busy you are, I could come to Washington at your convenience and record the program there. Please let me know if you are willing to do such a program.

I was delighted to hear from Lou the other day that you are now in perfect health again.

Cordially,



Walter White

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

WW: ☐
Enclosure

b6
b7C

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Dr. C. Herbert Marshall

FROM: Walter White
242 East 68th Street
New York, New York

For release to subscribing
newspapers, Thursday,
May 15, 1952

Canada Lee's obituaries were lengthy and effusive--so laudatory, in fact, that the generous and gentle actor would be startled by them in light of the privation he experienced during the last few months of his life. It is certain he would read them with a bitter smile reflecting that he might have earned money enough for the rest and medical treatment he needed to save his life had the newspapers spoken as admirably of him during his lifetime as they did when he died.

They had written, it is true, in glowing terms of Canada Lee's superlative performance in "Cry, the Beloved Country" in which the spectator through Mr. Lee's great acting really lived the role of the Reverend Stephen Kamala. But employment neither in Hollywood nor television nor radio materialized as would have been the case of any other actor following such ecstatic reviews. A whispering campaign was circulated among broadcasting and advertising executives that Mr. Lee was "too controversial" because he had appeared at benefits for organizations purportedly fighting race prejudice which subsequently had been placed on the Attorney General's subversive list.

Never one to take attack or innuendo lying down, Mr. Lee called a press conference in 1949 "to put the record straight". In that rich and eloquent voice of his he declared passionately and angrily, "I am not a Communist or a joiner of any kind, never have been and never will be. Call me a Communist and you call all Negroes Communist who cry out against injustice." Dutifully some of the press reported his denial but buried it deep towards the back of the issues when they carried the statement at all.

Desperate, Mr. Lee came to see me not long ago to ask advice on a step he was considering to break the iron curtain of suspicion and fear which was damning his career. He told me of four lucrative television appearances which had been offered him, in each of which the sponsor had told him that he would employ Mr. Lee "after he had first appeared on some other program." But none had the courage to be the first. Mr. Lee had thought of buying a shoe shine box with placards telling his side of the boycott. He proposed to use it in front of the Astor Theater on Broadway where "Cry, the Beloved Country" was playing to capacity and enthusiastic audiences. Now I know I was wrong in dissuading him from his melodramatic plan.

went on to explain, "But the F.B.I. has not been given authority by the Congress to 'clear' the name of any citizen who has been falsely accused of association with subversive organizations."

Sadly I reported my failure to my friend. Chance revealed a few days later how desperate his financial position had become. We at the NAACP had asked him to speak in the Westchester County Center in White Plains at a memorial meeting for two peaceful Negroes who had been killed in cold blood by an ex-policeman because the latter objected to the men drinking a glass of beer in a public tavern. Canada Lee had promised to meet us promptly at seven o'clock to drive to White Plains but failed to show up on time--most unusual for him. Later we found that he did not have taxi fare. In a torrential rainstorm he had to walk. He had only forty cents in his pocket. But what disturbed him most was the fact that he had been forced that afternoon to refuse a loan to an aging actor. "I'll get that \$10 for him tomorrow," Canada Lee said.

It is possible that his great and gallant heart might have stopped even though privation and prejudice had not made his last few years a Golgotha. It is even more possible that Canada Lee's great fame and ability might have been used by a kinder and wiser America to furnish the answer to the Paul Robesons who, unlike Mr. Lee, appear to have lost faith in democracy.

Two days before his tragic death I received a long and impassioned letter from him suggesting steps to inform the world of the progress which has been made through struggle to cleanse America of its racial sins. He said this progress must be made known in order to counteract dangerously spreading propaganda of Communists and others against the United States. Although America had denied him because of his color and its fears the right to earn a living at his profession in the hour of his greatest artistic triumph, Mr. Lee doggedly held to his faith in the ultimate perfectability of democracy and his determination to use his vast talents for the abolition of bigotry.

100-328241-7X
100-328241-7X

December 23, 1952

RECORDED

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter of December 17, 1952, reporting
activity of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan
is indeed appreciated.

In view of the contents of your communication,
I am arranging to have Special Agents of this Bureau
contact your representatives in Florida.

In the event you have additional information
in this matter please do not hesitate to communicate
with this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

2cc - Mobile (w/enclosure)

2cc - Miami (w/enclosure)

ATTENTION SAC, MIAMI:

Miami should arrange to immediately contact the
individuals listed by Walter White for any information
of value in connection with your investigation of the Klan.
The results of this investigation should be furnished to the
Bureau at once.

cc - Bufile 100-7801

RET:rwk:rw

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Laughlin
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- Holloman
- Gandy

DEC 23 1952
FBI - MIAMI

RECEIVED
DEC 22 6 46 PM '52
JAN 1 1953
UNRECORDED COPY

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/01 BY SP1 GSK/aw

December 17, 1952

63578

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Last week in Florida the enclosed card was given
me reading:

"FIGHT COMMUNISM

Keep Negroes out of White
Schools

JOIN NOW

Southern Knights

K.K.K.

