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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
New York 7, New York

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF Class
DATE 5/16/82

~~SECRET~~

December 5, 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

Director, FBI

RE: DONALD L. WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Bureau File 100-10355)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter of the Atlanta Office dated November 1, 1947 to the Director and to letter from the Washington Field Office dated November 7, 1947 to the Director concerning one VICTOR SULA (ph.), who was in contact with the above entitled subject in Atlanta, Georgia on October 30th and 31st, 1947. (S)

The indices of the New York Office were checked with negative results on VICTOR SULA, VICTOR ZULA, VICTOR SOLA and ZULJOVIC (all phonetic spellings). (S)

The telephone directory of the United Nations, issued by the Department of Conference and General Service Maintenance and Engineering Service of the United Nations, was also checked with negative results on the above names. (S)

The list of United Nations delegates from Yugoslavia and their secretaries coming to New York City to attend the General Assembly of the United Nations meeting in September 1947 was likewise checked with negative results. This list was made available to the New York Office by Confidential Informant [redacted] (S)

The latter mentioned list did reflect that one ALEKSA TODOROVIC arrived in this country on or about September 10, 1947 with the Yugoslav United Nations delegation and was listed as a secretary to the permanent delegation. It was also ascertained that TODOROVIC registered at the HOTEL SHELTON, Lexington Avenue at 49th Street, New York City, and has since checked out and it is believed he has returned to Yugoslavia. The indices of the New York Office failed to reflect any further information on this individual. (S)

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&
INDEXED

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100-20396-62

19 DEC 13 1947

HNL:DJ
100-22129

60 DEC 13 1947

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Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/lpsk
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 11/18/92

b2
b7D

Handwritten initials and signatures, including "FIVE" and "10/21/47".

~~SECRET~~

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 100-22129

December 5, 1947

The indices of the New York Office did reflect, however, the following information pertaining to one ALEX TODOROVICH, who might possibly be identical with ALEKSA TODOROVIC. This information is as follows: (S)

On September 21, 1944 the Bureau forwarded to the New York Office two photostatic copies of lists of persons who, according to the State Department, had served in the Loyalist Army in Spain during the years 1936 to 1939. This material was furnished to the Bureau by the Passport Division of the State Department. On this list appeared the name of ALEX TODOROVICH, address 6910 St. Claire Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, age 22, passport number 364414, issued January 29, 1937. (S)

The October 1942 issue of VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY, Volume 4, No. 4, issued by the VETERANS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE, carried a column on page 3 entitled "SIM" by MORFISHMAN in which appeared the following: "Everyday another vet comes in to say that he is going to be inducted." Thereafter FISHMAN listed "our Army list", which included the name of ALEX TODOROVICH. No other information was contained on this individual.

In the report of SA E. L. Boyle, Pittsburgh, dated April 22, 1942, in the case entitled "COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, District No. 5; INTERNAL SECURITY - C", under the heading "Information About Various Persons Who Are Communists or Alleged Communists", it was stated that ALEX TODOROVICH, who was a former employee of the foreign language Communist paper "NARODNI GLASNIK" (Croatian Communist controlled paper), is now in the Army and is definitely a Communist member, according to Confidential Informant [redacted] TODOROVICH is described as follows:

b2
b7D

Name:	ALEX TODOROVICH
Height:	5' 9"
Weight:	160 lbs.
Hair:	Black
Eyes:	Brown
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Medium
Features:	High forehead; skinny face
Organizations:	Member of ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE in Spain.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 100-22129

December 5, 1947

In the report of SA Herman O. Bly, dated November 25, 1942 at New York City, in the case entitled "VETERANS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE; INTERNAL SECURITY - C", it was stated that on October 21, 1942 the names of 155 vets of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE who served in the Spanish Loyalist Army and who were on that date in the U. S. Armed Forces were obtained from a reliable, confidential source. The name of ALEX TODOROVICH appeared on this list. His address at that time was Headquarters Battery, 160th Field Artillery Battalion, APO 45, c/o Postmaster, New York. The report also reflected that this individual was reported as being an active member of the Communist Party in the Cleveland, Ohio district and was mentioned in the Communist Yearbook of 1937 as being one of the distributors of the DAILY WORKER. It was also reflected that on January 29, 1937 he had been issued passport number 364-414 in order to go to Spain.

In the May 1944 issue of VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY, issued by the Bureau of Information of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE, Volume 6, No. 1, Page 3, it was reflected that a letter had been received from Corporal ALEX TODOROVICH who was at that time at Anzio Beachhead, Italy. TODOROVICH in his letter stated that he had not run into any of the "vets" in the Italian theatre and asked that the paper assist him in corresponding with some of the fellows "who were in his outfit in Spain - with the First Regiment de Tren". TODOROVICH then stated that in Spain he had had the job of bringing up supplies, but now he is helping "burn up the Ammo" and his Artillery Battalion was hurling it at the Germans.

Inasmuch as there appear to be no further leads for the New York Office in this matter, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Very truly yours,

Edward Scheidt

EDWARD SCHEIDT,
SAC.

CC Washington Field (100-18793)
CC Atlanta (100-559)

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 12, 1947

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

RE: Title DONALD LEE WEST

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review 4/15/92 4/15/82

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Atlanta
Symbol Number AT-1324 Comp. [unclear]
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or
Microphone) Mic-Tel

1. Subject's name and address:

DONALD LEE WEST, Oglethorpe University
New Hermance Road
Oglethorpe University, Georgia

2. Location of technical operation:

Atlanta Office

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 5/26/82~~

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

Initial authorization March 21, 1947
Installation March 27, 1947

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

Instant installation temporarily discontinued 6/17/47 because telephone company making extensive repairs in vicinity. Resumed 7/2/47.

Installation again temporarily discontinued 7/30/47 because subject left town with family on summer visit to North Georgia. Resumed 9/25/47.

INDEXED

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5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

During the latter part of September, October and November, 1947 subject had many conversations with individuals connected with

7 JAN 2 1948

(continued on Page 4)

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6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

No

9. Manpower and costs involved:

Up until the present time there has been no cost involved in instant installation. However, it is necessary to maintain two special employees in the Atlanta Office to handle information coming from instant installation.

It is anticipated that instant installation will cost approximately \$17 per month for ten miles of leased wire.

10. Remarks (By SAC):

In view of subject's active participation and interest in the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, his close connections with HOMER B. CHASE, District Organizer, for the CP, it is recommended that instant installation be continued.

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government):

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~~SECRET~~

Subject is a Communist Party top functionary in the Atlanta Division. In view of subjects activities as set out under item 5, it is felt that the continuance of this surveillance will be of value. It is recommended that the surveillance be continued.

WET

12. Recommendation by Assistant Director:

It is recommended that this surveillance be continued.

WET
W.C.P.

OK

~~(S)~~

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

OK
EAT

W.C.P.
W.C.P.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

No. 5 cont's from Page 1

the Southern Conference for Human Welfare regarding that organization and its plans to sponsor a speaking engagement in Atlanta by former Vice-President HENRY A. WALLACE on November 20. Subject was one of the most active behind-the-scenes promoters of the Wallace meeting. Through this installation it was possible to follow the arrangements being made for the meeting and to determine the extent of Communist influence behind it. Throughout the weeks prior to the meeting subject was in frequent contact with HOMER B. CHASE, Organizer of CP District #31, and kept the latter advised of progress being made toward arranging the meeting. This information could not have been obtained from any other source.

Through this installation it was learned on 10/10/47 that NATHAN ROSS, Southern Organizer for the CP, was in Atlanta and was having supper that night at home of subject. ROSS was in Atlanta until 10/15/47 and surveillances showed he spent much of the time at home of subject.

ROSS is a brother-in-law of subject. HOMER B. CHASE often advises subject of instructions as information received from ROSS at Party headquarters. Also, through this installation, it has been learned that CHASE and subject frequently arrange to meet to discuss matters in connection with Party activities. They have been surveilled on a number of occasions as a result of the tip-off received through the installation.

On the night of 12/4/47 subject was contacted by an individual named MARVIN SHAW, who indicated he was a friend of NAT ROSS; that he would be in town only a few hours; and that he wanted to see HOMER B. CHASE. Subject made arrangements to meet SHAW. A surveillance conducted as a result of the above information received from this installation revealed that SHAW and subject later met HOMER CHASE and that they were together for approximately three hours after which SHAW departed by train for New York. SHAW, according to files in the Atlanta Office, is in charge of student organization for the Communist Party.

~~SECRET~~



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice



Post Office Box 1850
Atlanta 1, Georgia

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

~~SECRET~~

January 3, 1948

Director, F.B.I.

RE: DONALD L. WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Bureau File 100-20396)

Dear Sir:

The above individual, a top functionary in the Atlanta Division, Communist Party, is a professor of English Literature and Sacred Literature, at Oglethorpe University, in Atlanta.

~~*CONF. INFT.~~

Informant AT-1324 has reported that on December 16, 1947, he heard WEST tell WILLIAM STAFFORD, Head of the UPWA - CIO, in Atlanta, that some individual, giving the name of "ELMER DAVIS" had called the Registrar's Office, at Oglethorpe University, on that day, and had stated that he could not understand why Oglethorpe University allowed a "Red" like WEST to remain on the faculty. This individual had stated that WEST was sending out "Red" literature on the stationery of the University. He also advised the Registrar's Office that he was writing a letter to the Hearst Foundation concerning this matter. (S)

WEST told STAFFORD that the Registrar's Office had reported this call to the President of the University, Dr. PHILIP WELTNER, and that WELTNER had called WEST to his office and had had him "on the carpet". WEST stated that the caller had hit a sensitive spot, because Oglethorpe was expecting to receive \$50,000 from the Hearst Foundation, and that an incident such as this might "queer the deal". WEST said that WELTNER had also brought up the fact that HENRY WALLACE, in one of his recent speeches in Georgia, had stated that a certain Southern University would not let him speak on the campus, because the school was hoping to receive \$50,000 from WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST. WELTNER had wondered how WALLACE had secured this information, and assumed that WEST had been (S)

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF DATE 5/29/82~~

Class. & Ext. By SP-11/138
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/20/92
3/20/82

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JAN 6 1948

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EX-109

Atlanta, 100-559

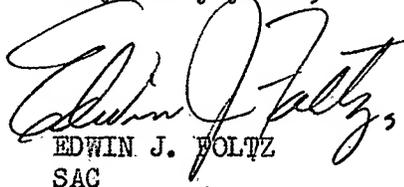
~~SECRET~~

the one who had furnished the information to WALLACE. It is known that prior to the time that WALLACE spoke in Atlanta, on November 20, last, WEST received an official letter from Dr. WELTNER, instructing him not to act as chairman of the committee arranging the Wallace meeting. (S)

WEST asked STAFFORD if he knew anyone by the name of "ELMER DAVIS", and STAFFORD replied that the only one he knew of by this name was the writer, who had acted as head of O.W.I. during the War. They both agreed that this could not have been the party who had called the Registrar, and also agreed that very probably it was a fictitious name. WEST indicated that he felt that he was in a very precarious position at Oglethorpe, and was very anxious to identify ELMER DAVIS. He said that the only thing that he could think of that might have been called "Red" literature, was some teachers' letters which he had sent out, and that he supposed that the "Red Baiters" would classify "Communist stuff" anything which referred to the Constitution or the Bill of Rights. (S)

The Informant further reported that on the same day WEST talked to Reverend I. J. DOMAS, and a Mr. SHIRLEY CAPPS, and asked each of them if they knew an "ELMER DAVIS". None of them knew an individual by that name, and all agreed that it was probably a fictitious name used by someone who wanted to cause trouble for WEST at Oglethorpe. WEST told DOMAS that the fellow who had called had left no telephone number or address, and that there was hardly any way to follow up and find out who made the call. (S)

Very truly yours,


EDWIN J. FOLTZ
SAC

DBC/ds
100-559

c/c 100-4055

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~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **ATLANTA**

FILE NO. 100-559

REPORT MADE AT Atlanta, Georgia	DATE WHEN MADE 2/14/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/2,4/47 1/2/48	REPORT MADE BY DONALD B. CLEGG mos
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, with aliases		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject in frequent contact with HOMER B. CHASE, Communist Party District Organizer. MARVIN SHAW, Student Organizer, Communist Party, spent few hours in company of subject on 12/4/47. Subject was present at Chicago meeting, 12/29/47 when HENRY WALLACE announced his candidacy for president. Subject is president of the Georgia Wallace-for-President Group, and there is some indication that subject is interested in running for governor of Georgia on WALLACE ticket. Subject is having difficulties with president of Oglethorpe University, where he is employed, because of his activities. Subject spent few hours on 1/2/48 in company of M. WLONGCZEK, Editor in Chief of Polish Press. (S)

Class. & Ext. by 59-1 GSK/PSK
 Reason: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
 - P - Date of Review 4/8/92
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
 WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE. 4/8/92

REFERENCE: Bureau File: 100-20396

Report of Special Agent DONALD B. CLEGG, dated November 18, 1947, at Atlanta, Georgia

DETAILS: PARTY ACTIVITIES

Informant T-1 advised that he was with subject on November 8, 1947, when subject was told by HOMER B. CHASE, Organizer for Communist Party District No. 31, that he had received a letter from subject's "relative" stating that one of the "good men in union circles" in Atlanta was (S)

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1 - New York (Info.)			
2 - Atlanta			

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being transferred by his headquarters. No names were mentioned, but CHASE referred to the union man as "the fellow who recently bought himself a house". According to the informant, it is believed that they were referring to WILLIAM STAFFORD, head of the UPWA-CIO in Atlanta since STAFFORD is known to have purchased a house in Atlanta during the latter part of 1947. CHASE told subject that the union fellow wanted to stay in Atlanta and was doing everything possible to get his headquarters to leave him here, and that it was believed he would be able to remain until next summer. CHASE stated that subject's "relative" had indicated that he was going to write a letter to the president of the union asking that the Atlanta representative be allowed to remain here. The informant stated that CHASE and subject WEST always referred to NATHAN ROSS, Southern Organizer for the Communist Party, as "the relative" since he is married to a sister of subject WEST. (S)

During this same conversation the informant stated that WEST remarked that he had never heard any more about the trip he was supposed to make "up there" around Thanksgiving. CHASE asked subject if he had been supplied with the names and everything, and subject replied that he had been furnished the names a long time ago. Subject stated he had been planning on making the trip around Thanksgiving, but that unless he heard something further from "up there" he would not go and that this would be all right with him because he was plenty busy around Atlanta. Subsequent information received from Informant T-1 indicated that WEST did not leave Atlanta during the Thanksgiving holidays. (S)

On November 14, 1947, it was learned from Informant T-1 and also from a surveillance which was being conducted of HOMER B. CHASE that subject met CHASE at around 3:30 in the afternoon and that they drove to Douglasville, Georgia, where subject is purchasing a farm. (S)

On November 18, 1947, Informant T-1 advised that he had been in the company of subject WEST when the latter was informed by HOMER B. CHASE that he was going to Savannah that night and that he could be reached in Savannah through the NMU Office or through "RED" at the same place. According to the Informant, during this same conversation CHASE and subject WEST discussed the possibility of there being violence at the WALLACE meeting which was to be held in Atlanta on November 20, 1947. Subject stated that he had learned through one of his students who worked for the Associated Press that they were installing photographic equipment on the top of a building across the street from the meeting hall in order to take photographs of any disturbance which might occur outside the hall. (S)

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Atlanta 100-559

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T-1 reported that on November 23, 1947, he was with subject WEST when HOMER B. CHASE discussed with subject a recent trip to South Georgia. CHASE and subject, according to the informant, were very guarded in their conversation and mentioned few proper names. However, the informant was able to remember that one of the persons discussed by them was a preacher in Darien, Georgia, a small town near Brunswick. According to the informant, it appeared that the first or last name of this preacher was "ARCHER". CHASE mentioned the fact that he had seen this preacher in Darien and subject stated he had heard that the preacher was quitting his job at Darien and was going with the "Peoples Institute". CHASE stated it was true that the preacher was thinking about leaving Darien and that he was sorry that he had not had an opportunity to confer with the preacher before the latter had reached a decision. Subject agreed and stated that he thought that "all good people ought to stay in a regular job". CHASE stated that he had discussed all the angles with the preacher and had told him that he ought to hesitate about getting out of Darien as his new work was not going to amount to anything. CHASE stated that he had told the preacher that it would be impossible to do anything through the "institute" unless it was tied up with something else, such as a Planters Union. Subject agreed and stated that he had been insisting to the head of the "Institute" for a long time that the only condition under which he would give him any support would be that something concrete came out in terms of farm organization. (S)

CHASE and subject then discussed an individual from Alabama who had recently been in Brunswick, Georgia. It appeared to the informant that this individual had been planning to hold some sort of religious tent meetings, but had had difficulty in getting a place on which to erect a tent. CHASE indicated that this individual had been "hitting the bottle" and had made a very poor impression on some very fine people. CHASE also indicated that this individual had been very critical of the "national leadership" and that CHASE felt that this individual should make his criticisms in Alabama rather than in Georgia. (S)

Through Informant T-2 it was learned that HOMER B. CHASE went to Birmingham over Thanksgiving, returning to Atlanta on November 27, 1947. On December 1, 1947, Informant T-1 advised that he had heard subject WEST ask CHASE if, while in Alabama, he had had an opportunity to see the fellow who is heading up the fertilizer thing. CHASE replied that he had only spent one day in Alabama, and had not had an opportunity to see the fellow. CHASE stated he had received a letter from the individual under discussion and that the individual had proposed (S)

