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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**AMERICAN FRIENDS  
SERVICE COMMITTEE**

**PART 9 OF 25**

**FILE NUMBER : 100-11392**

SUBJECT; AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

FILE #: 100-11392

SECTION: 9

100-11392

295 ✓

July 26, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I will appreciate your sending to me if you have them available one-half dozen copies of your report on the investigation of rioting which occurred during hearing of the House Committee on un-American Activities in San Francisco last May 12-14 describing communist tactics among students. This story appeared in the Sunday, July 24 issue of the GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS and was widely and approvingly read.

In addition to this report if you have other such reports from time to time that are available in handy copies, I would appreciate receiving them also.

The activities of the American Friends Service Committee and the Quakers in Richmond, Indiana the last few weeks have confirmed my own statements. This brings me to ask if you have any information you can forward to me regarding subversive activities of the Society of Friends (Quakers) or the American Friends Service Committee, it will be greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to you and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its wonderful work in protecting our country.

Sincerely yours,

5  
9

EYES SHUT - POCKETBOOKS OPEN

While we revere and pay tribute to the memory of our ancestors for their valiant deeds, their courage and their stand for the right, in defense of our state and our nation, we fail them if we do not also meet with courage and patriotism the dangerous activities now occurring in our very midst. Must we keep our eyes shut and our pocketbooks open to projects fostered under the beautiful names of education and religion, no matter by whom, or how sponsored or run?

If Greensboro citizens are going to be called upon to contribute to the building of colleges in this vicinity we should have a better choice than is now afforded us. Our leaders should more seriously consider the beginning of a real Community College, a new one patterned after those now operating in Asheville, Charlotte and Wilmington. Greensboro College is not operating as a co-educational institution, is located in the heart of the city and might it be the instrument we need to foster and build upon. Womens College of the University might even be developed along lines co-educational and with special emphasis on local needs. We could divorce Greensboro Division of Guilford College and run it independently.

Some will say we already have what we need in Guilford College. I heartily disagree. We do not need them. We need a red-blooded American institution. I have no objection to the Quakers doing their own building, although I disagree heartily with their racial teachings and their attitudes toward the internal and external defense of our beautiful land. Let them be true to their own. Why should the rest of us aid in our own destruction? If everyone else had the attitude, there would be no Free America today for them to practice their religion and subversive activities. Would you want anyone to discourage your sons from defending their country in the armed services if need be? Or have your children taught by persons, however learned who believe in inter-marriage of the races and who conscientiously object to service in the armed forces in defense of our country?

Quaker activities have been so unattractive to red-blooded Americans that there has been no noticeable gain in their numbers of members in the twentieth century. It is one of the oldest yet one of the smallest in numbers of all the various denominations in America. Why should we help them put life in what many of the Quakers themselves consider a dying sect? Should we help them spread their anti-American influence?

In 1958 it was again revealed to the public and especially to our patriotic business men the nature of the notorious activities of the discredited American Friends Service Committee right here in Guilford County. What was not so well known was the proud claim of C.S. Feagles, a conscientious objector and associate professor of philosophy at Guilford College, that the college had a very close relationship with American Friends Service Committee and was training its leaders. Guilford College has furnished three chairmen of the AFSC Southeastern Regional Office who are (quote) intimately connected with Guilford College - one as the highest-ranking member of the (college) board of trustees, one as the highest-ranking member of the administration, and one as one of the highest-ranking members of the faculty; one member of the board

trustees is on the administrative staff of the national office of the AFSC in Philadelphia, and actively serving on one of that office's standing committees is the highest-ranking member of the (college) administration; actively serving on three of the Southeastern Regional Office's standing committees are eight men drawn from the college's board of trustees, administration and full-time faculty; at least six other members of the college's board of trustees, administration or full-time faculty have within the recent past worked closely with the AFSC (unquote). So said C. S. Feagins in the Public Pulse columns of the Greensboro Daily News, September 17, 1958.

My point is simply this: Let our Chamber of Commerce, Piedmont Associated Industries, and civic leaders generally, pause and realize what is going on. They should know how many of them are, with their money, supporting people whose adopted rules of conduct are absolutely opposed to the beliefs of their benefactors. We should then see that our fair city gets back -- of a real community college, whether or not connected with a church. If we decide to help a church college become more of a community affair, let's make it a denomination that more nearly fills the needs and aspirations of our people. Not one that, by long tradition and modern conviction, favors integration and mongrelization of our races, and not one that also opposes the internal and external defense of our nation by refusal to serve in our armed forces in wartime.

They "conscientiously object" to risking their lives for freedom, and teach others to do the same. They are willing for us to fight and die to save Quaker necks. These people also make it a point to bring to our community every year numbers of speakers spreading Socialist, Communist, and other un-American and subversive doctrines. And then ask those of us devoted to free economy to support them with cash. And let's not contribute our money or send our children to school to any denomination or college opposed to the Loyalty Oath or the Oath of Allegiance to our country, or that serves as a training ground for leaders of the American Friends Service Committee.

Why should we bid on the rope to hang ourselves or cooperate in our own destruction, either from the inside or the outside as the Communists keep telling us we would do? Herbert Hoover in a recent speech on subversive movements undermining America, said "The American way of life has proved to be pretty tough. It needs to be tougher now". His advice certainly applies to us here and now. Should we keep our eyes shut and our pocketbooks open? What is this community going to do about it? Shall we remain soft, or have the courage to be tough enough to meet the situation?

Excerpts from address of McDaniel Lewis -

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY - May 10, 1960  
Green Hill Cemetery  
Greensboro, N. C.

August 2, 1960

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I have received your letter of July 26, 1960, with enclosure, and appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

In response to your request, I am enclosing six copies of the report, "Communist Target-Youth," regarding the demonstrations against the House Committee on Un-American Activities in San Francisco. I am also sending some additional material on the general subject of communism which you may like to read.

Concerning the organizations you mentioned in your letter, I am unable to be of help to you since information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or we do not have in our files data relating to these groups.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*

TO :

DATE: August 11, 1960

FROM :

SUBJECT: AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Reference is made to the enclosed letter dated 8/8/60 from Stephen Thiermann, executive secretary of the Northern California Regional Office of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). In his letter Thiermann refers to Director's report captioned "Communist Target-Youth" with particular reference to the statement on page 7 of the report that the so-called Peace March which took place on Saturday, 5/14/60, in San Francisco was a movement sponsored by the Communist Party (CP). Thiermann disputes the statement, stating that the Peace March was sponsored by his organization in conjunction with a number of other pacifist organizations.

Background of AFSC

Thiermann's letter is typical of the policy long followed by the AFSC through which it has continually made efforts to disassociate itself from communist activities.