P. O. Box 1132

Station A

St. Petersburg, Florida."

We would greatly appreciate your ordering an investigation by the FBI. Should the U. S. Supreme Court, in the cases argued before it December 9-11, declare segregation in public schools unconstitutional, there may be several outfits which capitalize on racial and religious bigotry which may attempt to stir up trouble. Action by the FBI to nip this would be of great value in preventing others from creating disorder which we as a nation can ill afford at this critical juncture of world history.

and [redacted] of our Florida State Conference of Branches will be glad to cooperate with you in your investigation.

Ever sincerely,

Secretary.

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

WW
Enc.

can be reached at

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

INDEXED
RECORDED

10 DEC 18 1952

100-328241-7X
897799

226-
cc Miami
Mobile
12-22-52
RET

EIGHT COMMUNISM

Keep Negroes Out of White
Schools

JOIN NOW!

SOUTHERN KNIGHTS

K. K. K.

P. O. Box 1132

Station A

St. Petersburg, Florida

1



10:08

April 28, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

MR. LADD

MR. NICHOLS
MR. ROSEN

During the course of my conversation with the Attorney General on another matter he mentioned that Mr. Walter White and his group from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are coming in to see him Friday at 4:30. He wondered if we had anything in the field of Civil Rights which he ought to know about. I told him I did not but that it might be well for us to prepare a memorandum for him on the things that have been done; that we have had a pretty good record in that field and Mr. White has been rather commendatory of us in letters as well as some of his articles. I stated I did not know what trail he was on now; that he very ardently supported our position in the Civil Rights cases in New York and also in the cases initiated in Miami. I stated it might be well for us to have a memorandum along this line so that if he has any criticisms or complaints at least he, the Attorney General, can point out the good things the Department has done. The Attorney General stated this would be very helpful and I told him I would have a memorandum to him within the next day.

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mg

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 11:35 AM	
FBI - NEW YORK	
DATE 4-28-53	
BY jh	

Very truly yours,

J E H

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED - 112

INDEXED - 112

100-328241-8

56 APR 1 1953

RECORDED-200 - 328241-9

December 28, 1953

Mr. Walter White
Executive Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
20 West Fortyeth Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. White:

SP885/ite 2-13-91 #293,974
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

It was a pleasure to receive your fine letter of December 21, 1953, with enclosures, and I was particularly interested in seeing the copy of your cablegram to the three Negro POW's who have refused repatriation. It was extremely well prepared.

In line with our conversation, you may feel free to utilize the following statement of mine relative to your radio program:

"It is my belief that Mr. Walter White's radio program makes a valuable contribution to intelligent enlightenment in a crucial sector of this democracy's struggle against the forces of bigotry, prejudice and subversion. The aims of his program are straightforward and simple. He emphasizes the truism that freedom belongs to everyone, that equal rights have been bestowed by our Creator and by our laws without regard to race, creed or religion. He rightly contends that justice does not exist where there is partiality in administering the law. He urges unceasing vigilance against the Communists whose determination to sow disunity he fully appreciates."

"Mr. White's efforts to create public opinion based on intelligent understanding and appreciation of the need for unity of purpose among all Americans are most commendable."

It is a privilege to have this opportunity to be of service to you.

Sincerely,
Yours,

66 MAY 1954 New York, with copy of incoming.
APL:mbk

SENT FROM D. O.

TIME
DATE 12-29-53
BY

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

RECEIVED
JAN 5 1954
FBI
RECEIVED
JAN 5 1954
FBI

148

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mk

December 21, 1953

63572

SP 8 BT/mk 2/13/91 #275,974

Dear Mr. Hoover:

When you told me the other evening in Harvey's Restaurant that my radio program was no longer heard in Washington I was quite surprised. But as I said the other night, the public seems to prefer Milton Berle to Walter White.

I am glad to say, however, that the program is still heard over WLIB in New York and in Boston, St. Louis, Los Angeles and one or two other cities.

I was particularly pleased at your comments about the program. I have tried to do as intelligent and honest a program as I was capable of doing. It means considerable extra work in a very crowded schedule, but I have been glad to do it because I believe I was bringing guests and information to the American public which was somewhat different from that on any other program. But because the program is carried in most places as a sustaining one, there just isn't money to do the kind of promotion which is required in these times. Enclosed is a listing of guests who have appeared during the past year, to which someday I will be honored to add your name.