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Atlanta 100-559

putting out a paper in Georgia for the McAllister group, which is doing some organizational work among the farmers in Georgia. It is believed that they were referring to a group under a man named FRANK McALLISTER. The informant has previously heard CHASE and WEST discussing McALLISTER and his group, and they are very critical of him. There is no indication that McALLISTER is a member of the Communist Party, but he is believed to be a Socialist and has been referred to by CHASE, as a "Trotskyite". CHASE and subject agreed that it would be a good idea to put out a farm paper, but that it should not be sponsored under any circumstances by the McAllister Group. Subject stated he had already written a letter to the individual in Alabama going into the background of the situation in Georgia. (S)

CHASE then told subject that he had received a memorandum on farm work. Subject WEST stated that he had received a letter from "LEM" stating that a copy of the memorandum was being sent to subject; however, he had not as yet received the memorandum. (S)

T-1 advised on December 4, 1947, that subject had been contacted by an individual who identified himself as MARVIN SHAW. The latter told subject that he had just arrived in Atlanta and wanted to get in touch with "the other friend of mine" during the few hours that he would be in town. SHAW told subject that he was a friend of "Nat's". Subject told SHAW that he did not know where the other individual could be reached at that time, but that he, subject, would meet SHAW in a few minutes at the Terminal Station. (S)

A surveillance conducted at the Terminal Station by Special Agent CHARLES T. HAYNES and the writer disclosed that subject WEST met an individual there at about 9:15 PM. This individual was white, approximately 26 years of age, five feet five inches tall, weighing approximately 125 pounds, wearing thick tortoise shell rimmed glasses, and no hat. This individual was carrying a small week end bag and black brief case. (S)

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new to me 9/22/48
Considerable papers etc

Atlanta 100-559

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A check of the Atlanta indices reflected that MARVIN SHAW is National Student Secretary of the Communist Party and had been active at Madison, Wisconsin during the Constitutional Convention of the National Students Organizations which was held there from August 30, 1947, to September 7, 1947. (S)

Subject and SHAW were together at the Terminal Station until 10:45 PM when they went to the residence of HOMER B. CHASE. The latter joined them in subject's car and they returned to the Terminal Station, where they remained in the automobile until 12:50 AM on December 5, 1947. During this time, SHAW was seen showing CHASE and subject some of the material from his brief case. At 1:10 AM SHAW departed via Southern Railway for New York City. It was learned through the train conductor that he had arrived in Atlanta from New Orleans. (S)

T-1 advised that he was in the company of subject on December 9, 1947, when subject and CHASE discussed a number of different things regarding activities in Atlanta. CHASE stated that he was having a lot of trouble getting the news letter printed. It was known that CHASE had been endeavoring to locate a printer who would put out a monthly news letter for the Communist Party of Georgia. All of the printers whom CHASE contacted in Atlanta turned the job down. Subject and CHASE both agreed that it would probably be necessary to get the news letter printed outside of Atlanta. Subject then asked CHASE what he had thought of the "little fellow" the other night. CHASE replied that the basic approach to the student thing seemed to be OK. CHASE then stated that he was a little worried about the negroes — that their groups did not seem to be clicking just right and that they seemed unable to organize themselves without leadership. CHASE asked WEST if he had written the fellow downstate, whose first name was DEVOE. According to the informant, WEST gave no definite indication as to whether he had written to DEVOE. The latter is unknown to the informant. (S)

On December 17, 1947, Informant T-1 heard HOMER B. CHASE tell subject that he had recently seen WEST's "relative" and that the "relative" was anxious to get out of his present job. CHASE also stated that the "relative" had been pleased with the WALLACE meeting in Atlanta and had offered apologies in Atlanta for not being able to be in Atlanta when the meeting was held. Regarding the "relative's" desire for a change in jobs, CHASE stated "we voted to keep him in until we find a suitable replacement". As stated above, CHASE and subject generally refer to NATHAN ROSS as "the relative". (S)

According to T-1, on December 28, 1947, subject advised HOMER B. CHASE that he was going to Chicago to be present at the WALLACE (S)

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Atlanta 100-559

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meeting to be held the following day. They then made arrangements to meet that afternoon at the Georgian Terrace Hotel for a discussion. (S)

Subject returned from Chicago on the morning of January 1, 1948. According to T-1, on the night of January 1, 1948, he contacted WILLIAM STAFFORD, head of the UPWA-CIO in Atlanta, and told STAFFORD that a friend from the coast was at his house and he asked STAFFORD to contact "our friend" and arrange for them to get together that night. A few minutes later, Informant T-2 reported that he was with HOMER B. CHASE when WILLIAM STAFFORD had contacted the latter and had told him that the "professor" wanted them to meet that night. They agreed to hold the meeting at the home of STAFFORD. (S)

ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH SOUTHERN CONFERENCE
FOR HUMAN WELFARE AND THIRD PARTY

On November 18, 1947, Informant T-1 heard subject WEST talking to WILLIAM STAFFORD, and the latter told subject that he was planning to meet HENRY WALLACE the next morning when he arrived in Atlanta, and that he planned to drive WALLACE from Atlanta to Macon where WALLACE was scheduled to appear on the night of November 19, 1948. STAFFORD invited subject to make the trip to Macon with them, and subject agreed to go if he could possibly arrange it. (S)

On the night of November 19, 1947, T-1 heard subject WEST tell EDMONIA GRANT, Administrator of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, that he had ridden to Macon that morning with WALLACE, CLARK FOREMAN, Reverend JOSEPH RABUN and WILLIAM STAFFORD in the latter's car. He stated that he and STAFFORD had not remained in Macon for the WALLACE meeting, but had returned to Atlanta shortly after their arrival in Macon. (S)

During the WALLACE meeting on the night of November 20, 1947, it was noted by Special Agent ROBIN O. COTTEN and the writer that subject WEST, his wife, and daughter, occupied one of the front rows at the meeting.

T-1 reported that on November 21, 1947, he heard subject WEST talking to EDMONIA GRANT. Subject asked GRANT where BRANSON PRICE had gone, and GRANT stated that BRANSON had gone on to Louisville. Subject asked whether there would be any chance of getting BRANSON to remain in Georgia and act as secretary for the Committee for Georgia of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. GRANT stated that she thought (S)

- 6 -
~~SECRET~~

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it would be a good idea but that subject would have to write to BRANSON PRICE, CLARK FOREMAN, President of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and WEST's brother in law. By the latter she may have meant NATHAN ROSS, Southern Organizer for the Communist Party, or MIKE ROSS, who is an official of the CIO Tobacco Union in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Both of these individuals are married to sisters of subject WEST. BRANSON PRICE, according to information in the Atlanta files, is a negro girl who has been active in the Southern Conference for Human Welfare in North Carolina. (S)

During the same conversation on November 21, 1947, Informant heard subject tell EDMONIA GRANT that he was in "hot water" at Oglethorpe University, where he is a professor, because of a remark which had been made by WALLACE during a speech at Macon. WALLACE had made the remark that one of the so-called liberal universities in Georgia had not allowed one of the professors to participate in the WALLACE meeting because they were expecting to get \$50,000 from WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST. It was known that subject had been sent an official letter from the President of Oglethorpe University a few weeks before the WALLACE meeting in which subject was instructed not to have any official connection with the WALLACE affair. (S)

T-1 reported that he was with subject WEST on December 15, 1947, when he had a lengthy conversation with EUDICE TONTAK, Acting Secretary of the Atlanta Chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and a close contact of HOLIER B. CHASE. EUDICE TONTAK mentioned the possibility of getting BRANSON PRICE from the national office in New York to come to Atlanta to work as secretary for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Both TONTAK and subject indicated they had discussed this possibility with CLARK FOREMAN and EDMONIA GRANT, who had appeared to be in favor of it. However, subject WEST stated that he had recently received a letter from BRANSON PRICE indicating that she could not leave New York. She had stated that there was a possibility that her sister, MARY PRICE, might make arrangements to travel to a number of important cities out of North Carolina doing organizational work for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. WEST and TONTAK thought that this would be better than nothing, but that it would be much more satisfactory to have a full time secretary in Atlanta. (S)

T-1 advised that he was with WEST on the afternoon of December 19, 1947, when WEST received a call from CLARK FOREMAN, President of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. FOREMAN, who was (S)

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calling from Washington, stated that he was calling in behalf of the PCA and not the SCHW. He stated he had been asked by DEANIE (phonetic) to call some southern members and get them to attend a WALLACE meeting in Chicago on December 29, 1947. WEST stated that he was experiencing financial difficulties and doubted whether he could make the trip to Chicago. ~~(S)~~

On December 27, 1947, T-1 heard subject WEST tell WILLIAM STAFFORD that EUDICE TONTAK had talked to him the night before, urging him to go to Chicago to the Wallace meeting, and stating that the local SCHW Chapter would pay his expenses. STAFFORD stated that he thought subject would go, and that he believed subject would make a better representative for Georgia than the other person who was going to Chicago, Reverend I. J. DOMAS, because the latter had not lived in Georgia very long. Subject asked STAFFORD if there was anything special that the Atlanta group wanted him to do at the meeting. STAFFORD suggested that in view of the fact that the WALLACE leaders believed they could get on the ballot in 46 of the 48 states, all but Georgia and Florida, subject should assure WALLACE that the people in Georgia would not calmly accept this fact but would fight to get him on the ballot in Georgia. STAFFORD stated that subject should try to arouse WALLACE's interest in what could be done here in this respect and that while he, STAFFORD, did not know the extend of the funds of the new party, it would be up to the people in Georgia to prove what could be done and to hope that the new party might help if possible. STAFFORD stated that this meeting would be one of the most historic events in American history, and that he could remember no time since the civil war when there was more of a political turning point than at present. STAFFORD stated that if C. B. BALDWIN or some of the other WALLACE leaders should respond even more than expected, WEST should try to get some definite commitments out of them and tell them that there were plenty of good people in Georgia, including WEST, who would make good full time WALLACE people. ~~(S)~~

Subject asked STAFFORD if there would be any kick-back among the Atlanta SCHW people about his being chosen to make the trip. STAFFORD stated that he could see no possibility of any kick-back except the phoney type which would be disregarded. STAFFORD reiterated his approval of subject's going to Chicago, and stated that the report which subject would make to the people in Atlanta, upon his return, would necessarily have more dignity than any report which might be made by DOMAS alone since the latter was prone to be rather frivolous in manner. ~~(S)~~

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T-1 further advised that he later heard subject WEST talking to Reverend I. J. DOMAS, who was also going to the Chicago meeting. They arranged to go together by plane on the morning of December 29, 1947. DOMAS stated that this meeting was vital, and that the SCHW money would be well spent in sending them to Chicago. Subject stated that he felt it was important that they should let people like BALDWIN and WALLACE know that the people in Georgia would make a real fight but that they would expect some help from PCA. Subject indicated that they would have to put up a real fight in order to get WALLACE on the ballot in Georgia. (S)

T-1 later heard subject arrange with HENRY WALD, Treasurer for the Atlanta SCHW, to obtain the money for the expenses of his trip. (S)

T-1 also heard WEST talking to EUDICE TONTAK on December 27, 1947. In answer to a question from subject as to what particular message or action the Atlanta group might desire him to take to Chicago, TONTAK stated that he should emphasize the necessity of the WALLACE Party actually working down in this area even though it appeared that WALLACE's name might not get on the ballot in Georgia. She stated that this was important because of the negro vote, and she stated that they should have made arrangements for a colored representative to attend the meeting from Georgia. Subject agreed that it would have been better to have had a negro and a white representative from Georgia. (S)

TONTAK then asked subject WEST if he would be in a position to be interviewed on the radio after his return from Chicago. She stated that she was playing around with the idea of requesting a fifteen minute spot on station WAGA to be granted by the station as a public service, to have subject and Reverend DOMAS interviewed concerning the WALLACE meeting in Chicago. Subject WEST said he would think it over. (S)

Informant T-1 and contacts at Delta Airlines furnished information that subject and Reverend DOMAS actually left Atlanta on the morning of December 29, 1947, for Chicago. WEST returned by train and arrived in Atlanta on January 1, 1948. (S)

Through Informants T-1 and T-2 it was learned that on the night of January 6, 1948, there had been held a meeting of about thirty-five persons interested in the WALLACE Movement in Atlanta. This was in the nature of an organizational meeting. Subject and Reverend DOMAS made reports on the Chicago meeting. They then set up an organization to be known as the Georgia Wallace-for-President Group. Subject was elected president, a negro named MARSHALL from Macon was named vice-president, and WILLIAM STAFFORD was elected secretary. (S)

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T-1 further stated that he has heard subject WEST indicate to some of his associates that he might be interested in running for governor of Georgia on the WALLACE ticket. It is known through Informant T-1 that WILLIAM STAFFORD, secretary of the Georgia Wallace-for-President Group, has sent a letter to C. B. BALDWIN of PCA suggesting that subject be made full time director of the Movement in Georgia. This letter stated that subject realizes that such a position would mean that his future in the educational field in Georgia will be finished, but that he is willing to take the chance if he gets some assurance from PCA that they will take care of him. (S)

On January 7, 1948, Informant T-1 heard subject talking to HOMER B. CHASE and giving CHASE a resume of what had happened at the meeting on the previous night. They discussed the fact that no prominent labor people had attended the meeting although they had been invited, and they agreed that it appears that labor is playing "hands off". Subject WEST told CHASE that he felt that the New Party needed a full time representative in Georgia and that he would like to get the position although it would mean that he would have to give up his job at Oglethorpe and that his future would be very uncertain. (S)

MISCELLANEOUS

On December 8, 1947, T-1 advised he heard subject talking to an individual named JACK, whom the informant believed to be JACK LORENZ, a student at Oglethorpe University. Subject suggested that JACK write an editorial for the school paper concerning the visit to Atlanta of the Freedom Train. Subject suggested that the tone of the editorial should be that the students were proud of Atlanta, which would act as host to the Freedom Train with no regulations on the segregation of the races. Subject indicated that this would be a good theme, following on the footsteps of the non-segregated WALLACE meeting. (S)

On December 16, 1947, T-1 heard subject tell WILLIAM STAFFORD that some individual, giving the name of "ELMER DAVIS" had called the Registrar's Office at Oglethorpe University on that day and had stated that they could not understand why Oglethorpe University allowed a "red" like WEST to remain on the faculty. This individual had stated that subject WEST was sending out "red" literature on the stationery of the University. He also advised the Registrar's Office that he was writing a letter to the Hearst Foundation concerning this matter. (S)

Subject told STAFFORD that the Registrar's Office had reported this call to the president of the University, Dr. PHILIP WELTNER. (S)

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and that WELTNER had called subject to his office and had had him "on the carpet". Subject stated that the caller had hit a sensitive spot because Oglethorpe was expecting to receive \$50,000 from the Hearst Foundation, and that an incident such as this might "queer the deal". Subject stated that WELTNER had also brought up the fact that HENRY WALLACE in one of his recent speeches in Georgia had stated that a certain school in the south would not let him speak on the campus because the school was hoping to receive \$50,000 from WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST. WELTNER had wondered how WALLACE had secured this information, and had assumed that subject had been the one who had furnished the information to WALLACE. (S)

Subject asked STAFFORD if he knew anyone by the name of "ELMER DAVIS" and STAFFORD replied that the only one he knew of by this name was the columnist who had acted as head of the Office of War Information during the War. They both agreed that this could not have been the party who had called the University, and also agreed that very probably it was a fictitious name. Subject indicated he ~~was in~~ a very precarious position at the school, ~~and was very~~ anxious to identify the person making the ~~calls~~ he stated that the caller had left no telephone number or address, and that there was hardly any way to follow up and identify him. He stated that the only thing he could think of that might have been called "red" literature was some teachers literature which he had sent out and that he supposed that the "red baiters" would classify anything referring to the Constitution or the Bill of Rights as "Communist stuff". (S)

According to T-1 subject called a number of other persons in Atlanta and asked them whether they were acquainted with an individual named "ELMER DAVIS", but none of them was able to identify the person. (S)

Through T-1 it was learned that on the morning of January 2, 1948, subject WEST spent two hours with MINIECZYLAW S. WIONCZEK, Editor in Chief of the Polish Press, in New York City, and correspondent for the Polish Press to the United Nations. WIONCZEK had arrived in Atlanta on January 1, 1948, and contacted WEST, stating that JAMES DOBROWSKI at the Southern Conference Office in New York City had suggested that he get in touch with subject WEST upon his arrival in Atlanta because subject could possibly furnish him information about problems of Georgia and the South. (S)

Information furnished by the New York Office indicated that WIONCZEK replaced EDWARD JOSEPH FALKOWSKI as Editor in Chief of the Polish Press Agency in New York in May 1947. WIONCZEK claims to have visited (S)

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thirteen foreign countries since the end of the war and is presently touring the United States to obtain news material for distribution in Poland. During 1947 he visited Montana and Puerto Rico, and among persons he contacted at these localities were known Communist Party labor leaders. Various interpretations have been accorded his political beliefs. Some sources indicated he is a member of the Polish Socialist Party and, although not a Communist, he is cooperating to a certain extent with the Polish Communist regime, but within definite limitations. Other sources maintained he was formerly a member of the Polish Socialist Party and, because of political considerations, is cooperating to a certain extent with Communist elements in Poland. (S)

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LEADS

THE NEW YORK DIVISION

A copy of this report is being furnished the New York Office because of the information contained therein about NATHAN ROSS and also about the Third Party Movement in Georgia.