The AFSC, organized in 1917, is the subject of a closed [REDACTED] file (Profile [REDACTED]) which indicates that the stated purposes of the organization are to relieve human suffering and ease international tensions. The organization is composed of persons who are members of the religious Society of Friends but is not an official organ of the Society. Informants have characterized it as a sincere pacifist group, and our investigations of it have not disclosed any subversive activity or active communist infiltration of the AFSC.

On the other hand, the activities of the AFSC have often clearly paralleled the CP line and have often been conducted in conjunction with CP front groups.



Memorandum to   
Re: American Friends Service Committee

Parallels With CP Line

The AFSC, for example, has engaged in sending funds for Russian relief (1947); sharply criticized U. S. foreign policy on widespread issues; criticized loyalty oaths; opposed the Smith Act; criticized the capitalistic system; opposed ban on subversives in public office; encouraged conscientious objectors to refuse to defend the country; protested nuclear testing; and engaged in sponsoring private exchange delegations with the Soviet Union.

Affiliation With CP Fronts

Some of the CP fronts with which the AFSC has worked through the years include the following designated by executive order by the Attorney General of the U. S.:

American Russian Institute  
Labor Youth League  
California Labor School  
American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born  
The Northern California Peace Council  
Pacific Coast Youth Recorder

Memorandum to [REDACTED]  
Re: American Friends Service Committee

CP Sponsorship of Peace March

In reference to Thiermann's disputing statement that the CP was not a sponsor for the Peace March, it should be noted that the definition of the word "sponsor" includes: "One who enters into an engagement on behalf of another." This, of course, the CP did in respect to the so-called Peace March on 5/14/60 in San Francisco and we were absolutely correct in so stating. To show the Party's sponsorship, the following evidence is set forth.

In CP's west coast publication, People's World, issue of 5/7/60, the Party called attention to the Peace March with separate articles on pages 3 and 7 as a means of encouraging CP participation in the March.

The CP telephone campaign conducted in the San Francisco area prior to the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) hearings which was designed to reach 1,000 people was directed at achieving two objectives: (1) solidifying opposition to the hearings, and (2) publicizing the Peace March on 5/14/60.

At a meeting on 5/11/60 in San Francisco a communist front organization formed plans to organize a demonstration in honor of witnesses subpoenaed by the HCUA. The demonstration was planned for 12:00 noon on 5/14/60 specifically so that it could be blended into the proposed Peace March. To build up attendance for this demonstration, [REDACTED], west coast communist who played a national role in the San Francisco riots, distributed leaflets outside city hall on 5/13/60 urging recipients to attend the "demonstration" at noon Saturday, 5/14/60.

Memorandum to [REDACTED]  
Re: American Friends Service Committee

Observation:

Despite the extensive communist connections of the AFSC [REDACTED] it is not believed that his letter should remain unanswered since it could be interpreted as not meeting the issue. Since we have ample evidence to support our stand, it is believed desirable to send the enclosed letter to Thierman in reply.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the enclosed letter be approved and forwarded.

296

# American Friends Service Committee

INCORPORATED  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL OFFICE  
2160 Lake Street

San Francisco 21, California



NATIONAL OFFICE  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA  
Harold Evans, *Chairman*  
W. W. Bell, *Executive Secretary*

Telephone, SKyline 2-7766

REGIONAL OFFICE  
Wm. Allen Longshore, Jr., *Chairman*  
Fred Fellow, *Treasurer*  
Stephen Thiermann, *Executive Secretary*

August 8, 1960

John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The San Francisco Office of the American Friends Service Committee has recently noted your report entitled "Communist Target - Youth". On page 7 of this report, you state: "Arrangements were made to have the demonstrators join a party-sponsored 'Peace March' on Saturday, May 14, 1960, at the conclusion of the hearings."

The Executive Committee of the American Friends Service Committee in San Francisco has asked me to write to indicate its regret that apparently you have been misinformed about sponsorship of the May 14 Peace Walk. The basic facts are easily ascertainable and a matter of public record. The Peace Walk was sponsored by these San Francisco organizations: The American Friends Service Committee, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and World Affairs Committees of the International-Interracial Commission (American Baptist).

The American Friends Service Committee intends to continue to encourage democratic expression of concern for policed disarmament.

Sincerely yours,

*Stephen Thiermann*  
Stephen Thiermann

ST:yf

August 12, 1960

Mr. Stephen Thiermann  
Executive Secretary  
Northern California Regional Office  
American Friends Service Committee, Incorporated  
2100 Hyde Street  
San Francisco 33, California

Dear Sir:

Please refer to your letter to me dated August 8, 1960.

I believe you will want to know that I was aware of the involvement of the groups mentioned in the second paragraph of your letter, and, of course, my article "Communist Target-Youth" did not exclude the varied backing of the "Peace March."

Additionally, you will want to know that the evidence is conclusive relating to "a party-sponsored" (that is "engagement on behalf of another") campaign. For example, (1) communist leaders issued orders to insure that every available communist in the area would actively participate in the "March"; (2) the communist vehicle "People's World" publicized it favorably in advance; (3) the Communist Party conducted a telephone campaign encouraging participation; (4) communists also organized a demonstration to take place just prior to the "Peace March," and it was designed to merge with it; (5) leaflets were distributed by Communist Party members encouraging attendance at this demonstration; (6) communists arranged for transportation of supporters to the scene of the demonstration and "March"; (7) communists, as you may know, took considerable credit for having made the "Peace March" a success.

The above and other related activities of the Communist Party certainly preclude any logical conclusion being drawn that the party was not so engaged.

Mr. Stephen Thiermann

In regard to your intention "to continue to encourage democratic expression of concern for policed disarmament," may I say that all genuine democratic thought and practice should be encouraged. I do hope in your own case it will also be directed against communist police states.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

297

Aug 7, 1940

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
F. B. I. Headquarters  
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

I would like for you to send me  
any information you might have regard  
the American Friends Service Committee,  
or personnel connected with this organization.

I am Clerk of the ~~Board of~~  
~~Churches~~, Iowa.

We feel that this organization, which we  
no longer support, is teaching Iowa  
if not outright Communism in some  
cases.

We know your Department is very busy  
with more important matters but we feel  
that this is important to us and other  
~~Churches~~ churches who are concerned about  
this organization.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

August 16, 1960

Dear

I have received your letter dated August 8, 1960, and your interest in communicating with me is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, I must advise that in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice, information in our files must be maintained as confidential and available only for official use. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent requests any information we have concerning the American Friends Service Committee or personnel connected with it. He desires this information since he believes the organization is teaching socialism.

August 10, 1960

Dear

Your letter dated August 2, 1960, with its enclosure, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and its responsibilities and jurisdiction do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE TO SAC, CHICAGO FROM PAGE ONE

Correspondent enclosed a pamphlet entitled, "Alternatives To The Arms Race - Strategic But Thinkable," by W. H. Perry, which was published by the American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This pamphlet discusses the evils of an arms race and recommends total disarmament even though this might mean the United States would be taken over by Russia. It points out that such domination by Russia is "thinkable" and that a nuclear war is "unthinkable."