I do wish you could have heard last week's program when [redacted] who was a prisoner of war in Korea for 1,014 days, told a thrilling story of how the Communists at first attempted to bribe him to turn against democracy and then tortured him horribly when he refused to do so. They made the quite erroneous approach believing that he would be a pushover because he is a Negro. Incidentally, I may do an article for LOOK Magazine on how Negro American POW's resisted Communist propaganda to a greater extent than other Americans, according to Army G-2.

b6
b7c

And here is a copy of a cablegram I sent Thursday to the three Negro POW's among the twenty-two Americans who thus far refused repatriation. I am reliably informed that at least two of the three Negroes are eager to come home but are intimidated by some of the other Americans. I do hope that



BUY YOUR SEALS NOW

RECORDED-20

INDEXED - 20

DEC 20 1953

100-328241-9
JAN 21 1954
CRIME RECORDS

December 21, 1953

6357.3

this cablegram may induce them to change their minds.

Returning to the radio program. I would very much appreciate the letter you agreed to send me expressing your opinion of it. I believe it and several others, including one from the War Department, may possible restore the program to Washington and perhaps cause it to be heard in other cities.

Cordially,



Walter White

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

WW ☐
Enclosures

b6
b7C

Guests who have appeared on the Walter White Show - WL1B

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

Mr. Averell Harriman

Senator Estes Kefauver

Walter Reuther

Chester Bowles

Senator Herbert Lehman

Dr. Channing H. Tobias

President of Haiti, Paul Magloire

Rep. Jacob K. Javits

(POW-Korea) b6
b7C

63572

Mrs. Clare Boothe Luce

Rep. Helén Gahagan Douglas

b6
b7C

Senator Wayne Morse

George Meany

Senator Irving Lues

Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill

Gov. Luis Munoz Marin

W. Stuart Symington

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.

(POW-Korea)

Robert F. Wagner

SP8 BGR/rtc 2/13/91 #293974
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP1 GSK/mr

b6
b7C

100-328241-9

RECORDED-26

INDEXED-26

NOT U.S. UNCL.

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full-rate telegram	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	SERIAL
DAY LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

WESTER UNION

W P MARSHALL PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	LETTER TELEGRAM
VICTORY LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

NO. WDS-CL. OF SVC.	PD OR COLL	CASH NO	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
			NAACP 20 West 40th St.	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

JNE 1 - 3 BOOK MESSAGE DEFERRED CABLE DECEMBER 17, 1953

JNE 1

63575

C/O NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION
PANMUNJOM, KOREA

b6
b7C

JNE 2

C/O NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION
PANMUNJOM, KOREA

SP8BG/jte 2/13/91 #293974
**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mr**

JNE 3

C/O NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION
PANMUNJOM, KOREA

AS A FELLOW NEGRO AMERICAN MAY I URGE YOU RECONSIDER YOUR ABANDONMENT OF DEMOCRACY AND EMBRACING OF COMMUNISM. I DO NOT FOR A MOMENT ASSERT THAT FULL FREEDOM FOR THE AMERICAN NEGRO HAS BEEN WON OR THAT WE ARE YET NEAR THAT GOAL. BUT DURING THE THIRTY-FIVE YEARS I HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO WORK FOR JUSTICE AND TOTAL EQUALITY THROUGH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE I HAVE SEEN MANY CHANGES FOR THE BETTER. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS SUCH CHANGES SINCE YOU LEFT. YOU NOW SERVE IN AN UNSEGREGATED AMERICAN ARMY AND IN WASHINGTON, D. C., TODAY YOU CAN EAT IN ANY RESTAURANT, WHICH WAS NOT TRUE WHEN YOU LEFT. UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HAS JUST HEARD ARGUMENTS ON ABOLITION OF SEGREGATION IN ALL PUBLIC EDUCATION. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF WINNING. BUT IF WE DO NOT WE SHALL GO BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN TO

~~RECORDED-20~~

-more-

100-228241-9
ENCLOSURE

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	SERIAL
DAY LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

WESTER UNION

1211

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	LETTER TELEGRAM
VICTORY LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

W P MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

63576

-2-

THE COURTS OF LAW AND OF PUBLIC OPINION UNTIL EVERY VESTIGE OF SEGREGATION OR DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, RELIGION, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN IS ELIMINATED FROM AMERICAN LIFE. WE URGE YOU TO COME HOME AND JOIN IN THAT FIGHT.

WALTER WHITE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 West 40th Street, New York, N. Y.

AIR-TEL
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JJM:BAR (#7)
NY 100-7629

PAGE 2

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

WAS A MEMBER OF THE PRO COMMUNIST GROUP AND AS SUCH WAS A DISRUPTER OF NAACP AFFAIRS TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT WHITE FINALLY REPORTED HIM TO DIRECTOR HOOVER AND ADVISED THE DIRECTOR THAT IF IT WAS NECESSARY TO SEND A MAN INTO THE NAACP ONE SHOULD BE SELECTED WHO WOULD NOT DISRUPT THE ACTIVITY OF THE ORGANIZATION. SOME OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE ATTEMPTED TO QUESTION MR. WHITE FURTHER CONCERNING THIS MATTER BUT WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL DETAILS. MR. WHITE ALSO ADVISED THIS GROUP THAT A SHORT TIME AGO HE MET MR. HOOVER IN HARVEY'S RESTAURANT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WHERE MR. HOOVER WAS IN THE COMPANY OF ONE OF HIS ASSISTANTS. AS A RESULT OF THIS TALK, THE DIRECTOR SENT WHITE A LETTER OF COMMENDATION. MR. WHITE DESCRIBED THE LETTER AS "THE LIKE OF WHICH NOT MANY PEOPLE IN THE US EVER RECEIVED." WHITE ADDED "I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE MC CARTHY CALL ME TO TESTIFY SO THAT I COULD PRODUCE THIS LETTER AS AN INDICATION OF THE TYPE OF CITIZEN I AM". [REDACTED] ADVISED THE FOLLOWING WERE IN ATTENDANCE DURING THE POST BANQUET GATHERING: [REDACTED]