THE ATLANTA DIVISION

At Atlanta, Georgia

Will continue to follow and report activities of subject through sources of information and confidential informants.

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[~~(S)~~ ~~CONF. INFT.~~
T-1 - AT-1324, whose identity is known to the Bureau.
T-2 - [] whose identity is known to the Bureau. ~~(S)~~]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO. 100-559 DLS

REPORT MADE AT ATLANTA	DATE WHEN MADE 4-6-48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/11, 14, 28; 3/13, 15, 24/48	REPORT MADE BY DONALD B. CLEGG
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject continues to contact HOMER B. CHASE, C.P. District Organizer. He is Executive Vice-Chairman, Georgia Wallace-for-President group. Has been advised by President of Oglethorpe University, where he is employed as a professor, his services will not be needed after present scholastic year. Has been offered position as President of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Declined this offer in order to remain in South. Subject recently sent telegram to Governor of Ga. re activities of KKK. Also made talk at Emory University, Atlanta, against U.M.T.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE Class
5/20/48

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 100-20396
 Report of SA DONALD B. CLEGG, 2-14-48, at Atlanta

DETAILS:

PARTY ACTIVITIES

Informant T-1 advised he was with subject on January 29, 1948 while subject was having a discussion with WILLIAM W. STAFFORD, Head of the U.P.W.A. - CIO, in Atlanta, concerning the local Wallace-for-President group. According to the Informant, it appeared that the group had prepared 300 letters announcing a conference of WALLACE forces, to be held in Macon, Georgia on February 21, 1948. STAFFORD told subject he had talked to FLOYD, and they had decided to wait a little while before mailing out the letters. (An individual named FLOYD HUNTER, Executive Director of the Community Planning Council of Atlanta, is very active in the WALLACE group. He is known to be a contact of HOMER B. CHASE, Organizer for Communist Party, District No. 31).

Class. & Ext. by SP-1 GSK/BR
 Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
 Date of Review 3/20/02

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
 WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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2 - Atlanta		
100-02		
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WEST told STAFFORD he thought it would be a good thing to hold up on sending out the letters because "our friend is going to be up the way". WEST said that he had been talking to "our friend" the other day, and that the "set-up there is a little peculiar". WEST said he could not quite understand "their" attitude toward the South. WEST said "our friend" had made a long-distance call to one of the top fellows, and the man he had talked to was more interested in discussing his new baby boy than anything else. WEST indicated that the time was getting close and they would have to get out the letters about the conference in Macon, but that he was "up a stump". He commented that he was a free American, and that he had a good mind just to take a chance and come out for whom he pleased. He added he guessed, however, that such action would be sort of foolhardy. (S)

Informant T-1 advised he did not understand the exact meaning of the above part of the discussion between subject and STAFFORD, but added that they usually refer to HOMER B. CHASE, Organizer for the Communist Party, District #31, as "our friend". It was also known at the time that CHASE planned to go to New York to visit Party Headquarters within the next few days. (S)

T-1 reported on January 31, 1948 that he had again been with subject on that date, when subject had a discussion with HOMER B. CHASE. According to the Informant, WEST indicated to CHASE that C. B. BALDWIN, Head of the Wallace-for-President Committee, had recognized the group, of which WEST was leader in Georgia, as the official WALLACE group in this State. WEST said they were glad to get this official recognition, but they had not come out so well on the request for finances. According to him, BALDWIN had stated they were behind on salaries at WALLACE headquarters, but had hopes of receiving money from some unidentified individual in Georgia, and also from sources in Florida. CHASE told subject that WALLACE was slated to speak in Florida in the near future, under the sponsorship of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and had been guaranteed \$25,000. (S)

T-1 said that during the same discussion, CHASE told subject he was leaving the following day, and hoped to be back in Atlanta by February 4, 1948. CHASE said he would send a wire to "EUDICE", saying "go ahead -- or something like that". Subject and CHASE both agreed it would be better to get "their" O.K.. (The "EUDICE" referred to above is believed to be EUDICE TONTAK, who is frequently in touch with both CHASE and subject.) Subject said he hoped CHASE had a good trip and found out a lot of things "we need to know". CHASE said he would do the best he could; that he, subject, knew how things were -- that "somebody up there can make things very difficult". (S)

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T-2 reported that HOMER B. CHASE returned from a trip to New York City on February 7, 1948, and within a few minutes after his arrival in Atlanta, he contacted subject. The Informant was with subject at the time, and heard CHASE say he was sort of "non plussed" by his reception in New York. He said he had never gotten to see the fellow whom he had gone up to see, and that "they have nothing but contempt for you up there". CHASE said, "You wouldn't treat a Fascist prisoner the way I was treated", and that it was not only he, CHASE, who received such treatment, but that others were treated likewise, to a greater or lesser degree. Subject said there seemed to be something seriously wrong, and CHASE agreed, stating "it's that guy we met down on the beach". CHASE said this unidentified individual was really a "bad actor", and that "they are so afraid of him they almost crawl". CHASE said he thought it over, and decided there was nothing to be gained by blowing up about it, and subject agreed that nothing could be accomplished by blowing up "at this stage". CHASE said he did not think "he", the unidentified individual, was beloved by too many people, and that his time had come. (S)

CHASE then stated that subject's "relative" had finally gotten into trouble. Subject said he had received a note from "the relative", who said things were not going so well, and that he would let the subject know later what his status was when things shaped up. Subject then asked CHASE if "the relative" was completely out, and CHASE replied that he was "off the payroll". CHASE commented that "the relative" had contributed to his being let out, because he had never taken advantage of what "we have done down here, and has never had a show-down on it". CHASE stated that "they" also had an excuse for removing "the relative", because he had refused to go out of the city. CHASE said the way it had been done was what worried him, in that "nobody was consulted, as usual". Subject agreed that this was true, and said he had mentioned in a little note to the "relative" that nobody down here was ever consulted about things, and therefore knew nothing about them. CHASE said it was directly opposite to what a group of southern people had recommended a couple of months ago. CHASE further stated that nobody ever had anything to say, and that the "guy" ruled with an iron hand. (S)

T-2 advised he could not furnish the exact significance of the above discussion, but stated that NATHAN ROSS, Southern Organizer for the Communist Party, is usually referred to by CHASE and subject as "the relative". ROSS is married to a sister of subject. (S)

T-1 reported he was with subject on February 26, 1948, when subject and CHASE had a discussion on a situation which had developed in South Georgia. According to the Informant, CHASE told subject that things were not going so well in Brunswick. CHASE said he had just received the information which subject had sent him, and he asked subject if he, subject, had received a letter from "that lady". (S)

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WEST said he had received a very ugly letter from her. CHASE commented that this was probably "put upon her by this other guy". Subject agreed, stating she couldn't have had any information on how the thing was conducted if she had not talked with "him". CHASE said that HARRIS thought "them two guys are turning as phony as a \$3.00 bill". Subject said he had been afraid that "those two guys were going to cause us trouble". CHASE said he was going to call HARRIS that night and would go down there the first part of the following week. He said that "they are vicious". Subject said the letter which he had received showed traces of viciousness. CHASE commented that "the rest of them are standing firm, and are ready to move against "those guys". Regarding the letter subject had received, CHASE said that "he" probably wrote it and got her to sign it. Subject stated he had written "her" back a nice letter, saying her help would be appreciated, even if she could not serve as an officer. CHASE then told subject he was going down and "clean those guys out". Subject said that both of the "guys" are prima donas, and this type sooner or later "will give you trouble". CHASE said he would definitely get them out, and both CHASE and subject agreed that the unidentified individuals referred to would probably become more vicious. (S)

T-1 informed he was again with subject on the following day, February 27, 1948, when CHASE talked to subject, and said he was going "down there" on the following Monday. CHASE indicated he had made a 'phone call to "the working fellow", and that he really wanted CHASE to come down. CHASE said "the working fellow" seemed to think the thing was pretty serious, and that "they" were really getting dangerous. CHASE added he rather doubted "they" would go to the papers and things like that because of the way they earned their livings and their connections. CHASE said, "I've got to move against them before they do get other connections. Subject agreed, and commented that "remember way back yonder on that church deal -- I voted against that". (S)

T-1 said he did not understand the exact significance of the discussions between subject and CHASE regarding the situation in Brunswick. He added, however, that on February 24, 1948, he had been with subject during a discussion with EUDICE TONTAK. During this discussion subject said he had received a letter from a Mrs. MORRIS, in Brunswick, in which she indignantly regretted the manner in which she had been appointed as a Vice-Chairman of the Georgia Wallace-for-President group during the conference at Macon, Georgia on February 21, 1948. According to the informant, the discussion (S)

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between TONTAK and subject indicated the Brunswick delegation to the conference had created some friction, and that some of them were dissatisfied when they left Macon. It was indicated that "BERT" and his wife, and a "TORREY", were especially dissatisfied. BERT GILDEN is a member of the Communist Party in Brunswick, Georgia, and ARCHER TORREY, a former Episcopal Minister, at Darien, Georgia, is a strong Communist sympathizer, if not a Party member. (S)

T-2 informed, on March 4, 1948, subject had told him CHASE returned to Atlanta that day, and subject had met CHASE downtown for a discussion. Subject did not tell the informant the nature of his discussion with CHASE. However, he did say that CHASE was leaving town again within the next few days. (S)

T-2 reported on March 13, 1948 that subject had told him CHASE arrived in Atlanta, by plane, from Miami, that afternoon. Subject indicated to the informant that CHASE had gone to Miami to assist Communist leaders there in difficulties which had been brought about by the public exposure of Communist leaders and activities in that area by Miami newspapers. Subject told T-2 that he met CHASE in downtown Atlanta shortly after CHASE'S return. (S)

On the afternoon of March 13, 1948, Special Agents PAUL F. TIERNEY and CHARLES T. HAYNES, JR. observed subject and CHASE together at the Pig 'n Whistle Restaurant, on Ponce de Leon Avenue, Atlanta. Subject's wife was with him at the time.

On March 16, 1948, T-1 reported he had been with CHASE and subject during a discussion on that day, when CHASE told subject he was satisfied with the way things were going in Atlanta, but he was still worried about things "down State". CHASE said he supposed there would be a vicious blast in the papers on the following day after President TRUMAN'S speech. Subject agreed, and said things looked pretty bad on a National scale. CHASE said it was a sign of "their desperation on the International situation, and their desperation in seeing this Third Party snowball". Subject then mentioned that TAYLOR had submitted his bill to the Senate, the bill about the Marshall Plan, and that three Senators, LANGER, PEPPER and TAYLOR, had been the only ones voting for it. CHASE suggested that sometime in the near future, someone in the Wallace movement in Georgia should go on the radio about the revolt of the Southern Governors. Subject indicated that thought would be given to this suggestion by the Wallace group. (S)

On March 18, 1948, subject told Informant T-2 that he had an appointment to meet CHASE at 8:30 that night, at the Pig 'n Whistle Restaurant. (S)

On March 22, 1948 subject told informant T-2 he was going to see CHASE again that night, in downtown Atlanta. (S)

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On March 28, 1948 subject's wife told Informant T-1 that her husband was supposed to see CHASE that afternoon, at EUDICE'S house, on Washington Street. (S)

ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THIRD PARTY

A news article in the Macon Telegraph and News, dated February 22, 1948, stated a closed conference of Georgia Wallace-for-President leaders had been held at Macon, Georgia on the previous day. According to the article, subject had been one of the most prominent speakers at the conference, and had been named Executive Vice-Chairman of the organization to make plans for a State-wide conference of Georgia Wallace-forces to be held later.

Informant T-1 advised that subject has been very active as Vice-Chairman of the Wallace group. According to the Informant, subject has been in almost daily contact with WILLIAM W. STAFFORD, Organizer of the U.P.W.A. - CIO, in Atlanta, a member of the Communist Party, and Secretary of the Georgia Wallace group. Subject has also been in frequent touch with EUDICE TONTAK, Secretary of the Atlanta chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. (S)

According to information received from T-2, the Wallace group now has a four-room office, at 85 Alexander Street, N. W., and is planning a State-wide convention, to be held at Macon, Georgia, on May 8, 1948. (S)

On March 5, 1948 Informant T-1 advised he had been with subject when the latter told Mrs. FLOYD HUNTER and Mrs. WILLIAM W. STAFFORD that Dr. PHILIP WELTNER, President of Oglethorpe University, had called him into the office that day, and had told him his services would no longer be needed after the end of the present scholastic year. Subject said Dr. WELTNER had explained that this move was not being taken in light of his affiliation with the Wallace forces, but because subject was giving so much time to off-campus work he was not able to devote sufficient time to activities at the college. (S)

T-2 advised on March 12, 1948 that he had heard subject tell FLOYD HUNTER and BILL STAFFORD that ARTHUR MORGAN, former Director of the T.V.A., and former President of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, was in town, and was coming to see him about taking the position of President of Antioch College. Subject indicated the salary to be around \$10,000 per year, and that one of the good points in taking such a position was that his effectiveness would be increased. He said, however, that he did not want to leave the South again. He (S)

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said that in talking to MORGAN he planned to put his cards on the table, by telling MORGAN that he, subject, was progressive, and that the college people would probably become dissatisfied with him. According to the Informant, both HUNTER and STAFFORD, although they thought the offer was an excellent opportunity, were anxious for subject to remain in Georgia. Subject said he planned to reject the offer. (S)

On March 25, 1948 T-1 advised that during a discussion between Reverend I. J. DOMAS, Unitarian-Universalist Minister, in Atlanta, and subject, DOMAS had indicated that a number of people in other parts of the country were very much interested in subject's taking the job at Antioch College. Subject said they had things all wrong, and that he would not accept the job if appointed. Subject told DOMAS he had had a talk with the President of Oglethorpe on that day, and that the College was offering him \$2000 in settlement for the salary he would have drawn for the rest of the year had he not been requested to leave. (S)

On March 25, 1948 an article appeared in the Atlanta Journal, stating that on the previous Wednesday night subject and Reverend I. J. DOMAS had spoken at a meeting attended by approximately 150 students at Emory University, Atlanta. According to the article, subject had claimed in his talk that in American politics men had gotten into power since ROOSEVELT'S death who disapprove of his program, and who have thrown out even attempting to back ROOSEVELT'S policies. On the question of Universal Military Training, subject had stated that "preparedness, of necessity, will lead to war". He attacked the British stand in Greece, and charged that Britain had persuaded the United States to back it. Subject hit "Wall Street" as having "caused the last war".

The article also stated that DOMAS and subject urged the students present to sign a petition urging President TRUMAN, in effect, to backtrack on his request for U.M.T. According to the article, only a handful of students present were willing to affix their signatures to the appeal.

On March 26, 1948, Informant T-1 advised subject had told him he was going to Birmingham on the following Sunday to attend a conference, which had something to do with organizing religious leaders in the South for WALLACE, and it would probably be called "Religious Associates for Wallace". (S)

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Atlanta, 100-559

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On March 23, 1948, articles appeared in Atlanta newspapers indicating the Ku Klux Klan might parade in Lawrenceville and Conyers, Georgia that night. County elections were to be held the following day. Acting Governor M. E. THOMPSON issued a statement that Georgia State Patrolmen would be sent to Lawrenceville and Conyers, Georgia to observe this parade, but would not interfere with instant parade unless some State law was violated.

T-1 advised that subject sent the following telegram to THOMPSON on March 23, 1948:

~~(S)~~ "GOVERNOR M. E. THOMPSON
GOVERNOR'S MANSION
ATLANTA

"YOUR STATEMENT REGARDING USE OF STATE PATROL TO WATCH PROPOSED KU KLUX KLAN PARADE IN LAWRENCEVILLE TONIGHT IS POINTLESS. WHAT YOU SHOULD DO IS HAVE THE PATROL ON GUARD AT THE POLLS TOMORROW TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT OF EVERY CITIZEN NEGRO OR WHITE TO CAST HIS BALLOT. AS EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE GEORGIA WALLACE FOR PRESIDENT COMMITTEE I ASK THAT YOU USE YOUR POWER AS ACTING GOVERNOR TO GUARANTEE FREE VOTING RIGHTS FOR EVERY CITIZEN IN LAWRENCEVILLE AND IN EVERY OTHER GEORGIA COUNTY WHEREEVER THERE IS A KLAN THREAT.

~~(S)~~
DON WEST
EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRMAN
GEORGIA WALLACE FOR PRES.
85 ALEXANDER STREET."

- PENDING -

~~SECRET~~

Atlanta, 100-559

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[T-1	---	AT-1324]
	T-2	---	AT-1324	

~~SECRET~~

Atlanta, 100-559

~~SECRET~~
LEADS

THE SAVANNAH DIVISION

A copy of this report is being furnished Savannah because of information contained therein about activities in Brunswick, Georgia. (S)

THE ATLANTA DIVISION

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Will continue to follow and report activities of subject through sources of information and Confidential Informants.