The American Friends Service Committee is a pacifist group which has opposed military conflict, both international and the draft, of men since it was created in 1917. It was the subject of an investigation in 1942; however, it was found not to be engaged in subversive activities.

TRUE COPY

August 2, 1969.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

For many years I have read and absorbed everything I see on Communism and world affairs; there is always a wealth of such material in our leading magazines and newspapers.

This week, the "Peace Caravan" sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee of Philadelphia is in ~~Philadelphia~~

by invitation of a few leading citizens and ministers.

The well-educated young people who comprise this group are speaking from our pulpits, to our Youth groups, to joint meetings of AUM, Business and Professional Women and the Junior Women's Club; tonight, the Kiwanis and Rotary groups joined to hear the group.

What they say is mostly inoffensive and we came away with the feeling of appreciation and admiration; upon leaving we picked up one of the many pamphlets on display. After reaching home, we were shocked beyond measure to read the enclosed message which we consider pure, unadulterated Communism. Since we do not wish to place our jobs in

TRUE COPY

TRUE COPY

jeopardy by questioning the local sponsors, can you please tell us why such material as this is allowed to be disseminated in the United States? This has us deeply disturbed.

Yours very truly,

/s/ 

TRUE COPY

August 25, 1960

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Many thanks for your letter of August 2nd answering mine of July 26 and sending copies of your report on the San Francisco students riots.

I would like for you to help me just a little bit further. I understand that on National Memorial Day, May 30, or on some other day about that time, students from Haverford, Swarthmore and Bryn Mawr colleges picketed a speaker talking on National Defense subject at the City Hall in Philadelphia and possibly other places. If you can give me a report on it or tell me the date the picketing demonstration against national defense occurred so that I might make inquiry elsewhere, your help will be greatly appreciated. I am particularly interested in the activities of the Pacificists and Quakers, in particular opposing our selective service acts and other national defense plans.

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

298

August 31, 1960

Dear

It was thoughtful of you to acknowledge on August 25, 1960, the receipt of information I had previously sent regarding the student demonstrations in San Francisco.

In response to your request, this Bureau has no information for public distribution concerning the incident you described; therefore, I am unable to be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

The Attorney General

September 9, 19

Director, FBI

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

[REDACTED]

I thought you would be interested in the following information which has been received from the Los Angeles office of this bureau.

[REDACTED] of Whittier, California, contacted the Los Angeles office and stated that two members of his Sunday school class at the [REDACTED] Whittier, told him that the American Friends Service Committee in Whittier is planning to hold a public meeting the next time Vice-President Richard M. Nixon goes to Whittier and will bring forth some sensational-type information which will discredit him to the extent that he will not be elected to the Presidency. [REDACTED] did not identify the two members of his Sunday school class but stated that neither he nor his sources have any further details concerning the nature of the information.

You will be advised of any further pertinent data which is received concerning this matter.

The above information is being furnished to the Vice President.



300

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 8 1960

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TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, LOS ANGELES

2P

COMINFIL, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE PAREN (AFSC) PAREN,

[REDACTED], WHITTIER, CALIF., CONTACTED LOS

ANGELES OFFICE AND COMPLAINED THREE MEMBERS OF HIS SUNDAY

SCHOOL CLASS AT [REDACTED] WHITTIER, CALIF.,

BELIEVED TO BE SUBVERSIVE BECAUSE OF MEMBERSHIP IN AFSC,

WHITTIER. THESE INDIVIDUALS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] BELIEVES THESE PERSONS

SUBVERSIVE BECAUSE EXPRESS PACIFIST VIEWS, BELIEVE IN TOTAL

DISARMAMENT, ABOLISHMENT OF

5 SEP 26 1973

QJLQESTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND

SEP 18 1960

FAVOR TAKING SOFT POSITION TOWARD EAST BERLIN. [REDACTED] STATED

TWO PROAMERICAN MEMBERS HIS CLASS TOLD HIM AFSC IN WHITTIER

PLANNING TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING NEXT TIME VICE PRESIDENT


NIXON COMES TO WHITTIER AND WILL BRING FORTH SOME TYPE

SENSATIONAL INFORMATION WHICH WILL DISCREDIT NIXON TO EXTENT

HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE SUCCESSFULLY ELECTED TO PRESIDENCY.

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

 STATED NEITHER HE NOR HIS SOURCES HAVE FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING NATURE THIS INFORMATION. NO OTHER DATA AVAILABLE LOS ANGELES WHICH WOULD CLARIFY MATTER AT THIS TIME. NO ACTION BEING TAKEN TO DEVELOP ABOVE INFORMATION, HOWEVER, LOS ANGELES WILL BE ALERT FOR ANY INFORMATION FURNISHED BY ESTABLISHED SOURCES AND IMMEDIATELY ADVISE BUREAU OF RECEIPT OF SAME.

August 19, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

We read in the San Francisco Chronicle, July 19, 1960, a statement by you in which you referred to the Peace March of May 14th as being "party - sponsored".

We heard about the march from the American Friends Service Committee, and participated in it. Before the march began a spokesman from the A.F.S.C. informed the participants that only posters and placards pertinent to the march (i.e., dealing with the upcoming summit conference) would be permitted. We were also admonished to behave with dignity and decorum, and not to argue with those whose views were different from ours.

Also, the march was rerouted to avoid passing the student demonstration at the City Hall. While some individual persons may have participated in both events, there certainly was no connection between the two.

Lately we have read and heard statements (such as yours) which would tend to make people wonder if groups such as the American Friends Service Committee were being infiltrated by communists. Is there perhaps a communist conspiracy to make the general public think that all such worthwhile organizations are communist front groups, and thereby lessen the effectiveness of these groups. If so, statements such as yours certainly aid the communists in fulfilling this aim.

Sincerely,

September 6, 1960

Dear Sir:

Please refer to the letter to me dated August 19, 1960, from Mrs. [redacted] and you. The statement mentioned in your letter is apparently taken from my report, "Communist Target--YOUTH." My report did not include the varied backing of the "Peace March" on May 14, 1960. However, you will want to know that the evidence is conclusive concerning "a party-sponsored" (that is "engagement on behalf of another") campaign.

For example, the communist newspaper, "People's World," favorably publicized the "March" in advance; communist leaders instructed available communists in the area to participate actively in the "March"; communists carried on a telephone campaign to urge participation; communists organized a demonstration to take place just prior to the "March," which demonstration was to merge with it; communists arranged for transportation of supporters to the demonstration and "March"; and communists took considerable credit for making the "Peace March" a success.