NEGRO NAACP STATE [REDACTED] NEGRO, AND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALSO ADVISED THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME [REDACTED]

NEGRO, IS [REDACTED] FOR NAACP. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT, [REDACTED] UNDER THE NAME

[REDACTED] ATTENDED THE LENIN SCHOOL AT MOSCOW. THE ABOVE IS BEING

SUBMITTED FOR THE INFO/OF THE BUREAU AND NO FURTHER INQUIRY WILL BE MADE IN THIS MATTER WACB.

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

KELLY

CC: MR. BELMONT
AND SUPERVISOR
DOM. INTEL DIVISION

Sent _____ M Per _____

b6
b7C
b7D

3-4-54
LWV

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

FEB 25 1954

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mh TELETYPE
10/17/99 30-7 MAR 1954 #2541617
Walter White

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

WASH 5 FROM PHILA 2-25-54 6-25 PM EST

DIRECTOR,.....ATTENTION ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR NICHOLS.....URGENT
FOLLOWING APPEARS IN COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE, HEADED QUOTE "IS NOBODY
SAFE - SMEAR OF WARREN RAISES QUESTION END QUOTE, IN ISSUES FEB.
TWENTYFIFTH, THE EVENING BULLETIN, PHILA - QUOTE "HOW WIDESPREAD AND
IMMEDIATE THE DANGER IS TO THE REPUTATION OF EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD
IN THE UNITED STATES WAS REVEALED TO THIS COMMENTATOR RECENTLY BY ONE
OF THE ABLEST AND MOST CONSERVATIVE LAWYERS IN THE UNITED STATES.
HE TOLD ME IN DAZED UNBELIEF HOW A GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATOR HAD COME
TO HIS OFFICE TO MAKE ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE LOYALTY AND
MORAL CHARACTER OF ONE OF THE NATION-S TOP BANKERS WHO HAD MADE GREAT
FINANCIAL SACRIFICES DURING AND AFTER THE WAR TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY
BRILLIANTLY. THE LAWYER WAS SO INDIGNANT THAT SO ABLE AND UNSELFISH
A CITIZEN SHOULD BE SUBJECT ED TO THE HUMILIATION OF ENQUIRY AMONG HIS
FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES, THE FBI INVESTIGATOR EXPLAINED APOLOGETICALLY
THAT AN ANONYMOUS LETTER FORCED HIM TO MAKE THE INVESTIGATION, AND THAT
HE WAS MERELY DOING THE TASK ASSIGNED TO HIM. END QUOTE. PRESS INQUIRY
IF ANY RECEIVED, WILL BE NO COMMENT UACB 106

RECORDED - 9 100-32824-10

APR 22 1954

WB 70ME
WASH R 5 WA IS

Can we identify the
one?

52 MAY 7 1954

HIS IS PH

ABBATICCHIO

PERS. FILES
CRIME RECOR
UNRECOR

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *per D*

FROM : L. B. Nichols

DATE: Feb. 26, 1954

SUBJECT: *for*
 Limited Classification
 Review Conducted
 See Top Serial
 Form 4-774

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-16SK/mw

Tolson _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Harbo _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Gearty _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
 Miss Gandy _____

With reference to the teletype from the Philadelphia Field Office reporting the item in Walter White's column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin for February 25th, referring to an Agent apologizing for making an investigation of one of the nations top bankers on the ground an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation, I desire to advise I talked to White about this today and asked White if he could identify the case for me, although I was not interested in inquiring into his sources of information. White stated his source of information was a very reputable, conservative lawyer; that he would vouch for this lawyer on a stack of Bibles. He stated the lawyer had told him the story two or three weeks ago and also related that other persons interviewed had commented on the waste of time in investigating the banker; that the lawyer would be in New York on Monday and White would prefer to talk to the lawyer and get his approval to furnish me the full story which the lawyer had told him, along with the identification of the case.

White stated his item in his column was not intended to be critical; that the lawyer was not critical of the FBI but was critical of the system and of placing unnecessary burdens on the FBI. I told White I, of course, did not want to dispute him but if this were the case, then I thought he could have made this point clear in his column; that any person reading the column would construe this as a disclosure of some impropriety on the part of the FBI; that we, of course, were not protesting that at the moment because we did not know the facts; that we wanted to get the facts and if the facts supported what White said, we wanted to look into them; if they did not, we would want, of course, to have the correct facts used.