~~SECRET~~

4

SAC, Atlanta

June 23, 1948

Director, FBI

~~SECRET~~

DONALD LEE WEST, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Your file 100-559)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/26/88 BY SP-6/BJD~~

Reference is made to the reports of Special Agent Donald B. Clegg dated February 14, 1948, and April 6, 1948, at Atlanta, Georgia. A review of these reports has been made by the Seat of Government, and it is noted that the following reporting practices were used, which the Bureau feels should not be indulged in:

1. Throughout the reports, information obtained from confidential informants T-1 and T-2 is qualified by such words as "he was with", "he had been in the company of", et cetera. It is also noted in the reports that the expression "heard", "over heard", and "in conversation" appeared throughout the reports. In view of the fact that the bulk of information was obtained from T-1, the constant repetition of the above type of words tends to identify the informant. They should, therefore, not be used. Information should simply be attributed without words of qualification to the informant. (S)

2. It is also noted that in the information received from T-1, most of the matter would appear to be literally reported. This also appears throughout the reports. Information obtained from confidential informants of this nature should be paraphrased. You should avoid the literal type of reporting, as well as limit the number of direct quotes except where the direct quotes are pertinent. The information should be set forth in a concise manner so as to make absolutely clear the subject matter under discussion. (S)

3. In addition to the above general instructions, the following two specific paragraphs should be corrected. In the report dated February 14, 1948, on page 4, paragraph 4, beginning "It was known through Informant T-2 ...". This paragraph should be completely removed. Also on page 4, paragraph 5, the second portion of this paragraph deals with information reported from a highly confidential and reliable source. It is felt that the arrangement of this paragraph tends to reveal the investigative technique used by the agent on the surveillance. (S)

There is attached herewith a copy of page 4, which has been rewritten at the Seat of Government.

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Scanlon _____
- Gurnea _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Pennington _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

100-20396

HT:amw

RECORDED
INDEXED
JUL 2 1948
FBI - ATLANTA

~~SECRET~~

JTB

~~SECRET~~
50-1-100-100
JTB

RECORDED - 51
100

SAC, Atlanta
-20396-67
Director, FBI

July 23, 1948

EX-116

DONALD LEE WEST, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

For your information there is transmitted herewith a copy of a signed statement dated April 14, 1948, furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] reflecting a brief summary of the captioned subject's background and activity with the Communist movement.

Informant [redacted] was a member of the Communist Party for [redacted]. He received several months training in Soviet Russia during the early part of 1938. For many years he was [redacted] for the Communist Party in [redacted] [redacted] claims to have separated from the Communist Party in November, 1945, while residing in [redacted] California. He is presently living in the Miami Division and has been very cooperative in furnishing information concerning the various Communist functionaries with whom he associated during his membership in the Communist Party.

It is recommended that you review the attached summary which [redacted] furnished and, if it appears that [redacted] might be able to furnish additional information of value concerning your subject, you should request the Miami Office to contact [redacted] for the specific information you desire.

In reporting information furnished by this informant a temporary symbol number should be used to protect his identity.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSR

Enclosure
100-20396 - 67

MET:rb

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
★ JUL 23 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

b7D

b7D

61R-7

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 21, 1948

FROM : SAC, MIAMI

b7D

SUBJECT :
SECURITY MATTER-C

encl
1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reference is made to Bureau instructions that be requested to furnish memoranda concerning various Communist Party functionaries with whom he is acquainted, setting forth their background and occupations and activity in the Communist movement.

is presently in the process of preparing for this office approximately fifty separate memoranda of information concerning individuals and various aspects of the Communist movement with which he is acquainted. A portion of these memoranda have been received as of this date and each memoranda has been furnished by in the form of a signed statement with his signature appearing at the end. Each memoranda has been witnessed by Special Agent L. O. PRIOR of this office and the original signed memorandum in each instance has been retained in the Miami file. Five copies of each memorandum are enclosed herewith for the Bureau's information and appropriate distribution to the appropriate field offices.

has been spending considerable time preparing this information and on April 1, 1948, he was given \$50.00 for the work that he has performed thus far.

LOP:mjs
100-1172
Enclosures-22 (In quint.)

*release to Atlanta
7-23-48
M&T*

~~DECLASSIFIED BY SP-3 TEV/RH/R~~
~~8/20/79~~
~~2781/CPK 11-30-90~~
~~#285511~~

RECORDED - 54
INDEXED - 54

SE 26 31 100-20396-67
FBI
71 MAY 11 1948

EX-141

ENCLOSURE
57

5/11/48

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-65411-1172

~~Rev. and Prof. DON WEST (Jim Weaver)~~

Atlanta

"Congregational minister; one of founders of Highlander Folk School; Communist Party trade union director; State Sec'y, Communist Party of Kentucky; county sup't of school in Georgia, now professor at Oglethorpe University in Georgia and now state officer of Wallace for President organization—brother-in-law of HAT ROSS and BERT LOGAN; poet, recently author of published book.

"About 47 or 48 years of age, DON WEST is a native of the hill country of North Georgia— one of the many children in a large family. DON worked his way through college (part of the time, by radio singing, he said), obtained scholarship for study in Denmark. Became ordained minister of Congregational Church, joined Socialist party and helped organize Highlander Folk School (he and MILLS MORTON were the two founders) at Monteagle, Tenn. Joined Communist Party early in 1934, assigned to North Carolina district as trade union organizer September, 1934, using the name of JIM WEAVER. Not successful in work with unions but very effective among intellectuals at Chapel Hill. Led Burlington defense campaign; raised large funds with aid of PAUL HORN, W. T. COUCH (head of Univ. of N. C. Press) and many faculty members at the University.

"After about a year in North Carolina WEST went to Kentucky as party district organizer, remaining there about a year and a half or two years. I don't know whether he was removed or asked to leave. Succeeded by PAUL KELLOGG.

"WEST's reports to the national office had been very encouraging, showing considerable progress, and rapidly increasing membership which reached a registration figure of over 200. (As in most Southern states, initiations and dues were used by the district organizer as a subsidy). When KELLOGG arrived and took over the District he could locate only a total of about 25 members. Most of the branches and sections reported in WEST's reports were never located and over 175 paper members of the party disappeared from the face of the earth. As a result, WEST's stock in the party dropped to a low, little above zero. For a year or two he remained as inconspicuous as possible. Then he began writing extensively, especially for left-wing press.

"I know of his subsequent activities primarily from newspaper publicity. After being county supt. of schools in a North Georgia county he became a professor at Oglethorpe University. Now reported to be officer of

100-20896-67

*11-30-90
2781/CBR
#285511*

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~DATE 5/16/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PK~~

ENCLOSURE

100-20896-67

COPIES DESTROYED

Re: Rev. and Prof. DON WEST (Jim Weaver)

Wallace campaign. A published volume of poems about two years ago received considerable publicity in literary reviews.

"Married (wife named MABEL) ^{West} several children.
ROSS

"One sister, JANETTE (who has spent some time in Soviet Union), is married to NAT ROSS. Another, BELLE, is married to BART LOGAN, who succeeded me as District Organizer for North Carolina in 1927. (They are reported to be living at Phoenix, Arizona. He is said to be ill with TB). Before her marriage BELLE boarded with us for several months while she was working in a North Carolina textile mill. She attended a national training school of the party (1936 or 37).

/s/

b7D

"Witness: 4-11-48

/s/ LEON C. FIOR - Special Agent - F.B.I., Miami, Fla."

SAC, Atlanta

June 28, 1948

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Donald Lee West
Internal Security - C
Bufile 100-20396

REGISTERED MAIL

Reference is made to your letter dated June 12, 1948, transmitting one 16 mm Super-XX film pack pertaining to the above captioned matter.

In accordance with your request, the film has been developed and it is being forwarded to your office herewith.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/11/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
★ JUN 28 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-24

- 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. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

RGR:CT

100-20396-68

FBI
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 12, 1948

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.
(Bufile 100-20396)

ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

There is being forwarded under separate cover one pack of exposed sixteen millimeter Super-XX movie film with evidence labels dated June 11, 1948, and initials C.T.H.

The first twenty feet of this reel of film was taken of DONALD LEE WEST and a person believed to be IRVING GOFF, at the Terminal Station in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 10, 1948. The remaining eighty feet of film on this reel was taken by agents of this office for technical training purposes.

It is requested that this film be developed and returned to this office.

GTH:ml

100-559

cc: Package (Registered Mail)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/11/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECEIVED
FBI
JUN 15 3 52 PM '48

RECORDED - 24

INDEXED - 24

ACK. Mech. Sec.

JUN 28 1948

100-20396-68

JUN 14 1948

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[Handwritten signature]

by
8-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECRET

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

FILE NO. 100-536 AMT

REPORT MADE AT SAVANNAH, GEORGIA	DATE WHEN MADE JUN 27 1948	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5-1,2; 6-8, 9-18	REPORT MADE BY ROYCE B. THOMPSON
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was		APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF DATE 5/16/82	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject was in Savannah, Georgia May 2, 1948 at which time he spoke at First Congregational Church (colored) at morning and evening services. Subject was in company of ROBERT HAWKES, leading Savannah Communist, most of the day. WOODROW WILLIAMS, Savannah photographer who took photographs for Oglethorpe University Annual has no photograph of the subject.

yes

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review 5/5/92
- R U C -

5/5/82

REFERENCES:

Bureau file number 100-20396.
Report of Special Agent DONALD B. CLEGG dated April 6, 1948 at Atlanta.
Atlanta letters to Savannah dated April 27 and 29, 1948.

DETAILS:

The Atlanta Office advised by letter dated April 29, 1948 that information had been received indicating that the subject would be in Savannah, Georgia on Sunday, May 2, 1948, to deliver an address at the First Congregational Church, and that he would probably contact individuals referred to as "EDWARDS" and "HAWK".

A surveillance on subject's activities was made by Special Agents LEWIS S. DABNEY and DAN A. BRANT on May 2, 1948. At

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/12/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

L

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 Atlanta (Encl.) (100-559) 2 Savannah		100-20396-69	RECORDED - 119
cc/oe 7-2-48		F B I 17 JUN 23 1948	INDEXED - 119
50 COPIES IN FILE		SECRET	EX-27

COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/59 #16

~~SECRET~~

10:25 A.M. on that date the subject's car, a 1942 four door Nash sedan, 1948 Georgia license E/X95048 was observed parked near the First Congregational Church, corner of Habersham and East Taylor Streets in Savannah, Georgia. It was noted that this is a colored church. At 1:05 P.M. two white men were seen leaving the church, and to drive away in a black 1942 sedan believed to be an Oldsmobile, bearing 1948 Georgia tag E-71-791. These men have not been identified, although their descriptions are retained in the Savannah files. At 1:30 P.M. the subject left the church and proceeded to the home of ROBERT ELLIS HAWKES at Whitaker and Bolton Streets in Savannah. ROBERT HAWKES is the N.M.U. Port Agent for Savannah, Georgia, and a review of the Savannah files reflects that he is the most active communist in the city of Savannah; that he is the leading contact of HOMER BATES CHASE, Communist Party organizer for Georgia in Atlanta on the latter's trips to Savannah, and that he has a long record for communistic activities.

At approximately 3:15 P.M. the subject obtained a package from his car and got into HAWKES car which HAWKES drove to 512 West 34th Street, Savannah, the residence of JOHN MARSHALL. JOHN D. MARSHALL is President of the Southern Association of Colored Railway Trainmen and Firemen. He is listed as one of several vice-chairmen of the Georgia Wallace for President Committee. From the home of MARSHALL, WEST and HAWKES drove around Fellwood Homes, a negro housing project in West Savannah, following which they stopped at the Savannah Hotel where WEST made a reservation. At 5:10 P.M. the subject and HAWKES returned to HAWKES' residence and approximately thirty minutes later the subject left in his own car and was observed at the corner of Broughton and Price Streets in Savannah talking with a well-dressed negro in an automobile. This negro has not been identified, but was approximately 26 or 28 years of age; 5'9" tall; weighing 175 pounds; of medium build with a large black mustache and black kinky hair. It will be noted that the intersection where the subject contacted this negro is near the N.M.U. Hall, and that the description of this negro is generally similar to that of EDWARD EVANS who is a seaman and who signed up with HAWKES as a member of the Water-Front Branch of the Communist Party January 19, 1948.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The subject at 6:10 P.M. returned to HAWKES residence and almost immediately left again for the First Congregational Church. ROBERT HAWKES and his wife, JANET ELIZABETH HAWKES, were observed entering the First Congregational Church also at 6:25 P.M. The subject remained at the church until 7:45 P.M. when he left returning to HAWKES residence. At 9:40 P.M. the subject drove to the Savannah Hotel where he spent the night. He checked out of the Savannah Hotel at 7:18 A.M. Monday morning, May 3, 1948.

Mr. WOODROW WILLIAMS, 8 Liberty Street, Savannah, Georgia photographer, advised that he had made photographs of students and faculty members of Oglethorpe University. He checked through his order blanks but was unable to locate a record of an order for DONALD LEE WEST. Mr. WILLIAMS together with the reporting Agent rechecked the order blanks and made a complete check of all of the proofs of photographs taken at Oglethorpe University, but without locating a proof negative or order for WEST. Mr. WILLIAMS advised that a number of the students and faculty members did not have their pictures taken but rather used pictures taken the previous year for the annual which annual had not been published. Mr. WILLIAMS was unable to furnish the name of the Atlanta photographer who made the photographs for the 1947 annual, but he suggested that the name of this photographer could be obtained from Oglethorpe University, and through this photographer a photograph of the subject could probably be obtained. The old photograph of WEST forwarded by the Atlanta Office is being returned herewith.

The "EDWARDS" referred to in Atlanta letter dated April 29, 1948 as a possible contact of subject WEST may be JAMES EDWARDS, colored, 223 Ferrell Street, Savannah, Georgia who is an employee of the Pierpont Manufacturing Company and President of Local 870, IUMMSWA, CIO, and believed to be President of the Shore side Branch of the Communist Party in Savannah, Georgia.

ENCLOSURE TO ATLANTA: One photograph of subject WEST.

= REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN =

~~SECRET~~

Mrs. Robert Ellist Hawkes

SV. 100-536

~~SECRET~~

LEADS

THE ATLANTA DIVISION, at Atlanta, Georgia, will consider the possibility of obtaining a photograph of the subject through the photographer who made the photographs for the Oglethorpe University annual in 1947.

Will advise the Savannah Office as to the person to whom 1948 Georgia tag E-71-791 was issued.

= 4 =

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECRET

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

DATE: June 12, 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Jm
Ke
W

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, Atlanta
SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attention: SECURITY DIVISION

Transmitted herewith are two copies of Justification for Continuation of Technical Surveillance on the above mentioned subject.

JTS:hq
66-698

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review 4/15/92 4/15/92

gt
W

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

G.I.R. - 3
mc

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

2 *mc*
ENCL
97
EX-14

RECORDED - 99
100-20396-170
EX-14
33 JUN 22 1948
STOP DESK

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 5/26/82

100-5
2-10-1948

71 JUL 2 - 1948

223

SECRET

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECRET

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 12, 1948

EJA
FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: [JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE] (S)

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review 4/15/82
4/15/82

RE: Title DONALD LEE WEST

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Atlanta
Symbol Number AT-1324
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or Microphone) Technical

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

1. Subject's name and address:

DONALD LEE WEST, Oglethorpe University
New Hermance Road
Oglethorpe University, Georgia

2. Location of technical operation:

Atlanta Office

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 5/20/82~~

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

Initial authorization March 21, 1947
Installation March 27, 1947

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

Instant installation temporarily discontinued 6/17/47 because telephone company making extensive repairs in vicinity. Resumed 7/2/47.

Installation again temporarily discontinued 7/30/47 because subject left town with family on summer visit to North Georgia. Resumed 9/25/47.

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

On 6/9/48 it was determined through instant surveillance that IRVIN GOFF, State Chairman of the Communist Party, New Orleans.

(continued on Page 4)

COPIES DESTROYED 7/20/59 #14

~~MANAGED BY
STOP DESK
GSK
PSK~~

SECRET

100-20396-70

~~SECRET~~

6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

No

9. Manpower and costs involved:

Up until the present time there has been no cost involved in instant installation. However, it is necessary to maintain two special employees in the Atlanta Office to handle information coming from instant installation.

It is anticipated that instant installation will cost approximately \$17 per month for ten miles of leased wire.

10. Remarks (By SAC):

In view of subject's active participation in matters which specifically indicate the Communist Party line and his close association with HOMER BATES CHASE, District Organizer for Communist Party, and other members of the Communist Party who visit in Atlanta, it is recommended that instant installation be continued.

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government):

Previous investigation of West has indicated he has been sympathetic to Communism for many years. This surveillance has been very valuable in establishing West's present connections with the Communist Party and Communist front activities. It has been very productive in view of the fact that West has apparently become increasingly active. West appears to work through a better class of people it being noted that he was formerly a minister and is presently a college professor at Oglethorpe University. This surveillance has furnished information which would otherwise be unavailable.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

12. Recommendation by Assistant Director:

It is recommended that this surveillance be continued for another six months in view of the information it produces which would otherwise not be available.