As to whether or not statements of mine on communist theory and practice aid the communists, it appears to me that it is more dangerous to our free society to permit the subverting efforts of communists to go unopposed than it is to tell the American people the facts about communist efforts to infiltrate and exploit organizations legitimately expressing their opinions. In addition, I can assure you that the communist invectives continuously directed against the FBI and me are not the result of my giving any help to the communist conspiratorial cause.

I would like to make it clear that, in writing "Communist Target--Youth," I wanted to point out how communists can infiltrate and exploit the expressions of genuine democratic thought and practice, turning such actions to the selfish benefit of their cause.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE ON YELLOW:

apparently refer to statement on page 7 of "Communist Target--Youth" which said: "Arrangements were made to have the demonstrators join a party-sponsored 'Peace March' on Saturday, May 14, 1960, at the conclusion of the (HCUA) hearings." Documentation appears in [redacted] and "People's World," west coast communist newspaper, 5/7/60, pp. 3 & 7.

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a pacifist group and Bureau investigation has not disclosed any subversive activities or active communist infiltration of AFSC. However, activities of AFSC have paralleled CP in criticizing loyalty oaths and Smith Act; protesting nuclear weapons tests and condemning U. S. foreign policy. AFSC has worked with several CP fronts in past including American Russian Institute, Labor Youth League, California Labor School, American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born designated under Executive Order 10450 by the Attorney General.

303

Sept. 21, 1941

Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sirs:

In May of this year we (my husband and I) were contacted by a representative of the American Friends Service Committee ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Peace Caravan in ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~. A group of local citizens thought it might be an interesting experience and agreed to sponsor the program.

Four college students, one Indian, one German and two American, came the first of August and presented their panel before service organizations, church groups, etc.

We have had several people tell us the American Friends Service Committee is a subversive organization, that the students are being used to spread Communistic propoganda, etc. We do not like this kind of criticism unless there is a basis for it and ofcourse, would regret very much having sponsored such a group.

Will you please give us an evaluation of the American Friends Service Committee and their Peace Caravan program?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

September 29, 1960

Dear .

*J. H.* Your letter dated September 21, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent states that she has been contacted by a representative of the American Friends Service Committee [REDACTED] Peace Caravan. She states that she has been told that this organization is subversive and requests the Bureau's evaluation of the American Friends Service Committee.

The American Friends Service Committee is a pacifist group which has opposed military conflict, preparedness and drafting of men since it was created in 1917. It was the subject of an investigation in 1942; however, it was found not to be engaged in subversive activities. [REDACTED]

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.



American Friends Service Committee

September 20, 1960

Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Here in [redacted], there is a group called "American Friends", who are ostensibly, (and I hope, truly), helping the Pala Tribe of Indians set up a cooperative.

I won't go into details, which have roused my suspicions, until and if, you think it important enough to make some kind of an investigation.

I am a volunteer worker, (through the [redacted] [redacted]), and am now in my sixth year here at Pala. I have some good friends amongst the Indians, and I don't want to see them hurt.

A teacher, who was here [redacted] last year, said that she had run into the same group at Ohio State University, and that through her efforts they were exposed as Communists. I paid no attention to her at first, but lately have begun to notice certain things that have made me suspicious.

I am sure that if this group is Communist, you will know about it. If not, all well and good.

Yours truly,

October 3, 1960

Dear

I have received your letter dated September 20, 1960, and your interest in communicating with me is indeed appreciated.

In the event you obtain any additional information which you believe may be of interest to the FBI, you may desire to contact the FBI office nearest you, which is located at 716 San Diego Trust and Savings Bank Building, San Diego 1, California.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent states there is a group called "American Friends" allegedly helping a tribe of Indians set up a cooperative in Pala, California. A friend has indicated that the American Friends were exposed as communists in another state. She states she is sure that if the group is communist the FBI will know about it.

Nov. 2, 1960.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Dear Sir:

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ <sup>will</sup> go to India on a three month leave from American Friends Service Committee. Will work on schools, churches, etc. He leaves in December — Check —

Yankee

306

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : [REDACTED]

DATE: November 13, 1960

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: PICKETING OF THE PENTAGON  
NOVEMBER 13, 1960

At 12:25 p.m. 11-13-60, [REDACTED] telephoned to report that the Pentagon was being picketed by a number of persons distributing pacifist literature identified as sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee and other Quaker organizations. [REDACTED] stated that the pickets were peaceful, carried signs urging disarmament such as "Military Power Does Not Bring Security," and were not interfering in any way with persons approaching the Pentagon.

[REDACTED] said he was merely reporting the picketing for our information, noting that there had been radio announcements, warning that picketing would take place, well in advance.

ACTION:

For information.

# American Friends Service Committee

307

INCORPORATED  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL OFFICE  
2160 Lake Street

San Francisco 21, California



NATIONAL OFFICE  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA  
Harold Evans, *Chairman*  
in W. Bell, *Executive Secretary*

Telephone, SKyline 2-7766

REGIONAL OFFICE  
Wm. Allen Longshore, Jr., *Chairman*  
Fred Fellow, *Treasurer*  
Stephen Thiermann, *Executive Secretary*

January 13, 1961

John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

May I recall correspondence with you last August on your booklet, "Communist Target - Youth," and your statement that a May 14 Peace Walk in San Francisco was "a party-sponsored" event.

The San Francisco Regional Office of the American Friends Service Committee continues to feel such use of sponsorship is misleading and is being confused with attendance at public events. Sponsorship implies delegated responsibility, as a senator who sponsors a piece of legislation. Should such legislation be publicized and endorsed by the Communist Party, we believe it would be misleading to claim the senator's bill was "party-sponsored." So long as public events are sponsored in our country, we do not know of any constitutional way of prohibiting announcement or attendance. At events we sponsor, we maintain firm control of funds, topics, literature, and choice of speakers.

Be that as it may, I expect to be in Washington for a week beginning February 22 and would be pleased to discuss with you at your convenience, or a member of your staff, your advice for the conduct of public events of broad general interest in San Francisco.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Thiermann

January 26, 1961

Mr. Stephen Thiermann  
Executive Secretary  
Northern California Regional Office  
American Friends Service Committee, Incorporated  
2100 Lark Street  
San Francisco 21, California

Dear Sir:

Your letter of January 13, 1961, with enclosure, has been received. Your interest in making your views known to me concerning this matter is appreciated. With reference to your proposed visit to Washington, D. C., for a week beginning February 22, next, I am pleased to be able to designate Mr. Charles D. Brennan of my staff to discuss the matter with you.

Please feel free to communicate directly with Mr. Brennan at FBI headquarters (Room 7630A, Telephone Executive 3-7100, Extension 2111) to arrange for your meeting with him.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Jan 22, 1966  
Federal Bureau Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing a program of a meeting my husband and I attended at our local church. He found nothing to ~~show~~ indicate any Communist tendencies, but many people did. Could you enlighten us. Do the Friends Society have any communists?