White stated he thoroughly agreed and would call me on Monday. If he does not call me on Monday, I will get after him on Monday afternoon.

cc: Mr. Boardman
 Mr. Belmont *Enen*

LBN:MP

EX - 107

RECORDED

13 APR 21 1954

PERS. FILES

171-38241-11
 116-38241-11
 UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE REGARDING
ALLEGED FBI INVESTIGATION OF [REDACTED]ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/MG

6/29/95 SP-9 [REDACTED] 315548-001

b6
b7CTolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Egan
Gurnea
Mohr
Tele. Room
Holloman
 Sizoo
Miss Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

By memo to Mr. Tolson dated February 26, 1954, you advised of item appearing in Walter White's column in Philadelphia Evening Bulletin on February 25, 1954, referring to SA apologizing for conducting investigation of one of Nation's top bankers on the grounds that an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation. You further advised you had talked to Walter White concerning this, and White said his information had come from very reputable lawyer who was reliable. White indicated neither he nor lawyer intended to be critical of FBI. White said he would check with lawyer, to get his approval to furnish the full story. White called you on March 1, 1954, to advise that Bethuel Webster, President of New York City Bar, was the person who had been interviewed. The banker who was being investigated was [REDACTED] (true name, [REDACTED])

Bureau conducted Atomic Energy applicant investigation of [REDACTED] in June-July, 1953. Webster was interviewed by New York Office in connection with this investigation, and he commented favorably regarding [REDACTED] New York investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] In regard to anonymous letter concerning [REDACTED] referred to in Walter White's column, it is noted Bufiles reflect an anonymous letter dated September 28, 1945, was sent to the President concerning [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of Military Intelligence. Anonymous letter alleged [REDACTED] of pro-Communist group within G-2 and that [REDACTED] would not have been retained by G-2 if it were not for [REDACTED] Memo containing information regarding anonymous letter sent to Deputy Attorney General in December, 1950, and Deputy Attorney General advised he referred [REDACTED] case to Donald Dawson, administrative assistant to President who in turn brought it to attention of Secretary of State. AEA applicant reports in summer 1953 referred to Sherman Adams at White House, as well as to ONI. Last efficiency report of SA [REDACTED] of New York reflects favorably upon his maturity, judgment and discretion, as well as attitude toward work.

cc - Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Rosen

RECORDED - 5

INDEXED - 5

Limited Classification
Review Conducted
See Top Serial
Form 4-774

APR 23 1954

GWG:jbg

MAY 7 1954

ORIGINAL

PERS. FILES

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) That SAC Kelly of the New York Office be telephonically instructed to immediately question SA [] concerning his interview with Webster in June, 1953, during the investigation of [] and that SAC Kelly be instructed to obtain a detailed memorandum from [] concerning this matter. b6 b7C

yes
yes.

(2) In the event that SA [] denies having mentioned an anonymous letter regarding [] to Webster, it is felt that SAC Kelly should be instructed to personally contact Webster and inquire when the interview was conducted in which mention was made of the anonymous letter. In this regard, it is noted that the interview with Webster by the New York Office was in June, 1953, whereas the item concerning the interview did not appear in Walter White's column until February 25, 1954--eight months later. It has further been noted that other governmental agencies have, in the past, expressed interest in [] he should explain Basis for Inquiry Act of Congress. b6 b7C

yes
yes.

SAC Kelly advised
10:25 AM. 7:28-54
H. H. H.

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

DETAILS:

By memorandum to Mr. Tolson dated February 26, 1954, you advised that the Philadelphia Office had reported an item had appeared in Walter White's column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin on February 25, 1954, referring to an Agent apologizing for conducting an investigation of one of the Nation's top bankers on the ground that an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation.

In your memorandum of February 26, 1954, you advised that you had talked to Walter White concerning this matter and had asked White if he could identify the case. White said his source of information was a very reputable, conservative lawyer and that he would vouch for the lawyer "on a stack of Bibles." According to White, the lawyer related that other persons interviewed had commented on the waste of time in investigating the banker. White said he would talk to the lawyer and get his approval to furnish you the full story. Additionally, White stated his column was not intended to be critical and that the lawyer was not critical of the FBI but was critical of the system and of placing unnecessary burdens on the Bureau. You told White that anyone reading the column would construe it as a disclosure of some impropriety on the part of the FBI; that the Bureau wanted to get the facts and if the facts support what White said, we wanted to look into them. If the facts did not bear out the allegation, however, the Bureau would want to have the correct facts used.

In connection with this memorandum of February 26, 1954, the Director noted, "Try and get this nailed down. H."