*Wm
J. Gp.*

OK

[Signature]

~~(S)~~

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

*OK
[Signature]*

*OK
[Signature]*

~~(S)~~

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Louisiana, contacted subject and remained with him overnight. The identity of GOFF was not determined until a surveillance was conducted after information had been received that an individual named "IRV" (phonetic) had contacted DON WEST. Information was also developed through instant technical that GOFF contacted EUDICE TONTAK. It was also determined that HOMER BATES CHASE, District Organizer, Communist Party, District 31, Atlanta, Georgia, was either at Savannah or Brunswick, which enabled information to be supplied the Savannah Office for a surveillance on CHASE at Savannah or Brunswick. (S)

On June 4, 1948 it was determined that HOMER CHASE was in contact with DON WEST and from instant contact it was learned that WEST was preparing to move to his farm in Georgia for the summer months. (S)

On May 25, 1948 it was determined that DON WEST was in contact with one Reverend McEWIN in reference to making some speeches. From instant surveillance the identity of McEWIN was determined and information was developed to the effect that he and DON WEST went to Dalton, Georgia. (S)

On May 22, 1948 information was obtained concerning a meeting of the "People's Institute" at Birmingham. This information was furnished the Birmingham Office. (S)

From surveillance on May 20, 1948 a complete text of a speech of subject was obtained. Subject was to give instant speech, relative to the 3d Party, over radio station WAGA, Atlanta, Georgia. It was determined that the subject's speech had been gone over by EUDICE TONTAK, a constant contact of HOMER BATES CHASE. From instant surveillance numerous names of individuals who are becoming closely associated with DON WEST, HOMER BATES CHASE, EUDICE TONTAK and JOEL JORDAN have been determined. (S)

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Handwritten marks:
TO
X
FROM
X
SUBJECT

TO : D. M. Ladd *JAN*
FROM : F. J. Baumgardner *1380 JAB*
SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: June 16, 1948

- 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 Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

There is attached hereto a blind memorandum on the above captioned individual which was prepared in conformity with the request appearing in the pink memorandum from Supervisor C. D. Mobley to Mr. Clegg dated June 11, 1948.

For your information, it is being brought to your attention that West is a top functionary in the Atlanta Office. He is presently employed as an instructor at Oglethorpe University and is very active in the Wallace movement in Georgia.

The Bureau presently has a four volume file on this individual. The blind memorandum attached has been written in a very generalized and brief form in view of the fact that the bulk of the information indicating West's Communist sympathy and membership has been obtained from confidential informants and persons interviewed during the course of an investigation which persons would undoubtedly feel their confidence had been misplaced should their identity be revealed. Very little public source information is available indicating West's Communist membership or sympathy.

Recommendation:

In view of the fact that (1) much information was received from confidential informants, (2) the subject is a teacher at Oglethorpe University, and (3) he is active in the Wallace movement in Georgia, it is recommended that the attached blind memorandum not be furnished to Congressman James C. Davis of Georgia.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 3/15/82 BY SP1 GSK/RSK

Attachment
HT:mfs
100-20396

Handwritten note:
Furnished to Congressman Davis on a strictly confidential basis 6/21/48
Signature: JWM

Addendum

I can see no objection to furnishing the attached general summary to Congressman Davis if it can be done on a strictly confidential basis.

RECORDED - 39
INDEXED - 39

100-20396-7
B II

63 JUL 7 - 1948

Handwritten signatures and initials:
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14

~~SECRET~~

June 16, 1948

RE: DONALD LEE WEST

BACKGROUND:

Donald Lee West was born on June 6, 1908 at Cartecay, Georgia. He reportedly has attended the following schools: Lincoln Memorial University, Vanderbilt Theological College, International People's College, Denmark, and Oglethorpe University. In 1928 he married one Mabel Adams of Middlesboro, Kentucky. (1) He is reported to have been one of the founders of the Highlander Folk School in Monteagle, Tenn. During 1930 he is supposed to have served as an Organizer for the CIO in Harlan County, Kentucky. (2) In 1940-1941 he served as the Pastor of the Meansville, Georgia Congregational Church and while there, published a small newspaper entitled "The Country Parson." (3) In 1942 he was hired as the principal of the Lula, Georgia School System. (4)

ACTIVITIES.

In 1932-1934 Donald Lee West was reported to have been active in behalf of the Communist Party investigating the Angelo Herndon case. Herndon was being tried by authorities in Atlanta, Georgia for spreading seditious material with the intention of inciting a riot. West later helped Herndon write a book on Herndon's life. (2)

The newspaper New Orleans States, of New Orleans, Louisiana in its issue of August 27, 1947 ran an article charging that the Southern Conference For Human Welfare had promoted Communist ideology and in the article the New Orleans States quoted the Daily Worker of March 13, 1934 and a poem allegedly written by Donald Lee West. The following is the poem which appeared in the New Orleans States:

"And do you hear me?
I'm speaking,
I, the poet
Don West
Communist
Bolshevik
Red
Working Man.
Southern toiler
You'll hear me
and you'll believe me
Because I am you
And I
lower." (5)

~~Class. A Let. By SP-1 GSK/PSK~~
~~Reason FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 Z~~
~~Date of Review 4/8/92~~

4/8/82

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

~~SECRET~~

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During the years 1940-1941 while West served as a Pastor in Meansville, Ga., he reportedly was quite sympathetic to the Communist cause although he professed not to be a Communist. It was further reported that he had in his possession and distributed Communist literature. (2)

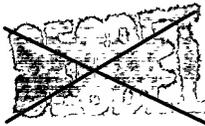
In 1943 information was received that West was very close to the Communist Party and possibly a member thereof. At this time, it was also learned that one of his sisters had been in the Soviet Union and had recently returned to the United States. He allegedly indicated that all the members of his family were "Communists." (6) It is noted that during this period of time he was employed by the Lula School System and he reportedly publicly denounced Communism while in Lula. (7) In 1946 his employment with the Lula School System was terminated because of his Communist activities. (8)

In 1946 following his employment at Lula he attended Columbia University in New York City. While in New York, he allegedly was in contact with Earl Browder, the former head of the Communist Party in the United States. (9) (S)

The Atlanta Constitution of August 30, 1946 indicated that "Pastor Don West" has been invited to join the faculty of Oglethorpe University where he would teach Sacred Literature. This article indicated he had written a book of poems entitled "Clods of Southern Earth." (10) In connection with his book of poems, it is noted that West received publicity in The Worker on August 25, 1946 and the Daily Worker on March 28, 1947 and again on May 14, 1947. The book of poems was favorably reviewed in both these publications.

In 1947 it was learned that West was in frequent contact with Homer Bates Chase, the Communist Party Organizer for District No. 31, and Nathan Ross, the Southern Organizer for the Communist Party. Ross is a brother-in-law of West. At this time it was also learned that West is active in the Wallace movement. (11) (S)

~~SECRET~~



FOOTNOTES

- (1) [Redacted] Batavia, Ohio.
100-20396-43
- (2) [Redacted] Meansville, Georgia b7D
100-20396-6 p. 12
- (3) [Redacted] Meansville, Georgia
100-20396-6 p 10.
- (4) [Redacted] Gainesville, Ga.
100-20396-28
- (5) 100-20396-6A
- (6) Atlanta Confidential Informant [Redacted] b2
100-20396-33 b7D
- (7) Confidential Informant [Redacted] Lula, Georgia b7D
100-20396 [Redacted]
- (8) Mr. W. A. Crow, Sheriff, Hall County, Gainesville, Ga.
100-20396-38
- (9) Surveillance by New York Agents -
100-20396-39
- (10) 100-20396-48
- (11) Atlanta Confidential Informant At 1324
100-20396-52 p 8

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

~~Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 4/8/92~~

4/8/82



100-20396-1
ENCLOSURE

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

June 11, 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLEGG

Re: Professor Don West,
 Oglethorpe University
 Bureau File #100-20396

Congressman James C. Davis of Georgia, a member of the House Civil Service Committee, contacted me today by telephone requesting that the Bureau furnish him background information and information regarding the Communist activities of the above subject. The Congressman stated that this subject apparently is one of the leading Communists in Atlanta, Georgia and is a source of embarrassment to the State of Georgia by virtue of his activity and employment as a professor at Oglethorpe University. West, of course, is active in the Wallace movement in Georgia. He assured me that this information would be treated as confidential.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that this matter be referred to the Security Division and if approved a blind memorandum should be prepared for the Congressman.

Respectfully,

C. D. Mobley

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

GDM:JCW

RECORDED - 39 | 100-20396-72
 INDEXED | F B I
 31 JUN 23 1948

*memo to [unclear]
 with blind attached
 6-16-48
 H.T.*

63 JUL 7 - 1948

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES
 TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 25, 1948

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Bufile 100-20396)

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There is being forwarded herewith as an enclosure an editorial which appeared in the "Atlanta Constitution", for June 18, 1948, by RALPH MCGILL, entitled "Don West and the Wallace Campaign". It is to be noted that the majority of this information was taken from the "Daily Worker", copies of which are apparently in possession of RALPH MCGILL, Editor of the "Atlanta Constitution".

Handwritten: I.R. - 3

Handwritten: Rm
8-1
Encl
8-1

Encls. - 1

JTS:mos
100-559

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/17/02 BY SP1 GSK/RK

Handwritten: 117 EX-27

RECORDED - 117

INDEXED - 117

100-20396-73
R B I
17 JUN 29 1948

EX-27

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JUL 7 1948

RALPH MCGILL



Don West and The Wallace Campaign

From the start of the Wallace campaign it became obvious that the Communists and the fellow travelers were taking over its direction.

Members of the Wallace board of strategy today include hardly one of the old Wallace associates. They have dropped away before and since the campaign began.

In every State where there is an active Wallace campaign there are positive evidences of fellow traveler and Communist influences.

That is true in Georgia. This statement is not difficult to document.

Don West There is evidence at hand concerning many officially connected with the Wallace campaign in the South. Incidentally, the Southern Communist headquarters in Birmingham and State organizations in Florida and Georgia have officially, and vigorously, indorsed the Wallace campaign.

But the subject of today's discussion is Don West, listed on the "Georgia Wallace for President Committee" letterheads as Executive Vice Chairman of the Committee. In other words, he is the man who is in executive charge of the Wallace campaign in Georgia.

Our reporters have been unable to obtain from West himself any answers to direct questions about his alleged fellow-traveling and Communist connections. On June 11, in reply to a letter from Miss Branson Price, listed as field representative of the National Wallace for President Committee, who seems to be devoting much time to Georgia rather than the national field, I requested specific information about West and asked her if she would obtain from West himself the answers.

On June 12 she replied: "With reference to your letter of June 11, I cannot supply you with the information you request."

So, it is necessary to turn to other records.

The Record On page five of a report prepared by the Committee on Un-American Activities on the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and dated June 16, 1947, it states: "Two well-known Communist Party members who have supported the Conference in recent years are Don West, poet and professor; and . . ."

From the Communist publication, the Daily Worker, for June 11, 1934, we find that Don West, of Louisville, Ky., was being sought by authorities on a charge of inciting to insurrection. In the June 19, 1934, issue of the Daily Worker, Don West is identified as a Communist Party organizer in the South, scheduled to speak at a mass meeting in Boston.

In an appearance before the Special House Committee in August, 1938, John Parrey, President of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, testified for the record:

"Don West, Louisville, Ky.: This man, formerly in charge of Atlanta, Ga., for the Communist Party . . . sneaked out of Atlanta on a truck, under a load of gunny sacks, when Assistant Solicitor Hutson swore out a warrant for his arrest. After a short period in New York he was sent to Kentucky and made organizer there. It has been reported . . . that he was a part-time employe of the Textile Workers Union . . . and at the same time was a district organizer of District No. 23, Communist Party." (Public Hearings, Volume 1, Page 128.)

In a list of leading State officials of the Communist Party, USA, submitted for the record in connection with testimony of Walter S. Steele before a special committee in August, 1938, the name of D. L. West appeared as State chairman for Kentucky.

More of Same In the Daily Worker of March 13, 1934, page five, column six, Don West is referred to as a member of the Communist Party. (His name appears to be Donald L. West.) In the Nov. 1, 1935, issue of the Daily Worker he again is referred to as the Communist Party organizer in Kentucky. In the July 20, 1936, issue of the same Communist paper he is listed as a member of the National Campaign Committee of the Communist Party, from Louisville, Ky. Again, in the issue of June 22, 1937, Don West is listed as the Communist Party organizer from Kentucky.

West's present work in behalf of the Wallace campaign is not his first in behalf of a Presidential candidate. In the Oct. 5, 1936, issue of the Daily Worker, West is listed as one of those behind the campaign of Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party, for President.

West's record runs on with more and more of the same.

He taught for a while in Georgia. He published a book of poems, "Gods of Southern Earth." While not accepting the conclusions reached in the poems, this paper did defend it and would again defend any other legitimate book against attempts to suppress it.

Increasingly suspicious of West, we have sought his record and are still adding to it. Also under investigation are the records of others affiliated with West in the South.

Certainly not all those connected with the Wallace campaign are fellow travelers or Communists. No one has ever said so. What is said, and what can be documented, is that the campaign, down to State levels, largely is under the direction of those with Communist and fellow-traveler records—as the record of the Executive Vice Chairman in Georgia illustrates.

ENCLOSURE

1100-20396-73
F B I

17 JUN 29 1948

RECORDED - 117

EX-27

INDEXED - 117

ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, JUNE 18, 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
JUN 23 1948	
ATLANTA OFFICE	FILE

[Handwritten signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : *ASAC*, Atlanta
SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: July 8, 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ATTENTION: SECURITY DIVISION

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Quinn-Tamm.....
Mr. Nease.....
Mr. Gandy.....

This is to advise that instant technical installation in reference to above named subject was discontinued at 4:45 PM, July 7, 1948, in view of the fact subject discontinued his telephone. (S)

JTS:SL
66-698

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review 4/10/92
4/10/82

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF class
DATE 5/26/82

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

RECORDED - 4/1/00 - 20396
F B I
3 JUL 12 1948

*See Atlanta
7-19-48
JDS*

~~SECRET~~

Handwritten signatures and initials

SAC, Atlanta

July 19, 1948

Director, FBI

~~SECRET~~
[TECHNICAL AND MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE, AT-1324] (S)
DONALD LEE WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet July 8, 1948, in which you advised that the technical installation concerning this individual was discontinued on July 7, 1948, at 4:45 P.M. (S)

The Bureau records indicate that this installation consisted of a combination microphone-telephone setup and unless advised to the contrary the Bureau will consider both surveillances discontinued. (S)

100-20396 - 74

EX-16

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP (S) OF THIS MATTER~~
5/26/88

~~Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCH II, 1.9, 2.4, 2.5
Date of Review 4/8/92~~

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

RECEIVED PER. ROOM
JUL 20 10 11 AM '48
F B I
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ JUL 20 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

JDD:rer

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

AUG 2 1948

[Handwritten notes and stamps, including "RECEIVED PER. ROOM" and "JUL 20 10 11 AM '48"]

SAC, Atlanta

July 26, 1948

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Donald L. West
Internal Security - C
Bufile 100-20396

REGISTERED MAIL

Reference is made to your letter dated July 14, 1948, transmitting one roll of 16 mm film pertaining to the above captioned matter.

In accordance with your request, five enlargements have been made of each exposure requested and they are being forwarded together with the film to your office herewith.

Enclosure *md*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/15/02 BY SP-1 GSN/BRK

66-100-20396-75

- 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. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
★ JUL 27 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RCR:CT

RECEIVED
JUL 27 10 10 AM '48
FBI
S DEPT OF JUSTICE

Paul
10/11

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 14, 1948

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD L. WEST
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
BU, 100-20396

ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

There is being transmitted under separate cover a partial roll of 16 millimeter film, resealed, label marked PFT, Atlanta 100-559, and dated July 14, 1948.

It is requested that five enlarged "stills" be made of that section of the film marked with string and the same be forwarded to this office.

Due to the possibility of this film as a whole being used as evidence it is further requested that the film be retained intact and returned to this office in the original carton.

100-559
PFT:fw

cc Package

REGISTERED MAIL

G.L.R.-3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 35

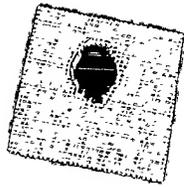
EX-26

C. L. R.
JUL 26 1948

100-20396-75
FBI
JUL 16 1948

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REC'D

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

JUL 23 1948

TELETYPE

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

FBI ATLANTA 7-23-48 10-6 AM

DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC PHILADELPHIA URGENT

DONALD LEE WEST, WAS, REV. DONALD L. WEST, DON WEST, INTERNAL SECURITY C. DEPARTED DALTON, GA. JULY TWENTY SECOND, FORTY EIGHT,

VIA PRIVATE PLANE TO ATTEND THIRD PARTY CONVENTION PHILADELPHIA. WEST ACCOMPANIED BY REV. C. T. PRATT, L. MARSHALL, COLORED, JAMES L.

BARFOOT AND JACK LORENZ, HOLDER OF NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT CP CARD.

WEST DESCRIBED AS WHITE, MALE, AGE FORTY, SIX FEET TWO, ONE EIGHTY FIVE, EYES BLUE, HAIR DARK BROWN OR BLACK, COMPLEXION RUDDY, SCARS AND MARKS, THUMB AND FIRST TWO FINGERS MISSING LEFT HAND, ONE EYE DOES NOT FOCUS. WEST OBSERVED JULY NINETEENTH, FORTYEIGHT, WITH LEFT HAND BANDAGED AND LIMPING BADLY. ABOVE FOR YOUR INFO.