Please reply.

Respectfully yours,



February 2, 1961

Dear

I have received your letter dated January 22, 1961, with its enclosure, and your interest in communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I am precluded, therefore, from commenting upon the organization you mentioned.

I am, however, enclosing some literature available for general distribution by the FBI which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED

The American Friends Service Committee is a pacifist group which has opposed military conflict, preparedness and drafting of men since it was created in 1917. It was the subject of an investigation in 1942; however, it was found not to be engaged in subversive activities.

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. "Communist Target - Youth."
2. "How to Beat Communism."
3. "One Nation's Response to Communism."
4. "America - Freedom's Champion."
5. "What You Can do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."

309

FBI

Date: 2/15/61

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIR TEL

AIRMAIL-REGISTERED

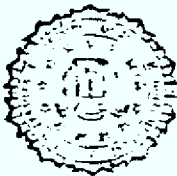
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

RE: COMINFIL, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE;  
 "NATIONWIDE WITNESS FOR PEACE";  
 "EASTER PEACE WALK"

Attached are five copies of a letterhead memorandum captioned "NATIONWIDE WITNESS FOR PEACE;" "EASTER PEACE WALK," re plans for an "EASTER PEACE WALK" in San Francisco 4/1/61, as part of a "NATIONWIDE WITNESS FOR PEACE" called by the AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC), the Quaker organization. The AFSC in Northern California is not considered to be Communist controlled, but there is contact between its employees and persons known to be interested in and influenced by the CP. The memorandum shows that the CP will participate in the "PEACE WALK." Further information of interest when received will be furnished.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Francisco, California  
February 15, 1961

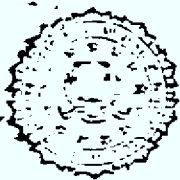
In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. SP

"NATIONWIDE WITNESS FOR PEACE"  
"EASTER PEACE WALK"

The "People's World" (PW), a West Coast Communist newspaper, of February 11, 1961, on page 12, contained an announcement that the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) (Quaker) had called for a "NATIONWIDE WITNESS FOR PEACE" and indicated that locally (San Francisco) there would be an "EASTER PEACE WALK" to cover fifty miles, from the Lockheed missile plant in Sunnyvale, California, to Union Square, downtown San Francisco, this walk to start March 26, 1961, and arriving at Union Square on April 1, 1961.

Another source has advised that an "EASTER PEACE WALK" for Saturday, April 1, 1961, sponsored by the AFSC, was announced at a meeting of the San Francisco County Committee of the CP on February 6, 1961. Headquarters for the walk is 2160 Lake Street, San Francisco office of the AFSC. The walk is scheduled for 12:00 noon, starting at Golden Gate Park and going to Union Square in downtown San Francisco.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

310

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Francisco, California  
February 24, 1961

"EASTER PEACE WALK"

A source which has furnished reliable information in the past reported that at a meeting of the Northern California Communist Party (CP) District Committee on February 18, 1961, [redacted] who is also [redacted] CP, USA, and is [redacted] of the "People's World" (PW) newspaper, a West Coast Communist publication, reported on the decisions of the Northern California CP District Board in regard to the Party's program on peace demonstrations.

[redacted] stated that the District Board singled out the issue of peace as being of first importance for work in the immediate future. He stated that the Party's "declaration" characterized the peace movement as one of the greatest popular mass movements of all time. [redacted] stated that in view of this there ought not be any reservation about "our" participation in it. He stated that it should be considered a major obligation upon the District Committee to engage in the peace movement wherever and whenever possible.

[redacted] specifically cited the coming "EASTER PEACE WALK" scheduled for April 1st. He stated that the District Board had raised this particular peace demonstration to the level where it is a political obligation on the leadership of the County and Club organization and that every individual CP member is held accountable to the Party for participation in this demonstration. [redacted] stated it would be a violation of a profound political obligation to the Party and to the national working class for a comrade to fail to participate in this demonstration and others like it.

[redacted] stated that the Quakers (American Friends Service Committee) who are leading the "EASTER PEACE WALK" want very definitely to maintain their leadership. He stated that he thought those in the Party who wanted to fight them for this leadership are foolish. [redacted] stated that, while "we" want to maintain tight control within the Party, this does not mean that the Party should control the demonstrations, but should

cooperate in staging them and allow the Quakers or other groups to take the normal leadership. [REDACTED] stated that this is a realistic approach, because the Quakers have stated that they do not want to have co-sponsors or any such arrangement, but that they leave the door open to full participation by any group.

The District Committee at this meeting adopted a resolution which read as follows:

"Resolved, that the membership be urged to participate in the peace march in San Francisco on April 1st and those counties too far removed to participate should organize simultaneous demonstrations in their areas."

\* \* \*  
- \* -  
-

311

February 22, 1961

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Will you send me the following information?

Is the American Friends Service Committee, 20 East Twelfth Street, Philadelphia 7, Penna. a Communist front organization? If not, is it considered "leftist"?

It has come to my attention through the enclosed article clipped from "Christianity Today". I am anxious to know about this group because I have a young couple teaching the lower grades in this school that has worked with the American Friends Service Committee.

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~. Also I have had complaints from a responsible local source about statements this couple made. It seems their comments were in sympathy with the Communist work in East Berlin and anti-American.

Just what would you advise me to do to find out more? We do not want any Communist sympathizers in this school! A prompt reply by airmail will be very much appreciated as March 3 is the day for offering of teaching contracts for the coming school term. I will withhold contracts until I hear from your office. Thank you very much.

Yours truly,

March 1, 1961

AIRMAIL

Dear .

I have received your letter dated February 22, 1961, with its enclosure, and your interest in communicating with me is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am precluded, therefore, from commenting on the organization you mentioned, and I am unable to suggest a course of action for you to follow.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent inquires if the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a communist front organization. She enclosed a clipping from the 2-13-61 issue of "Christianity Today" which indicated that this organization



NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED

is suspicious for promoting leftist philosophies and has conducted seminars branded as socialist-pacifist brainwashing sessions. Correspondent states she has a young couple teaching in her school who worked with the AFSC. Correspondent requests she be advised as to what she should do "to find out more." She requests an airmail reply by 3-3-61 since she is holding up teaching contracts until she hears from the FBI. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

The AFSC is a pacifist group which has opposed military conflict, preparedness and drafting of men since it was created in 1917. It was the subject of an investigation in 1942; however, it was found not to be engaged in subversive activities.

No literature is being sent to the correspondent since she has requested an airmail reply, and if we advise her we are sending literature under separate cover, she may infer that such literature will be of assistance in connection with her decision concerning the teaching contracts.