On March 1, 1954, Walter White called you to advise that he had seen the lawyer who had been the source for the item which had appeared in his column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin on February 25, 1954. White identified the source as Bethuel Webster, President of the New York City Bar Association. According to White, Webster felt without any criticism whatever toward the Bureau that it was highly improper to investigate a man of the standing of the banker on the basis of some crazy letter. He identified the banker as [redacted] (true name [redacted])

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

RE BUREAU INVESTIGATION OF [REDACTED]

BUfiles reflect that [REDACTED] has been investigated only on one occasion by the Bureau. In June and July, 1953, the Bureau investigated [REDACTED] as an Atomic Energy Act applicant. The investigation was requested by the Atomic Energy Commission and was conducted by the Bureau in accordance with its responsibilities under Public Law #298 of the 82nd Congress, passed on April 5, 1952. Following receipt of an Atomic Energy Commission personnel security questionnaire, the Bureau's AEA applicant investigation was opened on June 5, 1953. Copies of the letter opening the investigation were sent to New York, Washington Field Office, Boston and Baltimore.

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b7C

On June 22, 1953, Sherman Adams, Assistant to the President, wrote the Director requesting name checks and investigations on individuals who were being considered for Presidential appointments. Included in the list of individuals under the "name checks" category was [REDACTED]. By letter dated June 26, 1953, the Director advised Mr. Adams that the Bureau was conducting an Atomic Energy Act applicant investigation relative to [REDACTED] and that Mr. Adams would be promptly advised of the results upon the completion of the inquiry. [REDACTED]

By letter dated July 17, 1953, the Director furnished Mr. Adams eleven investigative reports concerning [REDACTED] as well as Photostatic copies of hearings held before the Special Committee of the Committee on Military Affairs, House of Representatives, on February 27, 1945, pertaining to [REDACTED]. Copies of the investigative reports were, of course, also furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission, and copies of reports concerning [REDACTED] also were furnished to ONI. [REDACTED]

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b7C

By report dated July 1, 1953, SA [REDACTED] reported the results of investigation conducted by the New York Office in connection with the AEA applicant investigation of [REDACTED]. On page 8 and 9 of this report an interview with Bethuel Webster, President of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, is set forth. Webster is reflected in the report as commenting favorably concerning [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

RE ANONYMOUS LETTER PERTAINING TO [REDACTED] BELIEVED POSSIBLY
IDENTICAL TO ANONYMOUS LETTER REFERRED TO IN WHITE'S COLUMN:

A "Request for Report on Loyalty Data" form concerning [REDACTED] dated October 6, 1950, was forwarded to the Bureau by the State Department in 1950. A review of Bufiles at that time revealed considerable information on [REDACTED]. By memorandum dated December 27, 1950, the Director advised Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford of the receipt of [REDACTED] loyalty form and of information in Bufiles concerning [REDACTED]. Included in the information furnished Peyton Ford was the following:

b6
b7C

"In an anonymous letter to the President dated September 28, 1945, information was set out concerning [REDACTED]. In this letter the individual who wrote the letter stated that he had served with [REDACTED] in Military Intelligence. A State Department contact advised that the author of this letter was a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who was at one time attached to the [REDACTED]. The letter stated that when [REDACTED] came into Military Intelligence, he brought with him numerous young lawyers who were personally loyal to him from his own law firm and similar law firms and included in this group was [REDACTED]. Regarding [REDACTED] pro-Communist beliefs, the writer of this communication stated 'he has been the vigorous leader of a pro-Communist group within G-2 to a point where he attempted to have the truth presented not from the simple American point of view but in the light most favorable to the Russians. A study of the personnel in G-2 will reveal that he permitted officials with known Communist leanings to sit in positions where they could influence the presentation of intelligence.' The letter continued 'There is a saying in G-2 that [REDACTED] would not have lasted one week if his former law partner, [REDACTED] were not in a position of importance.'"

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

At the conclusion of the memorandum to Peyton Ford dated December 27, 1950, the Director stated, "Your opinion is requested as to the advisability of conducting a loyalty investigation of [redacted] based on the foregoing information. If no investigation is desired, please advise whether the information set out above should be referred to the Civil Service Commission and the employing agency or whether the loyalty form should be returned marked 'no disloyal data, FBI files.'" [redacted]

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b7C

The Bureau periodically followed this matter with Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford. By memorandum dated August 20, 1951, Peyton Ford advised the Director, "The file in this case, including a copy of your confidential memorandum of December 27, 1950, has been brought to the attention of Honorable Donald S. Dawson, Administrative Assistant to the President, who has in turn brought it to the attention of the Secretary of State. This action was taken in order that the top officials who are concerned with the important matters in which [redacted] is engaged might be made aware of the allegations."

b6
b7C

"It has been concluded by Mr. Dawson and the State Department that in view of the very vague and rather nebulous nature of the charges, which seem to apply to someone else rather than to [redacted] an investigation is not justified. In view of this no investigation is required." [redacted]

By memorandum dated September 6, 1951, Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford advised the Director, "In view of the action which has been taken of furnishing the information to the Secretary of State, it would appear that it would be sufficient to note on the form [redacted] (loyalty form) that information in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been furnished to the Secretary of State with an added notation that no investigation is being conducted." [redacted]

b6
b7C

Regarding the anonymous letter to the President dated September 28, 1945, concerning [redacted] it is to be noted that the File Review Unit has checked all available references to [redacted] in an effort to determine whether the Bureau has a record of information pertaining to this anonymous letter being furnished to the New York Office. Several references to [redacted] were out of file and not located; however, nearly 200 were reviewed by the File Review Section, and none of these disclose that the information concerning the anonymous letter had been furnished to the New York Office.