FOLTZ

END

ACK PLS

M11-10 M P AM OK FBI WASH DC RB

ACK PL PH OK FBI PH FHB

VO

RECORDED - 66

INDEXED - 66

EX-13

100-20396-76
F B I
3 JUL 27 1948
7-26-48

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

67 AUG 16 1948

Handwritten notes and signatures:
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1942
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8-1
7
5 met

Form No. 1
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

FILE NO. 100-559

REPORT MADE AT ATLANTA	DATE WHEN MADE 8/9/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/24-7/10, 24, 26, 30/48	REPORT MADE BY JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR. :hs
TITLE CHANGED: DONALD LEE WEST, was			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject presently residing at Route 4, Douglasville, Ga. at the Unitarian Work Camp. Subject in constant contact with HOMER BATES CHEASE, CP D.O., District No. 31, Atlanta, Ga. Subject very active in Georgia Wallace-for-President Group; gave keynote address at Winston-Salem, NC, 4/25/48; acted as Chairman of the People's New Party at Macon, Ga. 5/8/48; attended Progressive Party Convention in Philadelphia and was named National Committeeman from Georgia for the Progressive Party. Subject contacted by IRVING GOFF, CP D.O., New Orleans, La. 6/9/48.

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

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

Section 8
 Class. & Ext. By SP-1 CJK/BJC
 Reason: FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
 Date of Review: 11/15/02
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 100-20396.
 Report of SA DONALD B. CLEGG, Atlanta, dated 4/6/48.

DETAILS:

The title of this report is marked changed to indicate the additional alias of JIM WEAVER as supplied by Confidential Informant T-1.

Confidential Informant T-2 advised that subject is presently residing at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia on the old EPH BUTLER farm located nine miles outside Douglasville, Georgia, on a dirt road, which is operated by the Unitarian Church as a work camp.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]*
 SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES DESTROYED 1/22/50

100-20396-717

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

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- 1 - New Orleans (Info.)
- 2 - New York (100-22129)
- 2 - Memphis
- 1 - Savannah (Info.) (100-536)
- 2 - Atlanta

F B I
 12 AUG 12 1948

RECORDED
 JED - 93

INDEXED - 93

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54 OCT 3 1953

11-30-90 278/cok
#25351
11-8-126
only

Page 3
54
Appended 8/15/48

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~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

[T-1] advised that the subject was a congregational minister, one of the founders of the Highlander Folk School, former Communist Party trade union director, former State secretary of the Communist Party of Kentucky, former county school superintendent in Georgia and a professor at Oglethorpe University, Georgia. [T-1] stated that subject is a brother-in-law of NATY ROSS and BARTY LOGAN.

[T-1] stated that "DON WEST, who is about forty-seven or forty-eight years of age, is a native of the hill country of North Georgia -- one of the many children in a large family. DON worked his way through college (part of the time, by radio singing, he said), obtained scholarship for study in Denmark. Became ordained minister of Congregational Church, joined Socialist party and helped organize Highlander Folk School (he and MYLES HERTON were the two founders) at Monteagle, Tenn. Joined Communist Party early in 1934, assigned to North Carolina district as trade union organizer September, 1934, using the name of JIM WEAVER. Not successful in work with unions but very effective among intellectuals at Chapel Hill. Led Burlington defense campaign; raised large funds with aid of PAUL GREEN, W. T. COUCH (head of Univ. of N. C. Press) and many faculty members at the University.

"After about a year in North Carolina WEST went to Kentucky as party district organizer, remaining there about a year and a half or two years. I don't know whether he was removed or asked to leave. Succeeded by PAUL KELLOGG.

"WEST'S reports to the national office had been very encouraging, showing considerable progress, and rapidly increasing membership which reached a registration figure of over 200. (As in most Southern states, initiations and dues were used by the district organizer as a subsidy). When KELLOGG arrived and took over the District he could locate only a total of about 25 members. Most of the branches and sections reported in WEST'S reports were never located and over 175 paper members of the party disappeared from the face of the earth. As a result, WEST'S stock in the party dropped to a low, little above zero. For a year or two he remained as inconspicuous as possible. Then he began writing extensively, especially for left-wing press.

"I know of his subsequent activities primarily from newspaper publicity. After being county supt. of schools in a North Georgia County he became a professor at Oglethorpe University. Now reported to be officer of Wallace campaign. A published volume of poems about two years ago received considerable publicity in literary reviews.

100-20396-797
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

"Married (wife named MABEL), several children.

"One sister, JANETTE (who has spent some time in Soviet Union), is married to NAT ROSS. Another, BELLE, is married to BART LOGAN, who became District Organizer for North Carolina in 1927. (They are reported to be living at Phoenix, Arizona.) Before her marriage BELLE worked in a North Carolina Textile mill. She attended a national training school of the party (1936 or 37)".

1937

* * *

Confidential Informant [redacted] and wife attended the Fifth National Convention of the Workers Alliance in Chicago, Illinois on August 29 and 30, 1940 as [redacted] and advised that various other Communist Party members attended instant convention in Chicago and among them was DONALD WEST, Bethel, Ohio, minister and writer for "Daily Worker".

b2
b7D

RALPH MCGILL, Editor of the "Atlanta Constitution", in an article dated June 18, 1948 entitled "DON WEST and The Wallace Campaign" stated that DON WEST was listed on the letterheads of the Georgia Wallace-for-President Committee as Executive Vice Chairman of the Committee; that on Page 5 of a report prepared by the Committee on Un-American Activities on the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, dated June 16, 1948 subject is listed as a poet, professor and member of the Communist Party; that the "Daily Worker" for June 11, 1934 reflected that DON WEST of Louisville, Kentucky, was being sought by authorities on a charge of inciting to insurrection; and in the June, 1934 issue of the "Daily Worker" WEST was identified as a Communist Party organizer in the South scheduled to speak at a mass meeting in Boston. This article further reflected that JOHN P. FREY, President of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, testified in August 1938 before the Special House Committee that "DON WEST, Louisville, Kentucky: This man, formerly in charge of Atlanta, Ga. for the Communist Party ... sneaked out of Atlanta on a truck, under a load of gunny sacks, when Assistant Solicitor Hudson swore out a warrant for his arrest. After a short period in New York he was sent to Kentucky and made organizer there. It has been reported ... that he was a part-time employee of the Textile Workers Union ... and at the same time was a district organizer of District No. 23, Communist Party". The article stated that in the "Daily Worker" of March 13, 1934, Page 5, Column 6, DON WEST was referred to as a member of the Communist Party. In the November 1, 1935 issue of the "Daily Worker" he was again referred to as the Communist Party organizer in Kentucky. In the July 20, 1936 issue of the "Daily Worker" he was listed as a member of the National

~~SECRET~~

Donald West

~~SECRET~~

Campaign Committee of the Communist Party from Louisville, Kentucky. In the June 22, 1937 issue of the "Daily Worker" DON WEST was listed as the Communist Party organizer from Kentucky. In the October 5, 1936 issue of the "Daily Worker" WEST was listed as one of those behind the campaign of EARL BROWDER, General Secretary of the Communist Party, for President.

RALPH MCGILL, Editor of the "Atlanta Constitution", in an editorial dated June 27, 1948 stated that on March 13, 1934 the "Daily Worker" carried a poem on Page 5, Column 6, entitled "Listen, I am a Communist", signed by DON WEST, Kennesaw, Georgia.

Instant editorial quoted some questions directed to DON WEST, one of which was the question: "Is it not true that the Soviet Union made it possible for one of your family to visit the Soviet Union in 1943?"

RALPH MCGILL, Editor of the "Atlanta Constitution", in an editorial dated July 7, 1948 stated in part that DON WEST in a letter stated that the People's Institute of Applied Religion worked in Georgia in 1947 and put on a radio program called "Georgia Crisis". MCGILL stated that in instant letter WEST said he was going to make a contribution, not of the \$100 requested but of \$200 for this vital work.

Confidential Informant T-3 advised that IRVING GOFF, District Organizer, Communist Party, New Orleans, Louisiana, spent the night of June 9, 1948 at the home of DON WEST and that GOFF, while in Atlanta, attempted to contact HOMER BATES CHASE, Communist Party District Organizer for District No. 31, who was not in Atlanta at the time, but did meet with EUDICE KLONTAK. (S)

Confidential Informant T-4 advised that on June 10, 1948 (S) GOFF obtained a cash refund from the Southern Railroad in Atlanta for the unused portion of a railroad ticket, that this ticket was a round-trip ticket from New Orleans to New York City and return and was purchased May 31, 1948 in New Orleans for use on June 1, 1948. (S) T-4 stated that GOFF was assigned Seat No. 52, Car S-4 on the Southern Railroad for this trip to New York City, and that the return portion from New York City to New Orleans was not used. [T-4 advised] that GOFF gave his address as 2218 Abundance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. (S)

(S) [T-2 advised] that HOMER BATES CHASE contacted subject at his home, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, on July 7, 1948 at about 12:00 noon and was observed talking with WEST at 1:10 PM on instant date at WEST'S farm, Route 4, Douglasville.

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Special Agents LEWIS S. DABNEY and DAN A. BRANT on May 2, 1948 at Savannah, Georgia observed the subject at 1:05 PM, at which time two white men were seen leaving the First Congregational Church, corner of Habersham and East Taylor Streets in Savannah, Georgia, in a black 1942 sedan, believed to be an Oldsmobile, bearing 1948 Georgia tag E71-791. The files of the State of Georgia Automobile Registration Bureau reflect that 1948 Georgia License E71-791 was issued to Mrs. N. G. ~~W~~BUBANKS, 307 Candler Road, SE, Atlanta, Georgia.

T-3 advised that DONALD L. WEST told him he was going to contact Reverend HOMER C. ~~W~~McEWIN, Pastor of the First Congregational Church, corner of Houston and Courtland Streets, Atlanta, on May 25, 1948 and was to take McEWIN to Dalton, Georgia in reference to contacting C. T. ~~W~~PRATT concerning the Wallace-for-President movement in Atlanta. (S)

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that the subject met Reverend HOMER C. McEWIN at 12:40 PM at the First Congregational Church, corner of Houston and Courtland Streets, Atlanta, and proceeded toward Dalton, Georgia. (S)

T-3 advised that subject has met with the following individuals on numerous occasions during the past three months: (S)

JACK ~~W~~LORENZ, JR., Emory University student
ROBERT G. ~~W~~ARMSTRONG, 50 Chestnut Street, SW, Atlanta, professor at Atlanta University
EUDICE ~~W~~TONTAK, 644 Washington Street, SW, Atlanta, Social Worker for Jewish Welfare
WILLIAM ~~W~~WRIGHT-STAFFORD, CIO Organizer for United Public Workers of America
SAM ~~W~~WILLIAMS, 863½ Fair Street, SW, Chairman of the People's New Party of Georgia
JOE ~~W~~GROSS and GLORIA ~~W~~GROSS, 199 12th Street, NE, Atlanta. JOSEPH ~~W~~GROSS is a member at large of the People's New Party of Georgia
ROSELINE ~~W~~SMITH, Parkway Drive, Atlanta

Confidential Informant T-6 advised that the subject told him that he had gotten in touch with ISIAH JONATHAN ~~W~~DOMAS, former Pastor of the Unitarian-Universalist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, LEO RICHARD ~~W~~COHEN, 1109 East Rock Springs Road, NE, Atlanta, JACK LORENZ, Emory University student, and told them they should listen to the speech of HENRY WALLACE to be broadcast on the night of March 25, 1948. (S)

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T-6 further advised that ~~HOMER BATES CHASE~~ met with the subject and ~~EUDICE TONTAK~~ at the home of ~~EUDICE TONTACK~~ on March 28, 1948 at 644 Washington Street, SW, Atlanta. (S)

T-3 stated that ~~ISIAH J. DOMAS~~ had received a letter from ~~PAUL NEWMAN~~ of Jackson, Mississippi on March 25, 1948 and that instant letter was as follows: (S)

"I am writing to request that you write a letter of recommendation for Mr. DON WEST for the position of president of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. The president of this school recently resigned and the board of trustees are now considering applicants for the job. As an alumnus of Antioch, I sent in DON WEST'S name. DON WEST is willing to accept the job if appointed and I am sure you will agree that he would make a wonderful contribution to education if he gets the job. Please address communications to Mr. ~~ARTHUR E. MORGAN~~, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio." (S)

T-3 stated that DOMAS had written to Antioch College in response to NEWMAN'S letter. Informant advised that the following is a copy of instant letter: (S)

"This letter is by way of enthusiastically endorsing the candidacy of my very good friend, DON WEST, for the presidency of Antioch. DON has, as you know, been in close contact with the Unitarian Assn. for many years, his most significant contribution being last summer's work camp for Unitarian youth, he conducted on his personal property in north Georgia. ~~JOHN FENDLEY~~ tells me that the outcome of this connection exceeded our Service Committee's fondest expectations. Since assuming the pastorate of this church, I have had every kind of opportunity to evaluate DON'S effectiveness, both on and off the campus of Oglethorpe. The _____ indicates that both the students and his innumerable townspeople friends just about worship the ground he walks. To characterize DON as think and sage is putting it mildly. DON is determined, at any cost, to remain in Georgia. His friends on the other hand are equally determined that, great as his loss would be to the local liberal scene, he be afforded opportunity to increase the scope of his effectiveness from some such nationwide vantage point as Antioch. In the long run, both Georgia and the world would be better benefited by the move perhaps. Trust to see you in Boston and of course the AUA meeting. Cordially - P. S. We ran an ad in the local pressblock Saturday, including your picture and your statement as to why you are a Unitarian. A lack and a laugh and a half dozen good people residing one hundred miles distance came hot-footing into town the next morning in the (S)

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expectation that you were going to hold forth. The previous week we featured RALPH WALDO EMERSON". (S)

Informant further advised that DOMAS had received a letter from JOHN FINDLEY, a portion of which is as follows: (S)

"Thanks for your good letter about DON WEST. From what I know about the reprojected move from Blairsville to Douglasville I thoroughly approve. The new site sounds like a good one. What's happened to DON WEST is a crime. A good long chapter could and should be added to UPTON SINCLAIR'S The Goose Step. As far as the AUA making use of him is concerned, I don't see any possibility at the present time. If you have any ideas on the subject, however, I'd be very much interested in hearing about them. I hope to be able to get down to Atlanta by mid-April. It will be nice to get together and have a good session." (S)

(S) [Confidential Informant T-11 advised] that the Unitarian Work Camp had been set up on the Old Eph Butler Farm, where WEST was now living, and that it was his understanding there was going to be a number of college students from all over the country attend this work camp to be operated by DONALD LEE WEST.

T-6 advised that subject, when questioned by local newspaper reporters, denied being a member of the Communist Party and told them that anybody connected with the Wallace Movement can be expected to be branded as a Communist. (S)

T-6 stated that ROBERT YOUNG of Emory University had inaugurated a Wallace-for-President club and that the club had adopted a resolution which urged that Emory University discontinue segregation and that DON WEST told informant that each Wallace-for-President group had the right to act on any local issues they saw fit and it was in keeping with the Wallace Movement against discrimination and Jim Crow segregation. (S)

T-6 stated that ISTAH J. DOMAS, who had a number of good contacts at Harvard University, was contemplating obtaining a teaching position at Harvard University for himself and DONALD LEE WEST. T-3 advised, however, that DOMAS has made no definite plans in reference to the obtaining of instant positions at this time and that DON WEST preferred to stay in Georgia. (S)

T-6 further advised that Subject DON WEST at the present time was having numerous financial difficulties. (S)

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T-3 said that DONALD LEE WEST attended a Farmers Union meeting in Nashville, Tennessee on April 18, 1948 and returned to Atlanta, Georgia on April 19, 1948. (S)

T-3 stated that DONALD WEST said he was going to attempt to start a work camp this summer, which would be an educational project for the purpose of training farm leaders for positions in farm unions and that he hoped to get assistance from the Unitarians along this line so that they would pay him a salary for the next couple of years. WEST advised informant that he was going to develop this camp about fifteen or twenty miles out of Atlanta on the river at Douglasville, Georgia as it would be necessary for him to become self-employed as long as he remained in politics. Informant advised that WEST met with JOSEPH GROSS, who is connected with one of the Jewish Welfare Associations in Atlanta, concerning this and that GROSS advised WEST that his organization did not sponsor youth camps. (S)

T-6 stated that EUDICE TONTAK attended the National Conference for Social Workers in New York City in April and that upon her return on April 26, 1948 had met with DONALD L. WEST. Informant advised that EUDICE TONTAK brought some material from an individual named "JANET" who was working for the National Probation Parole to WEST, and that at this meeting WEST told TONTAK that he had given the keynote address in North Carolina on April 25, 1948 for the Third Party Convention, and that WEST stated they had only two hundred sixteen delegates and that things were not progressing as well as they should. (S)

T-6 advised that JOHN TEAGER from Boston, Massachusetts, visited DONALD L. WEST and stayed with him on April 6, 1948. Informant stated that he was not acquainted with TEAGER, or the reason for his visit with DONALD L. WEST. (S)

The "Southern Farmer" dated April, 1948, which is published by AUBREY WILLIAMS, reflected that DONALD LEE WEST had written an article which appeared in this paper along the lines of an autobiography of DON WEST and his family and their hardships as southerners, a portion of which read as follows:

"That is why I never fall for the line of the 'city slicker' newspaper boys' tales about the so-called 'wool hat boys' being responsible for prejudice and hate peddling. I know that it is not really the great farm working folks, BUT THE 'SILK HAT BOYS' OF WALL STREET (capital letters indicate raised letters in instant article), who direct the policy and campaigns

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of our southern political demagogues. Their little game is to keep the common folk fighting and prejudiced against each other--the old Hitler line of 'divide and conquer'."