February 23, 1949

Dear Sir,

I would like to inquire concerning the status of two organizations in which I am presently considering to register with an order to participate in their overseas summer work camp projects. I would like to make sure that neither of them are Communist front organizations. Also I would like to make sure that they are in good standing with your department.

The organizations are:

American Friends Service Committee  
160th North 15th St.  
Philadelphia 2, Penna.      ours.

I would appreciate a statement with  
the signature of an executive in your  
Department as to the standing of these  
two organizations.

Sincerely,

March 3, 1961

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I have received your letter dated February 28, 1961, and your interest in communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication, or organization. I am precluded, therefore, from commenting on the organization you mentioned.

In view of your interest in the internal security of the United States, I am enclosing some literature concerning communism which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable references to correspondent or the [REDACTED] (NSCF). Correspondent inquires about the status of two organizations which he is considering joining, the NSCF and the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). Correspondent wishes to make sure these organizations are not communist fronts and are in good standing with the Bureau. He requests a statement signed by an executive of the Bureau.

The AFSC is a pacifist group which has opposed military conflict, preparedness, and drafting of men since it was created in 1917. It was the subject of an investigation in 1942; however, it was found not to be engaged in subversive activity. [REDACTED]

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion"
2. "God and Country or Communism?"
3. "One Nation's Response to Communism"
4. "America-Freedom's Champion"



March 9, 1961

Dear

I have received your letter dated February 28, 1961, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

I am enclosing some literature, however, concerning the menace of communism available for general distribution by the FBI which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable pertinent references to correspondent.

② Correspondent is concerned about the activities of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). A friend advised it is doing good work in world relief. Correspondent is concerned that some college students will go to the AFSC work camps and not know about the "brainwashing" which they will receive from this organization. Correspondent ends her letter by saying "Thank you appreciatively for your information and advice," apparently indicating she wishes information and advice about the AFSC.

The AFSC is a pacifist group which has opposed military conflict, preparedness and drafting of men since it was formed in 1917. It was the subject of an investigation in 1942; however, it was found not to be engaging in subversive activity.

The following literature was forwarded to correspondent:

1. "Communist Target-Youth."
2. "One Nation's Response to Communism."
3. "God and Country or Communism?"
4. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
5. "Communism and the College Student."





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

317

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No

Chicago, Illinois  
March 16, 1961

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
AND CHICAGO COMMITTEE FOR A SANE  
NUCLEAR POLICY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On March 13, 1961, [redacted], Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois, furnished the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation a copy of a letter dated March 1, 1961, which was addressed to the Commandant, Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois, and was sent by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), 300 West Congress Parkway, Chicago 7, Illinois. This letter addressed to the Commandant stated that as had become the custom in the Chicago area during the Easter-Passover Season, there would be a peace walk from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois, held on April 1, 1961, to culminate a "1961 Week for World Peace" which was being co-sponsored by the AFSC and the Chicago Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (SANE).

The letter went on to state that the purpose of the "1961 Week for World Peace" and similar activities in cities throughout the country and abroad is to provide an

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE AND  
CHICAGO COMMITTEE FOR A SANE NUCLEAR POLICY

opportunity for large numbers of people to express their will for the peaceful settlement of all international differences and their desire for world conditions which take away the occasion for war.

In connection with the peace walk itself, the letter noted that as last year a group of people would assemble outside the main gate at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center the evening of Thursday, March 30, 1961, to begin a peace walk to the Loop. The letter stated that this original group would be joined by others as the walk progressed southward toward Chicago. This AFSC letter ended by noting that the AFSC was advising the Commandant, Great Lakes Naval Training Center, of this activity so that he would know the purpose and function of the group which will assemble outside the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. The letter concluded by stating that the discipline of the peace walk would include all aspects of the "spirit of non-violence."

On February 9, 1961, a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available a leaflet published by the AFSC, 300 West Congress Parkway, Chicago 7, Illinois, which stated it, the leaflet, was a call to participate in a week for world peace March 26 through April 1, 1961, as part of a nationwide "witness for peace Easter-1961."

The aforementioned AFSC leaflet further stated that the nation-wide witness for peace Easter-1961 activities would include film and discussion meetings during the two months preceding the week of March 26 through April 1, 1961, leaflet distribution in local communities March 26 through April 1, 1961, and a walk for peace beginning Thursday, March 30, 1961, in the evening, from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center to the Chicago Loop, said walk to culminate Saturday afternoon, April 1, 1961, at which time a peace rally would be held at which prominent speakers to be announced would appear.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE AND  
CHICAGO COMMITTEE FOR A SAFE NUCLEAR POLICY

This AFSC leaflet also notes that other participating organizations in the peace activities of the week for world peace were the Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Student Peace Union.

A second source, an agency that collects security information in the Chicago area, on March 14, 1961, advised that on February 14, 1961, the AFSC made arrangements with the management of the Morrison Hotel, 79 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, to hold a rally at this hotel in the hotel's Terrace Casino. The arrangements for this rally called for the attendance of approximately 1,600 persons with the rally to be held between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., April 1, 1961.

March 12, 1961

318

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Please allow me to express my appreciation for your outstanding book, "Masters of Deceit". Indeed it is a book which should be found in every American home.

In the Philadelphia Daily News, three star edition, page eight, under dateline of March 6, 1961, it was announced that Mr. Vladimir Trifonov, a member of the Russian ambassadorial delegation is scheduled to address the student body at Temple University, Philadelphia. This discussion entitled, "International Good-Will" is being sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee. In this article it is stated that these lectures are designed to help improve relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. It is further stated that Mr. Trifonov was previously scheduled to address the students of Quakertown High School, but was denied the privilege because of a school board decision which points out that since Russian delegations are renowned for spy and propaganda activity, it would not be wise to expect a Russian delegate to give fair and impartial observation on the U.S. - Russian situation.

My question is this: Why, at the very moment that the President of the United States is issuing a clarion call to all young men and women willing to devote their efforts in the service of the Peace Corps, are our universities ridiculously allowing our students to be perverted by Russian deceit? It is a fair assumption that Mr. Trifonov is a trained propagandist who will leave the students with the false impression that Russia is the defender of freedom and the United States the suppressor; and that Soviet Fascism is not such a bad proposition after all. To a young man such as myself it is frustrating indeed.

My primary purpose in writing this letter is to give you, through your office, the opportunity to take appropriate action in this matter. I am confident that if Mr. Trifonov is given a welcomed reception at Temple University it will open the door to continued Soviet mass deception in our schools. If we can't stop these particular lectures, perhaps we can at least have a loyal observer analyze any statements made and then repudiate them publicly. Also, I have serious doubts about the American Friends Service Committee. Up to the present

)  
time it has been by all appearances a Quaker Pacifist group.  
Has it been corrupted to the point of being a sounding board  
for Russian lies?