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

In regard to Bethuel Webster, a Loyalty of Government Employees investigation concerning Webster was conducted in 1949-50. The investigation was terminated by Webster's termination of employment with the Department of the Army in January, 1950. It should be noted that in an "Application for Federal Employment Form" executed by Webster in 1949, [] was listed as a reference. (121-20897-14)

RE SA [] NEW YORK OFFICE:

b6
b7C

SA [] ~~apparently~~ is the FBI Agent who interviewed Webster in regard to []. A brief review of his personnel file reveals that [] entered on duty as a Special Agent May 12, 1947, and that he has been assigned to the New York Office since May 27, 1950. [] has been in GS-12 since August, 1951. In his last efficiency rating, dated March 31, 1953, [] was rated as satisfactory and the notation was made that he showed capability for additional responsibility. It was observed that he had been assigned to the applicant section of the New York Office for the entire period of April 1, 1952; to March 31, 1953. He was described as being mature and as possessing good judgment and discretion. It was observed that he had been assigned to the most complicated investigations on the applicant squad and had handled these assignments in an entirely satisfactory manner. It was noted that he had been assigned to interviewing prominent persons and that his contacts all had been handled well and he had proven himself to be an able representative of the Bureau. Additionally, his attitude toward his work was described as "consistently excellent," his voluntary overtime was well above the office average and his performance was "well above average." []

b6
b7C

It has previously been noted in this memorandum that other government agencies have shown an interest in [] and that information concerning the anonymous letter to the President pertaining to [] is known to agencies other than the Bureau. [] interview with Webster took place in June, 1953; whereas, the reference to Webster being interviewed did not appear in Walter White's column until February 25, 1954--eight months later. It is not unreasonable to suspect that an investigator from another government agency may have interviewed Webster sometime between July, 1953, and February, 1954, and made the statement concerning the anonymous letter.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON *Kper*

DATE: March 4, 1954

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: COMINFIL NAACP, IS-C

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

Reference is made to the Air-Tel from New York, dated March 2, 1954, concerning the above-captioned matter, on page 2 of which there is a statement that Walter White told a group which met at the home of [redacted] after the NAACP banquet on January 30, 1954, that after recently meeting Mr. Hoover in Harvey's, Mr. Hoover sent White a letter of commendation. The Director noted: "Let me see this letter."

There is attached an incoming letter dated December 21, 1953, from White referring to a meeting with the Director the other evening in Harvey's at which time White's radio program was discussed. White asked the Director for a letter expressing his opinion of the program. A reply was sent to White on December 28, 1953, the yellow of which is attached. (100-328241-9)

LBN:FML

Attachment

CC - Mr. Belmont

11 MAR 11 1954

*I report that I sent
White a letter in mid-
of turn White has taken.*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mm

100-328241-1
RECORDED
13 MAR 13 1954

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-328241-1

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen *PRM*
FROM :
SUBJECT: COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE REGARDING
ALLEGED FBI INVESTIGATION OF

DATE: March 12, 1954

United States
Review Conducted
See Top Serial
Form 4-774

✓
b6 Tolson
b7C Add
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

Reference is made to the memorandum from Mr. Jones to Mr. Nichols, dated March 3, 1954, concerning the above-captioned matter.

gln It will be remembered that White wrote a newspaper column in the Philadelphia Bulletin on 2/25/54 referring to an Agent apologizing to a lawyer for conducting an investigation of one of the nation's top bankers on the grounds that an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation. After Mr. Nichols talked to White, White identified the lawyer as Bethuel Webster, the President of the New York City Bar Association.

In the referenced memorandum it was recommended that SAC Kelly of the New York Office, find out from of the New York Office, who interviewed Webster in connection with an Atomic Energy Applicant investigation of (the banker involved), in June, 1953, as to whether he mentioned an anonymous letter to Webster and that if denied it, then Kelly was to interview Webster to get his story and to explain to him that the investigation by the Bureau in June, 1953, was conducted pursuant to an Act of Congress and that the Bureau had no alternative except to conduct the investigation.

At 10:05 A.M., 3/8/54, Mr. Kelly was appropriately advised by the writer. At 5:45 P.M., the same date, SAC Kelly advised that there was no reference in the New York files to any anonymous letter involving and that Agent had been interviewed by Mr. Kelly and stated he did not know of any letter and certainly did not mention any letter to Mr. Webster; that recalled the interview - that Mr. Webster was very courteous and spoke well of and that the interview was completely without incident.