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

T-3 advised that WEST told him that the following individuals were very strong pro-WALLACE people: (S)

- Mr. and Mrs. JOSEPH ALBERT, Box 563, Chamblee, Georgia
- Dr. and Mrs. I. J. GLAZER, 511 East Pelham Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia
- Mr. and Mrs. RICHARD WILMAN, 1073 Atlantic Drive, NW, Atlanta, Georgia
- Dr. SAM SEITZ, Lawson General Hospital, Chamblee, Georgia

The "Atlanta Constitution" dated April 12, 1948 reflected that DONALD L. WEST is Executive Vice Chairman of the Georgia Wallace-for-President Committee and that Miss BRANSON PRICE of Greensboro, North Carolina, is attached to the committee's headquarters at 85 Alexander Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, where she was sent by the National Wallace-for-President Committee to work with the Georgia group. Instant article further reflected that MARY WATKINS PRICE, sister of BRANSON PRICE, was connected with the Wallace-for-President group in North Carolina.

T-6 advised that DON WEST told him on April 6, 1948 that there had been 10,000 copies of State Calls for the State convention for the People's New Party of Georgia to be held May 8, 1948, Macon, Georgia, sent throughout the State and that he expected at least 1000 people to attend this convention. Informant said that WEST told him that the Calls referred to set forth the purpose of the convention was for the founding of a new people's progressive party in support of HENRY WALLACE and GLEN TAYLOR and that the plans at this time were in the embryonic stage concerning congressional candidates and that they had not discussed Mrs. HELEN DOUGLAS HANKIN as a candidate in view of the fact that she was for universal military training and the draft which was not in keeping with the Wallace platform. (S)

T-6 advised that BRANSON PRICE went to Chicago, Illinois on Friday, April 9, 1948, and attended the meeting held at the national headquarters of the Wallace-for-President group and that the subject (S)

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was unable to go to instant meeting because he was not financially able at this time. Informant advised that WEST and PRICE met on April 7, 1948 prior to PRICE'S going to instant meeting and that subject requested PRICE to explain to C. B. ~~BALDWIN~~, HENRY WALLACE'S campaign manager, the reason why he, WEST, was unable to attend instant meeting. (S)

Confidential Informant T-7 advised that the subject met with AUBREY WILLIAMS at the Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia on April 11, 1948. (S)

T-3 stated that ESTHER HUNTER, wife of FLOYD HUNTER, attended a Wallace-for-President meeting at the home of Mrs. HENRY RICH, 651 Cumberland Circle, NE, Atlanta, on the night of May 10, 1948. Mrs. HUNTER advised informant that there had been about forty people at instant meeting, a number of whom had never come out for WALLACE before. (S)

T-6 stated that BRANSON PRICE and DON WEST met on April 14, 1948 after PRICE had returned from her trip to Chicago and that PRICE told WEST that LARKIN MARSHALL did not attend instant meeting and that the only other person from Atlanta, Georgia who had attended instant meeting was FLOYD HUNTER, who had arrived quite late but had attended some of the meetings. Informant advised that PRICE stated that she was attempting to work out a deal with the state of Pennsylvania so that they would adopt Georgia and give them financial assistance and that she had talked to C. B. BALDWIN about the trade union and BALDWIN had told her that he would attempt to get PALMER WEBBER to leave the PAC and work for the southern states with the trade union and that she had also arranged to have GLEN TAYLOR appear as the keynote speaker on May 8, 1948 at Macon, Georgia for the founding convention of the People's New Party of Georgia. (S)

T-3 stated that WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD and DON WEST met on April 15, 1948 and arranged for a conference to be held on April 16, 1948 at 85 Alexander Street, at which BRANSON PRICE, STAFFORD and the subject would be present. Informant advised that WEST told STAFFORD that JOSEPH RABUN, a candidate for the governorship of Georgia, had written a letter concerning the dangers of Federal bureaucracy and such things as the civil rights issue and that the letter sounded to WEST like the typical southern governors who were bellyaching about Federal interference in State rights issues. Informant advised that WEST and STAFFORD agreed that things were not progressing fast enough and that the big trouble seemed to be lack of finances. T-3 stated that the subject and WILLIAM STAFFORD met at the Wallace-for-President headquarters, 85 Alexander Street, on April 26, 1948. Informant did not attend instant meeting. (S)

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[Confidential Informant T-8] said DONALD LEE WEST, WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD and BRANSON PRICE were at the Wallace-for-President Headquarters, 85 Alexander Street, Atlanta, Georgia, on the afternoon of April 26, 1948. WEST, STAFFORD and PRICE proceeded to the Old Post Office and carried in certain pieces of mail which were being sent out to call the delegates for the Third Party Convention at Macon, Georgia. [T-8] stated that BRANSON PRICE left the group and a short time later DONALD LEE WEST and WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD were contacted by HOMER BATES CHASE and drove off together in WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD'S automobile. (S)

T-7 advised that after CHASE had left DONALD LEE WEST that WEST contacted Reverend JOE RABUN, independent gubernatorial candidate, and they had a discussion, at which time WEST advised RABUN that there were a number of things that he, WEST, and the WALLACE people would like to talk to RABUN about, including the INGRAM case, the Klan, Black Raiders, and the need for someone to do something about it. Informant advised that WEST said to RABUN that the WALLACE people and RABUN all agreed on the same issues and he would like to have RABUN meet with the WALLACE people. Informant advised that RABUN told WEST that HOMER BATES CHASE had called on him at Valdosta on April 23, 1948 and that they had had a nice talk. Informant advised that WEST told RABUN that he had met CHASE, and he advised RABUN that the WALLACE group would go along with him since they had so many views in common, and that he believed RABUN would have a good chance to win even if he were defeated in the primary because petitions could be issued for the general election in November when only TALMADGE and RABUN would be on the ballot. (S)

Informant advised that after WEST and RABUN had their discussion WEST met BRANSON PRICE at the Wallace-for-President Headquarters at 85 Alexander Street, and told her that he had contacted RABUN, and RABUN was very favorable toward his, WEST'S, suggestion, and that he planned to talk to RABUN about RABUN'S running in the November election in addition to the primary. WEST thought the WALLACE group would have to come to an agreement with RABUN by the convention date, May 8, 1948. T-7 advised that BRANSON PRICE thought that RABUN would make a good candidate. (S)

[Confidential Informant T-9 advised] that DON WEST was elected Executive Vice Chairman at Macon, Georgia on May 8, 1948, for the People's New Party of Georgia and that he was also named as an elector of District No. 7 for instant party.

[Confidential Informant T-10 advised] that subject parked his red jeep, Georgia License No. AP7145B, across the street from 721 Parkway Drive, the residence of WILLIAM ROY and ROSPLINE SMITH on May 10, 1948, and left with HOMER BATES CHASE in CHASE'S automobile and drove toward Stone Mountain.

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William Roy Smith

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T-7 advised that HOMER BATES CHASE and DONALD LEE WEST met on May 10, 1948 and drove in CHASE'S automobile out to Stone Mountain, where the two of them had a talk. (S)

Informant said later on that evening CHASE got together with DONALD LEE WEST concerning the statement made by JOE RABUN to the local Atlanta papers to the effect that he, RABUN, will continue to maintain his position as a liberal democrat independent of any group or faction, receiving the support of all the citizens of Georgia in the Democratic Primary of September 8, 1948. RABUN stated there was much more reason for the gradual liberalization of the Democratic Party and that he considered some of the actions of the New Party ill-advised although he could speak only as an observer. Informant advised that CHASE told WEST that in his mind that actually left BARFOOT as a nominee for the gubernatorial candidate for the People's New Party of Georgia. T-7 said that CHASE told WEST that they should act immediately in reference to this nomination, and that he should contact L. MARSHALL and C. T. PRATT in Dalton at once and endeavor to call the people together by Saturday, May 22, 1948, and issue a group statement. (S)

Informant T-7 advised that WEST stated that in his position as Executive Vice Chairman he did not feel that he was being consulted enough by BRANSON PRICE and others, and that BRANSON PRICE was trying to run everything. WEST stated that if he was going to have the title of Executive Vice Chairman and have his title stuck on letterheads that he was going to exercise the authority of that office. T-7 advised that CHASE told WEST that within a day or so he would straighten it out. CHASE stated that in his opinion nothing should be done in reference to JOE RABUN at the present time, and it should be on the basis of the New Party would be glad to work with anyone on issues that benefit the people, and that the Party should not let RABUN provoke them in any way. (S)

Informant T-6 stated that WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD of the United Public Workers of America met with DON WEST shortly after HOMER BATES CHASE contacted him on the night of May 11, 1948, at which time WEST advised STAFFORD that RABUN had issued a statement to the paper to the effect that he was going to run in the Democratic Primary and was not going to run on the New Party platform, as the New Party had taken some ill-advised steps and he, RABUN, believes in evolution and not revolution. WEST stated that RABUN was referring to MARSHALL'S nomination when he made this statement, and that he had felt all along that RABUN would do this, but that the New Party would come out on the winning side of the thing and that they had given RABUN a chance to speak for himself at the Macon convention. WEST also stated that he was not going to give RABUN any consideration other than the fact that they would work with him on (S)

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James Lamar Barrett

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certain issues if they should arise, and that there was no other alternative now to his belief but that JAMES LAMAR BARFOOT would be automatically nominated. WEST stated that he thought the meeting of the State Committee should be on Saturday, which would be the first meeting after the convention, and that it was decided at the convention that RABUN or BARFOOT would be decided on in a period of ten days after the convention as to which of the two would be the gubernatorial nominee. WEST stated that he had discussed this matter with some of his friends and that they were also of the opinion that this would be valid, but that he should contact MARSHALL and PRATT and confer with them. (S)

T-7 also advised that WEST complained to WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD that BRANSON PRICE was trying to run things and he was not being consulted. He told him that if he had the title of Executive Vice Chairman that he was going to exercise the authority, that BRANSON PRICE is a representative of the National Office and had no authority on the State Executive Board and no authority to call a board meeting or anything else. He thought it was a mistake to let her run the Board as well as the office, and on matters of decision, he, WEST did not think that they should even assume that she needs to be consulted. The Board should make the decisions and then tell her that this is what the Board believes, and not to assume in the beginning that she has a right to say when the Board meets or anything else. WEST stated that there is a great deal of need to work closer together for more cooperation all the way around, and that he was tired of not being consulted. T-6 advised STAFFORD told WEST he had never in any way, shape or form excluded WEST from any consultation, and that WEST was picking out one little thing in question that they were in doubt as to what to do, and that there was not any necessity to consult him at all; and that he, STAFFORD, was a great believer in consulting and that he would continue to consult everybody. STAFFORD said that they should get everything all set up and the petitions ready, and that he was quite in accord with WEST that they did not need a lieutenant governor and that they would have their hands full with the gubernatorial candidate and the candidate for U. S. Senator. STAFFORD stated that somebody had gone to L. MARSHALL and practically persuaded him to decline the nomination until STAFFORD and his group had spoken to him, and that he, STAFFORD, would not object if BRANSON PRICE left, that even if she was talking about leaving they could find someone else, and that they should fight for the convention decision in reference to the BARFOOT gubernatorial nomination. (S)

T-7 advised that DONALD LEE WEST told him that he had contacted Reverend C. T. PRATT and LARKIN MARSHALL on May 11, 1948, and advised them of RABUN'S decision not to run on the New Party ticket, and also invited PRATT and MARSHALL to attend a meeting in Atlanta at 2:30, Saturday, the 22d. (S)

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in reference to instant nomination but that they would go ahead and put BARFOOT'S name on the nomination petition at once. WEST advised that both PRATT and MARSHALL gave their OK to go ahead and put BARFOOT'S name down as the nominee. (S)

Informant T-7 advised that WEST told him that J. WESLEY DOBBS had contributed \$50 to the Party and also told him that he would personally help circulate the petition, and that WEST was quite perturbed because there were only fifty-seven people from Macon attending the convention. (S)

Informant T-6 advised that WEST contacted WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD on May 11, 1948, and advised him that both PRATT and MARSHALL had agreed that RABUN'S statement automatically left BARFOOT as the nominee, and that the State meeting would be held on the 22d of May. (S)

Informant T-7 advised that WEST told him that he had been asked by PRATT to be keynote speaker at the People's New Party of Georgia meeting to be held in Dalton, Georgia on June 29, 1948 and that he was going to attempt to get WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD to go with him. (S)

T-7 advised that there was an article printed in the "Atlanta Journal" for May 13, 1948, which stated that JAMES LAMAR BARFOOT, Wallace Party proposed gubernatorial candidate for Georgia, had been fired from his position at the University of Georgia, and that the University had cancelled the contract with the State Educational Film Service, called the "Southern Educational Film Production Service", following student charges that Communist literature was being distributed at a Wallace-for-President meeting. Informant advised that HOMER BATES CHASE had consulted DON WEST in reference to instant article and advised him that someone should draw up a statement and attempt to get twenty or twenty-five leading intellectual and professional people of Atlanta to sign it, protesting on the basis of academic freedom, and that they did not think BARFOOT should be fired. CHASE stated that these people should not necessarily be WALLACE supporters, and it should indicate that the signing of instant letter did not necessarily mean that they were for or against WALLACE. CHASE stated that this article indicated that they were going to "red bait" no matter what it was about, and he believed that in view of the fact that DON WEST was a professor himself that he should issue the statement and also should endeavor to tie the press release in with what TALMADGE had done to the reputation of the Georgia University. Informant advised that CHASE and WEST were to meet later on in the evening of May 13, 1948 to fully discuss this matter. (S)

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Informant T-7 stated that WEST, after a discussion with CHASE, got in touch with gubernatorial candidate BARFOOT and told BARFOOT that he was going to work on a press release to be given in reference to BARFOOT'S release and the cancelling of the contract of the Southern Educational Film Production Service. WEST stated that at this time it was his idea that they should be on the offensive in reference to this particular article and not on the defensive, and it is his belief that it is BARFOOT'S business and he had a right to have TALMADGE material or Communist material or whatever he had at his meeting and had a right as a man to study all points of view, and that he was going to have a meeting in a few minutes to take it up with the people he intended to meet with. WEST advised it might be wise to get a mailing list of clubs and committees and get wires and letters out to them, and arranged to contact BARFOOT at a later time that evening. BARFOOT advised that he wanted to get something else in the papers immediately before they went to press, and that from the way the University was acting they were joining hands with the pro-Talmadge Hitlerite tactics, and that he intended to be on the offensive and strike back at them for trying to cover their denial of academic freedom by a red smear campaign as they had gotten frightened at the real people's movement, and in their frantic haste to cover up they had resorted to this Hitlerite tactic. BARFOOT stated he believed it would be better if he issued the first statement in view of the fact that it had been an attack upon him rather than WEST as Executive Vice Chairman of the New People's Party. T-7 furnished a copy of the following incomplete draft made by BARFOOT: (S)

(S) "In their frantic effort to cover up their flagrant denial of academic freedom, John Simms, and apparently other high University officials, have joined hands with John Rogers, pro-Talmadge former Highway Patrolman, to conduct a red smear campaign against me because I dared to be a candidate for Governor with the People Progressive Party. This is a threadbare tactic originated by Adolf Hitler for the purpose of discrediting those liberals and progressives who have the courage to stand up for the people." (S)

BARFOOT advised this was an incomplete rough draft and that he intended to add to it. (S)

Informant T-7 advised that later on the same evening after WEST had met with HOMER BATES CHASE, DON WEST issued a press release to the Atlanta papers which stated in part: (S)

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"We believe that the people of Georgia will rally to Mr. Barfoot's defense and the defense of the University. The fact that the contract with the Southern Film Production Service has been terminated is further evidence of the similarity of the purge of Dr. COCKING and others under the Talmadge regime which discredited and almost destroyed our University System". (S)

Informant T-7 advised that on the following day, May 14, 1948, WEST sent the following telegram to President HERMAN CALDWELL of the University of Georgia: (S)

"As a native Georgian and former student of the University of Georgia interested in the future progress of education I am shocked by your hasty action in dismissing Prof. James L. Barfoot. There has been no previous criticism of Professor Barfoot's work. He is listed in the summer school bulletin. The evident reason for this sudden dismissal can only be expressed by Dean Aderhold because of his political activities. Georgians remember with shame the Cocking affair and the University losing its accredited standing. This Barfoot incident sets a dangerous precedent if left uncorrected. If such a course is followed it means no teacher will be secure from thought control pressure. Therefore I strongly urge you as President of the University to correct this gross miscarriage of justice and denial of academic freedom." (S)

Informant T-6 advised that WEST had prepared a letter addressed to President CALDWELL which was to be mimeographed for people's signatures and sent to President CALDWELL. Informant T-6 advised that instant letter read as follows: (S)

"As Georgia citizens who are interested in the future progress of Georgia education and guaranteeing of academic freedom in our state schools we have been shocked by the seeming hasty action of University of Georgia officials in dismissing Professor James L. Barfoot from its faculty. There have been no previous criticisms of Professor James L. Barfoot's performance of his academic duties. He is listed in the University's summer school bulletin. The evident reason for his sudden dismissal to become effective in June is expressed in a letter by the Dean of the College of Education - his political activities. We remember with shame the firing of Dr. Cocking and others in the former period when our University lost its accredited standing and was almost (S)

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destroyed. We firmly believe in the principles of academic freedom and uphold the rights of a professor to espouse whatever political belief he may see fit. We think the Bar-foot incident, if left uncorrected, sets a dangerous precedent. If such a course is followed generally, no teacher or public official will be secure. We therefore strongly urge that you, as President of the University, use your high office to correct this gross miscarriage of justice and denial of academic freedom." (S)