If I can personally be of any assistance in this  
matter I would feel proud to serve you.

My thanks and appreciation once again for your fine  
book.

Very respectfully,

March 21, 1961

Dear

I have received your letter dated March 12, 1961, and I want you to know that I most certainly share your view concerning Soviet purpose in appearing before American student bodies.

Inasmuch as the motivations of our universities and other groups in affording the Soviets opportunities to propagandize their point of view are many and varied, I am unable to specifically reply to your inquiries. Moreover, the formation and promulgation of the regulations defining the proper norm of diplomatic activity in this country lie properly within the province of the Department of State. It may interest you to know, however, that through the years I have held the position that the formation of such regulations pertaining to travel and public appearances of the Soviet diplomatic corps should be on a strict reciprocal basis, fully consistent with the privileges enjoyed by our representatives in the Soviet Union.

In view of the responsibilities of the Department of State in the area about which you wrote, I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to that Department.

Your interest in writing as you did, your gracious comments and your generous support are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Mr. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

NOTE: Incoming is highly commendatory of Bu and Director's book. Writer is apparently college student. He complains of speech to be given by Trifonov of Soviet Embassy at Temple U. under sponsorship of American Friends Service Committee (Quaker). He states correctly that Soviet's speech will undoubtedly be propaganda designed to further Soviet plans to detriment of US. He asks (1) Why are American universities inviting Soviets to speak to students? and (2) Is the American Friends Service Committee corrupt by serving as a sounding board for Soviet opinion? We cannot specifically reply to these inquiries for reason stated in outgoing.

Copy of incoming and this let sent to State by O-14B, same date. No derogatory data Bufiles re correspondent.

319

FBI

Date: 3/24/61

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

710 Air-tel Air Mail  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: Director, FBI [REDACTED]  
FROM: SAC, Indianapolis  
[REDACTED] AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
OO: PH

For the information of the Bureau Philadelphia, and Cincinnati as the proposed demonstration is under the auspices of the Dayton, Ohio Regional Office of the AFSC, the following is furnished:

Page 13 of the Tuesday evening, 3/21/61, issue of the Lafayette Journal and Courier Newspaper, published in Lafayette, Indiana, reflects a story titled, "ARMS RACE PROTEST SET AT AREA PLANT."

This story states that about 15 persons from Greater Lafayette are expected to participate in a week-long peaceful demonstration protesting manufacture of chemical warfare agents at an Army Chemical Corps facility near Newport, about 60 miles southwest of Lafayette, Indiana.



Professor IRVING A. MORRISSETT, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, and one of the individual sponsors for the "Witness for Peace" demonstration at the plant gates, Sunday through Easter, said most of the adult members of the West Lafayette Friends meeting and several non-members have expressed interest in participating in the vigil.

Professor MORRISSETT, a member of the executive committee of the Dayton, Ohio regional office of the American Friends Service Committee, said he planned to participate this coming weekend, on Easter, and possibly one day during the week. The names of other demonstrators were not listed.

The demonstration, under the auspices of the Dayton office of the Friends committee and other organizations, will be aimed at encouraging the government to seek an end to the arms race and achieve disarmament; give participants an opportunity to show their concern over dangers of the arms race and the growing acceptance of chemical and biological/and other weapons of mass destruction, and to give witness to their conviction that it is wrong and impractical to seek safety by preparing to destroy millions of fellow human beings. MORRISSETT ruled out the possibility of violence. Participants must agree to refrain from illegal actions such as civil disobedience, and not to retaliate when violence is committed against them.

In connection with a planned "silent vigil" in protest of the U. S. Army Chemical Corps Installation at Newport, Indiana, from 3/25/61 to 4/2/61, St. [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] at Newport, Indiana, on 3/16/61. [REDACTED] who is very active in Boy Scouts and in civic matters within the area of Newport, Indiana, stated that he contacted the leaders of the Quaker Church in Newport, Indiana, and they advised that a delegation of the American Friends Service Committee had contacted that church and requested their support at the site of the Newport plant during 3/25 through 4/2/61. [REDACTED] said that the members of this church refused to have anything to do with this movement at Newport, Indiana. They refused to allow their use of the church for a service as they had planned on the morning of the so-called "vigil." He said that the leaders of this

church also advised them that members of their church would not take part in their plan.

██████████ said that he learned that the delegation then contacted the Vermillion County, Indiana Ministerial Association. He said that he then contacted this association and they advised him that they told the delegation that they wanted no part of their movement and that none of the members of this association planned to take part in this vigil.

██████████ said that he does not expect any of the local people to join the American Friends Committee in their protest at the Newport, Indiana Army Chemical Corps plant. He said that if anything, some of the local people may actively protest the presence of this group.

██████████ stated that he would be on hand daily if the "protest" developed and he would advise this Office of pertinent developments.

██████████ advised at Terre Haute, Indiana, on 3/16/61.

FBI

Date: 3/21/61

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

PLAIN

(Type in plain text or code)

o AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_

AIRMAIL-REGISTERED

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SEATTLE

SUBJECT: AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
[REDACTED]

CINAL. On March 20, 1961 [REDACTED] Seattle, Washington, who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished a leaflet which purports to have been prepared by the captioned organization and this leaflet announces that on Saturday, April 1, 1961 "eight major cities will cooperate in the first nationally coordinated American demonstration for peace through disarmament. Seattle will join New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Dayton, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco in simultaneous peace walks, rallies, vigils, and public meetings. Each will proclaim a common message, goal, and symbol. Initial sponsorship and direction is being given by regional officers of the American Friends Service Committee."

This leaflet sets forth the plans for the Seattle April 1, 1961 Easter Peace Witness Project, and the plans are as follows:

8:00 a.m. Silent Vigil outside the 36th and Government Way entrance to Fort Lawton. This Vigil will offer the opportunity for meditation and for quiet witness to the religious or moral basis of our disagreement with the military policy of our government.

(Fort Lawton is the site of the "Missile-Master," the electronic brain in charge of setting off all the Nike missiles in the Seattle-Tacoma area.)

10:00 a.m. A short address by Rev. Daniel Taylor, minister at the Rose City Park Methodist Church in Portland, and previously chairman of the Board of World Peace of the Methodist Church.

Final instructions for Peace Walkers: It is imperative that all participants be on hand at this time. Please come early for registration, etc., so that we will be able to follow our time schedule.)

10:30 a.m. Peace Walk begins.

3:30 p.m. PUBLIC MEETING at CITY HALL PARK, 3rd Avenue and Yesler Way.

Speakers will be: Norman Thomas, past Presidential candidate, and

Robert Picrus, dynamic figure in the U. S. peace movement."