The referenced memorandum referred to an anonymous letter which had been written to the President on September 28, 1945, concerning, principally, but it did mention and stated that if it wasn't for the connection between and and the fact that held a big

cc: Mr. Nichols

GCC:amb

RECORDED - 9
INDEXED - 9

27 APR 21 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

52 MAY 7 1954

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

PERS. FILES

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

job, [] wouldn't be able to hold a job in G-2 because of his pro-Communist attitude.

b6
b7c

The referenced memorandum, Page 6, stated that nearly 200 file references were reviewed and there was no indication that the New York Office had been advised of this letter.

After Mr. Kelly's call, a complete review was made of our files and this review definitely shows that the New York Office did not receive any information concerning the anonymous letter.

Mr. Kelly then stated that he would interview Bethuel Webster at the earliest possible moment.

At 1:20 P.M., 3/12/54, Mr. Kelly called and in the absence of the writer advised Supervisor [] that he had interviewed Bethuel Webster and that Webster recalled having been contacted by Agent []. He stated that Agent [] mentioned no letter to him; that [] conducted himself in a perfectly proper manner; that at no time did he make any apologies for having to make the investigation. He mentioned nothing concerning an anonymous letter and, according to Kelly, Webster said he knew nothing about an anonymous letter. Webster received SAC Kelly very well and stated that the Agent conducted his interview in a brief, bright and thorough manner.

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b7c

Mr. Webster spoke highly of the Director and indicated that he liked the Agents of the Bureau very much. Mr. Webster stated that he understood very well the Bureau's position in conducting the investigation of [].

Mr. Kelly advised that he was sending a detailed letter to the Bureau pertaining to this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

It would appear that either White or Webster is a liar. It is suggested that upon receipt of the letter from the New York Office, consideration be given to contacting White and advising him that we have been in touch with Mr. Webster and that Mr. Webster completely denies the story which appeared in White's column.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: April 12, 1954

FROM : L. B. Nichols

Limited Classification
 Review Completed
 See Top Serial
 Form 4-774

 SUBJECT: COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE REGARDING
ALLEGED FBI INVESTIGATION OF
 [REDACTED]

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

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 b7C

I talked to Walter White about his column of February 25, 1954, wherein he referred to a lawyer being indignant regarding an FBI investigation of an unselfish citizen and of an Agent apologetically stating he received an anonymous letter. You will recall that Walter subsequently informed me that his source was Bethuel Webster. We have talked to Webster and Webster did not support White's statement.

In my conversation with White today, I advised him that we had talked to Mr. Webster in line with our previous agreement; that Webster did not support White in his comments. I outlined Webster's position as set forth in SAC Kelly's letter dated March 12, 1954. White stated he was dumbfounded because Webster was quite agitated when he talked to him, and when Webster returns from Europe, he is going to tackle Webster about this. In the meantime, he appreciated being set straight and would try to correct the situation.

 cc: Mr. Boardman
 Mr. Rosen

LBN:arm

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 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

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PERS. FILES

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Nease
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

May 12, 1957.

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

Dear Sir:

In a television interview a week ago, you were quoted as saying that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was engaged in furthering the designs of the round fathers of this country. That, at least, was the general meaning of your statement, as I understood it. May I ask what it was, precisely, that you said? Or if it was a part of some longer discussion that was published, where was the publication?

I should be very grateful for this information; like many others I regard your statements with deep respect.

100-328241-✓

NOT RECORDED
76 MAY 29 1957

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May 21, 1957

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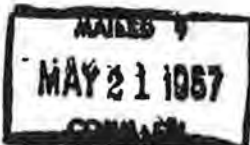
Dear [redacted]

Your letter of May 12, 1957, has been received during Mr. Hoover's absence from the city, and I am acknowledging it for him.

I know he will appreciate the interest which prompted you to communicate with him.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary



REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
MAY 21 3 57 PM '57

ORIGINAL COPY FILED

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. It is believed that he is referring to comments made on the Mike Wallace television program on May 5, 1957, at which time Wallace was interviewing a high official of the Ku Klux Klan. While the comments of Wallace are not identifiable in Bufiles, it is believed that he had reference to a statement furnished Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in December, 1953 in regard to White's radio program. This statement, while not mentioning the NAACP by name, commented on the contribution being made by White's program against the force of bigotry, prejudice and subversion. Subsequently, it was ascertained that White had supplied erroneous information concerning an FBI investigation in his newspaper column and further in March, 1954, White was alleged to have bragged of the letter from the Director in an unbecoming manner. The Director noted that "I regret now I sent such a letter in view of turn White has taken; in view of above, it is not advisable to comment concerning correspondent's inquiries."

JUN 2 1957
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WPN

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

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

See Me _____ ()
Note and Return _____ ()
For Your Recommendation ()
What are the facts? ()
Remarks:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mc