Informant T-6 advised that WEST discussed the above mentioned letter with BRANSON PRICE at the Wallace Party Headquarters, and PRICE stated that she would cut a stencil on it and would endeavor to get some professional people to sign it. (S)

T-6 advised that DONALD LEE WEST, Executive Vice Chairman of the People's New Party of Georgia, gave a speech over Radio Station WAGA, Atlanta, Georgia, at 8:15 on the night of May 20, 1948. Informant stated that EUDICE TONTAK, ROBERT ARMSTRONG, SAM WILLIAMS and BILL STAFFORD aided WEST in preparation of instant speech. WEST in his speech decried the nation's policy in reference to the Palestine problem, stated that Mr. WALLACE said the USA and the USSR must take immediate action to end the cold war, and asked for general reduction of armaments and the defeat of the Mundt-Nixon Bill. WEST during instant speech stated that our nation's policy in Palestine can only be laid to the old feudal Arab monarchy and laws in that region, and that in reference to the China civil war we were throwing billions of dollars down the drain to support one of the most corrupt dictatorships on the face of the earth - CHIANG KAI-SHEK. In his speech, concerning the Mundt-Nixon Bill, WEST stated that on the surface this was a bill to outlaw the Communist Party, but in principle it had been borrowed from the laws passed by Hitler Germany in 1933, and was to prevent any expression by the American people of their opposition to the war policies of the present administration. (S)

T-3 said that PALMER WEBBER came to Atlanta, Georgia, on June 17, 1948, in reference to the Third Party movement, and in connection with his visit EUDICE TONTAK got in touch with DON WEST in an effort to determine whether or not WEBBER had come to Atlanta in an effort to change their position concerning the gubernatorial nominee. Informant T-3 advised that WEST did not know the reason for WEBBER'S coming to Atlanta at the time he discussed it with TONTAK, but it was decided that they both would go along with the convention decision concerning the nomination. T-3 advised that TONTAK stated that she had gotten a couple of the open letters concerning the BARFOOT incident signed, and had discussed this letter with Dr. LOUIE NEWTON, Baptist Minister, Atlanta, Georgia, and Dr. NEWTON was quite friendly and sympathetic but would not sign the letter (S)

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because he believed the angle was simply one phase of the political mess that the University is in. (S)

Informant T-3 advised on June 16, 1948 that BILL STAFFORD consulted with DON WEST and both agreed it would be all right to get notices out for a state board meeting of the People's New Party of Georgia to be held on June 26, 1948. Informant advised that STAFFORD advised both men had a discussion concerning PAUL ROBESON'S coming to Atlanta and that STAFFORD intended to take it up with EUDICE TONTAK and SAM WILLIAMS of the Atlanta Committee of the People's New Party in an effort to raise sufficient money to have ROBESON'S meeting broadcast. Informant advised that WEST indicated that he would like to have the group nominate someone to take his place as Executive Vice Chairman and reduce him to the Atlanta Committee as he was very busy and might be leaving the state next September. Informant advised that BILL STAFFORD was opposed to this. (S)

Informant T-3 advised that RALPH MCGILL, Editor of the "Atlanta Constitution", had written an article in the June 18, 1948 paper entitled "Don West and the Wallace Campaign", which stated in effect that DON WEST was a Communist. Informant advised that WEST, after reading instant article, stated that this was MCGILL'S old "Communist red baiting stuff again" and he would immediately meet with WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD in reference to instant column. STAFFORD at instant meeting told WEST that he had discussed instant column with BRANSON PRICE and BARFOOT at the Wallace-for-President Headquarters and a few other people who were there, and that they all agreed that they should not take that kind of thing seriously and the main purpose of a column like that was to get the group to stop doing their work and start trying to defend themselves. STAFFORD stated that as far as any official statement was concerned they would ignore it, but that several of them would write individual letters blasting MCGILL for being the worst kind of yellow journalist, and that he believed WEST in discussing it with his students should use instant article as a fine object lesson of the Mundt Bill psychology in the way that the smear business operates. STAFFORD stated that they would suggest to different people to write letters and he would write one himself. Informant advised after STAFFORD and WEST'S meeting, DON WEST then contacted BRANSON PRICE and BRANSON PRICE agreed that some letters should be written to MCGILL pointing out errors in his column. Informant advised WEST was perturbed because he believed this column was hurting him with the people he was teaching because they did not understand all the issues. (S)

(S) [T-5 advised] that the New People's Party of Georgia held an anti-Klan demonstration on the lawn of the State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia, on

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Reverend Claude Williams

July 19, 1948, at which time EUDICE TONTAK acted as master of ceremonies. T-5 advised that the invocation was given by Reverend GRANT, a colored minister, and the principal talk was given by JAMES L. BARFOOT, gubernatorial candidate, who gave a violent anti-Klan talk. T-5 further stated that benediction was given by Reverend WILLIAMS, a colored minister, and that WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD made a speech criticizing the Klan, as well as the Democratic and Republican parties. T-5 advised there were approximately twenty-five people in attendance, and that there were several posters captioned "Fight the Klan", "Free the Ingrams", and "Sign our Petition". T-5 stated that DONALD LEE WEST was present at instant meeting but did not participate actively at instant meeting. T-5 stated that WILLIAM ROY WITH'S Army carryall had brought the public address speaking equipment to instant meeting.

T-2 advised that HOMER BATES CHASE drove by instant meeting place at 8:15 PM but did not stop at the meeting.

The "Atlanta Constitution" dated July 31, 1948 reflected that DONALD LEE WEST was named as National Committeeman for the Progressive Party from the State of Georgia.

T-2 advised that DONALD LEE WEST attended the Third Party convention held at Philadelphia and at instant convention introduced JAMES L. BARFOOT, gubernatorial candidate for the New People's Party of Georgia for a radio address.

The "Atlanta Constitution" reflected that subject left Dalton, Georgia July 22, 1948 via a private plane to attend the Third Party convention, at which time he was accompanied by Reverend C. T. PRATT, LARKIN MARSHALL, JAMES L. BARFOOT and JACK LORENZ.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

~~Mundt-Nixon Bill~~

T-6 stated on May 1, 1948 that DON WEST had received a telegram from C. B. BALDWIN, in charge of the Third Party Movement in New York on a nation scale, advising him that the final text of the Mundt Bill was not available, but it was going to be brought to the floor of the House during the coming week, and that urgent wires and letters should be sent to Congress immediately asking that they appear before the Rules Committee to oppose reporting the bill to the House and demanding they vote against this un-American and unconstitutional legislation when it comes before the House.

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Informant advised that again on May 13, 1948 the National Headquarters of the Wallace-for-President Movement advised that the Mundt Bill was being postponed and that letters and wires should be continued to be forwarded and efforts be made to have week end visits with Congressmen whenever possible. Informant advised that on May 14, 1948 BRANSON PRICE had received two wires in reference to the Mundt Bill from the National Headquarters which she had shortened and sent to various people in Georgia. (S)

Confidential Informant T-6 advised on May 17, 1948 HOMER BATES CHASE instructed WEST that he should endeavor to get someone to telephone twenty-five or thirty prominent people in Atlanta to try to get them to put through individual telephone calls to Representative DAVIS against the Mundt Bill. CHASE stated that there would be no Wallace Movement if they passed the Mundt Bill without a fight, that the Third Party in New Orleans was doing an awful lot more and this was right in line with the National Office of the Third Party. CHASE advised that things were real tough in Alabama, and that they were intimidating Third Party people there as well as in South Carolina. CHASE suggested to WEST that he take the matter of the Mundt Bill calls up with Third Party Headquarters, which WEST agreed to do. (S)

Confidential Informant T-12 stated in reference to information furnished by T-6 to the effect that HOMER CHASE had instructed DONALD LEE WEST to get people contact Congressman DAVIS, that Congressman DAVIS had received on or about May 17, 1948 a petition from the Wallace supporters in Georgia in opposition to the Mundt-Nixon Bill. (S)

T-3 said that JACK LORENZ met DONALD LEE WEST and told him that he had formed an Atlanta Citizens Committee against the Mundt Bill and that he, JAMES LAMAR BARFOOT, EUDICE TOMTAK, Dr. TOM JONES, and R. J. STAUFERMAN were going to Washington, DC, in BARFOOT'S station wagon to protest the Mundt Bill. (S)

Informant advised on June 18, 1948 that WILLIAM WRIGHT STAFFORD stated that they were passing out hand bills at various mills around Atlanta, Georgia, including the Fulton Bag, Atlantic Steel, and Exposition Mills, announcing the coming of PAUL ROBESON to Atlanta, and that they had run into trouble at the Exposition Mill on the night of June 17, 1948 when the guard told them that they could not distribute the leaflets on company property, but they had continued to distribute them down by the sidewalk near the car stop. (S)

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In the "Atlanta Journal", Atlanta, Georgia, on June 2, 1948, and the "Macon Telegraph", Macon, Georgia, on June 8, 1948, there appeared a paid ad entitled "Mundt Bill is Aimed at Your Freedom". It is noted that this ad was carried as a paid political advertisement by the Communist Party of Georgia, HOMER B. CHASE, State Organizer, Post Office Box 4836, Atlanta, Georgia.

Confidential Informant T-3 further advised that on May 20, 1948 DONALD LEE WEST, Executive Vice Chairman of the People's New Party of Georgia, gave a speech over Radio Station WAGA in Atlanta, Georgia. The latter portion of this speech dealt with the Mundt-Nixon Bill, and in this speech WEST requested his listeners to telegraph or telephone Senator RUSSELL or Senator GEORGE expressing the listeners' opposition to the Mundt Bill which would destroy the freedom of all people. (S)

RELIGION~~People's Institute of Applied Religion~~

T-7 advised that on Saturday, May 22, 1948 DONALD LEE WEST accompanied Reverend ARCHER TORREY to Birmingham, Alabama, and attended a meeting of the People's Institute of Applied Religion. ARCHER TORREY is a close associate of WEST and HOMER BATES CHASE, and was named as a vice chairman of the Georgia Wallace-for-President Committee at the statewide convention held in Macon, Georgia, May 8, 1948. (S)

Dr. T. M. BARNETT, 3609 Kingsboro Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that Reverend I. J. DOMAS was pastor of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Atlanta, Georgia, and that DOMAS was a close associate of DONALD LEE WEST and of Reverend CLAUDE WILLIAMS of the People's Institute of Applied Religion, and that DOMAS was influential in having DONALD WEST join the Unitarian-Universalist Church, as well as ROBERT G. ARMSTRONG, teacher at Atlanta University, [redacted] at Oglethorpe University, WILLIAM GEORGE, a member of the American Civil Liberties Union, Mrs. and Mrs. STILLMAN WILLIAMS, Miss COHY BOWERS, ex-WAC, and Recreational Director for the City of Decatur, Georgia, HARRY A. BROMLEY, SHIRLEY T. CAPPS, teacher in the Atlanta School System, PHILLIP G. HAMMER and JIMMY B. and JACK R. BAGSDALE. Dr. BARNETT advised he believed DOMAS was attempting to infiltrate the Unitarian-Universalist Church with Atlanta, Georgia Communists, that he believed this because DONALD LEE WEST at a meeting of the church was presented by Reverend DOMAS as a model for the church to emulate, and read from Mr. WEST'S book, and that DOMAS and WEST had

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both spoken advocating the weakening of our national defense, and spoke of those who differ with them as Fascists and capitalists. BARNETT stated that when DOMAS was asked at a yearly business meeting whether or not he was a Communist sympathizer DOMAS refused to answer.

In reference to the group of people named by Dr. BARNETT, Mrs. STILLMAN WILLIAMS admitted in an interview with the "Atlanta Constitution", March 2, 1948, that she had been a former member of the Communist Party in 1937. [T-7] advised that ROBERT G. ARMSTRONG is a frequent contact of DOMAS, HOMER BATES CHASE, and DONALD LEE WEST and that EUDICE LONTAK was acquainted with PHILLIP G. HAMMER. [T-7] BARNETT advised that on May 7, 1948 the Unitarian-Universalist Church at Atlanta, Georgia had obtained DOMAS' resignation from the church. In reference to SHIRLEY T. CARPS mentioned by Dr. BARNETT, the reporting agent observed from surveillance that she lives on the EPH BUTLER Farm, which is a Unitarian Work Camp on Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, where DONALD LEE WEST and family are residing at the present time.

Additional Background Regarding DONALD LEE WEST

(S) [Confidential Informant T-13 advised] that his records reflect that on December 29, 1944 subject had been employed for two years as principal of the school at Lula, Georgia and did preaching on the side and that he was a member of the Baptist Church but his religious activities were not confined to the one sect. He was reported to be a member of the "Black Stocking" religious sect. [T-13] stated that subject (S) was connected with the Communist Party and had a brother and sister who had visited Russia to study the government there. The subject formerly taught in Cartersville, Georgia. He entered the race for representative to the State Legislature in 1943 but was defeated. [T-13] stated that subject (S) reportedly distributed pamphlets on the Communist Party to the lower and more illiterate element and the Negroes. Informant stated that subject reportedly wrote articles for the "Daily Worker", had published booklets in Birmingham, Alabama, and had a brother named RUDOLPH WEST who was a Communist Party member, also had two brothers-in-law who are connected with the Communist Party, one of whom had visited in Russia to learn more of the Communist work and teachings.

The following is background information concerning subject's wife, MABEL CONSTANCE WEST.

JOHN W. JONES, DeKalb County Police Department, advised that MABEL CONSTANCE WEST had taught the 5th and 6th grades in the Brookhaven

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School and her record reflected she had taught at Roswell, Georgia 1946-47, Ringgold, Georgia 1945-46, Lula School, Lula, Georgia 1943-45 and Hindman Settlement School, Hindman, Kentucky 1930-41.

[Confidential Informant T-14 advised] that his records contain the following information concerning MABEL CONSTANCE ADAMS WEST:

Born	1/1/11, Corbin, Kentucky
Relatives	Father JACK J. ADAMS, mother LYDIA MARLOW ADAMS, husband DONALD LEE WEST
Education	Ellen M. Myres School, Harrogate, Tennessee (dates not given) Lincoln Memorial Academy, Harrogate, Tennessee (1923 to 1927) Lincoln Memorial University (September 1927 to July 1930) YWCA Graduate School, Blue Ridge, NC (Summer of 1928) Berea College, Berea, Kentucky (Summer school 1931) University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. (Summer of 1937) Oglethorpe University (fall of 1937; 1942 to 1944; summer school of 1944) Received A.B. Degree in Education August 1944 Brenau College, Gainesville, Georgia (Summer school of 1943) High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia (Summer of 1944) University of Georgia, Athens (1944 to 1947 - graduated 8/30/47 with Masters Degree in Education)
Addresses	Harrogate, Tennessee (1927 to 1930) Route 3, Cartersville, Georgia (1941-1942) Lula, Georgia, Box 64 (1942 and 1944) Ringgold, Georgia, Box 175 (1945) Blairsville, Georgia (1947) Oglethorpe University, Georgia (1947)
Employment	Teacher at the following schools: Hindman Settlement School, Hindman, Ky. (September 1930 to May 1933)

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Lula High School, Lula, Georgia
(September 1942 to May 1945)
Catoosa County Schools, Ringgold,
Georgia (September 1945 to May 1946)
Roswell School, Roswell, Georgia
September 1946 to February 1947)
Brookhaven School, Brookhaven, Georgia
(February 1947 to date)

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

T-1 [redacted] a former member of the Communist Party for [redacted] who is presently living in the Miami Division.

T-2 SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR., who obtained information via surveillance, observation and via radio in reference to WEST'S being at convention in Philadelphia.

T-3 [AT-1324] ~~Ⓢ~~

T-4 SA CHRISTOPHER J. VIZAS.

T-5 SA PAUL F. TIERNEY.

T-6 [AT-1324]

T-7 [AT-1324] ~~Ⓢ~~

T-8 Surveillance conducted by SA CHARLES T. HAYNES and SA PAUL F. TIERNEY.

T-9 [redacted] CIC [redacted]

T-10 Surveillance conducted by SA RICHARD R. HENDERSON, SA PAUL F. TIERNEY, CHARLES T. HAYNES and SA WILLIAM MASON FILMER.

T-11 [redacted] Douglasville, Georgia.

T-12 Congressman JAMES C. DAVIS.

T-13 [redacted] Atlanta.

T-14 [redacted] who requested that his name be kept confidential.

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LEADS

Copies of this report are furnished to Birmingham, Savannah and New Orleans for information in view of subject's contacts and activities with individuals in their divisions.

NEW YORK DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NY

Pursuant to letter dated July 2, 1948 from the Atlanta Division, the New York Office is requested to obtain authenticated copies of issues of the "Daily Worker" as set forth where subject is noted as a member of the Communist Party and wrote instant poem entitled "I am a Communist". It will be noted that copies of the "Daily Worker" in 1934 state that instant paper was issued by the Communist Party and on the first page of instant copies is inscribed the hammer and sickle.

MEMPHIS DIVISION

AT NASHVILLE, TENN.

Will determine activity of subject while he attended the Farmers Union Meeting in April 1948 and advise the Atlanta Division of any pertinent information. (S)

ATLANTA DIVISION

AT ATLANTA, GA.

Will continue to follow and report activities of subject.

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