This leaflet points out that all walkers should attend the organizational meeting at 10 AM on April 1, 1961 preceding the Walk, and that walkers would be mostly in double file carrying posters at regular intervals. Some will distribute flyers as the walk proceeds, and some will be asked to distribute leaflets at strategic corners at crowded areas. This leaflet also asks that non-walkers can make an important contribution through evaluation and interpretation to bystanders.

This source also made available a copy of a leaflet which accompanied the above-described leaflet, and this second leaflet is entitled "Witness For Peace Easter 1961." The second leaflet identifies itself as being sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee and among other things, this document states that "we urge these steps:

"An immediate break with the policy of military deterrence, including:

1. An unequivocal ban on nuclear weapons testing, and the establishment of an international test ban commission.
2. An immediate end to missile weapons development, and the internationalization of space research.
3. An end to preparations for biological and chemical warfare, and the transformation of germ warfare centers into world health centers.

A step by step conversion of our military budget to constructive peaceful activities including:

1. A maximum support of world economic and social development.
2. Greatly increased support for the United Nations.
3. Development of state and national plans to aid conversion of our economy to a peaceful basis."

321

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/24/61

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: COMINTEL OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS  
SERVICE COMMITTEE

(OO:PHILADELPHIA)

Enclosed for the Bureau, Chicago and Philadelphia Offices are photo copies of an announcement of a conference to be held in Chicago, Illinois, 4/14,15/61, under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). The announcement is self-explanatory and the original is being made an exhibit to [redacted]

For the information of offices receiving this announcement, the following information relative to the CP's interest in the AFSC is being furnished:

On 3/23/61, [redacted], who has furnished reliable information in the past, reported on a meeting of the Industrial Council, N.Y. District Industrial Division CP held on 3/22/61, at Adelphi Hall, N.Y.C.

At this meeting, [redacted] of the N.Y.D. Industrial Division CP, handed out copies of attached announcement and discussed the necessity of sending a delegation of CP members from New York City. ROSEN described the Chicago Conference as a one shot affair which the CP would like to have formed into a permanent organization with a New York chapter. ROSEN set a target for 50 CP members to attend this conference and also requested that all those present return to their unions and talk up this affair with the idea of inducing the unions to send delegations to the conference. [redacted] said that the larger the

N.Y. delegation the better the chances are for establishing this conference as a continuing organization.

has been alerted to furnish additional information on this matter as it becomes available.



322

FBI

Date: 3/24/61

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plain text or code)

by \_\_\_\_\_

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SAN DIEGO

COMMUNIST, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE;  
"EASTER PEACE WALK"

CINCL

Re San Francisco airtel to Bureau, 2/24/61, and Bureau airtel to Los Angeles, 3/7/61, captioned, Communist Party USA, Southern California District.

On 3/23/61, [redacted] reliable, advised that the San Diego Communist Party Club on 3/22/61 discussed a proposed "Easter Peace Walk" which is scheduled for March 31, 1961, and April 1, 1961, and will be held in the vicinity of Convair and Convair Astronautics, both divisions of General Dynamics. The club was unanimous in agreeing that there should be some participation by the club in this peace walk, but no specific plans were formulated as the details were not known at that time. Informant was alerted to immediately furnish additional information as it becomes available.

MEMORANDUM

To: 3/27/61

Re:

Mr Hoover-

New Peace Walks being organized all over the country by the Reds-- much like the Bonus Army of 1932- from today's AP news ticker.

Regards,

39

FREDERICK, MD. (AP)-WITNESS FOR PEACE GROUPS OF THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON-PHILADELPHIA AREA PLAN TO STAGE THREE DAYS OF SILENT VIGIL AT MARYLAND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS HERE AND IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE DEMONSTRATIONS WILL CULMINATE A NATION-WIDE MOVEMENT DESIGNED TO COORDINATE AN EFFORT TO CALL ATTENTION TO "POSITIVE INITIATIVES FOR WORLD PEACE."

SIMULTANEOUS PEACE WALKS, RALLIES, VIGILS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS IN LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO, SEATTLE, CHICAGO, DAYTON, BOSTON AND OTHER EASTERN CITIES ARE TO BE CONDUCTED.

THE WITNESS FOR PEACE IS SEEKING MODIFICATION OF WORLD DISARMAMENT PLANS AND WORLD LAW TO MEET THE NEEDS OF MANKIND FOR FOOD AND FREEDOM

LT1104AES 3/27

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
APR. 1 1961

TELETYPE

DEFERRED 4-1-61 5-47 PM PST

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

DOMINFIL, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, PENNSYLVANIA  
FEBRUARY TWO FOUR, SIXTYONE ON EASTER PEACE WALK. WALK CONCLUDED  
THIS DATE WITHOUT INCIDENT. ON FRIDAY, MARCH THREE ONE, ABOUT TWO  
HUNDRED FIFTY MIKERS, MOSTLY YOUNG PEOPLE AND MANY CHILDREN, ARRIVE  
IN SAN FRANCISCO AT TWO P.M. THEY DISPERSED FOR THE NIGHT AND REGR  
AT GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN FRANCISCO, TWELVE NOON, APRIL ONE. APPROX  
MATELY ONE THOUSAND WALKED FOUR MILES FROM PARK TO UNION SQUARE,  
DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO, ARRIVING FOR TWO P.M. RALLY. POLICE ESTIMA  
CROWD BETWEEN TWO THOUSAND AND TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED. SQUARE  
NOT JAMMED AND USUALLY IS WELL POPULATED. SPEAKERS WERE HENRY MITT  
CRANE, PASTOR EMERITUS, CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH, DETROIT, EVIL  
ABBY, SECRETARY-TREASURER, UAW, SEYMOUR SELMAN, COLUMBIA UNIVERSIT  
INSTITUTE OF WAR AND PEACE STUDIES, AND JAMES ORRINGTON, MEMBER  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA STUDENT ORGANIZATION STATE. THERE WAS  
GENERALLY DISARMAMENT BUT NOT AT ANY PRICE. MEANING OF HOLY WEEK  
FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO. SPEAKERS SOMEWHAT INEPT AND SPEECHES UNIN-  
SPIRING. CROWD RATHER APATHETIC. NUMEROUS COMMUNISTS IN EVIDENCE  
BUT WERE QUIET. PEOPLES WORLD, WEST COAST COMMUNIST WEEKLY, FOR SA  
BUT NOT IN DEMAND. ONE OR TWO ANTI-SOVIET PLACARDS WERE OBSERVED.

END AND ACK PLS

FBI

325

Date: 4/3/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BOSTON

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

On 3/30/61, [redacted] furnished a pamphlet captioned "Act for Peace," which indicated that it was sponsored by the above captioned organization, and other pacifist type organizations: The Greater Boston Committee For a Sane Nuclear Policy, The Fellowship of Reconciliation, The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

This pamphlet advertised a vigil at the State House in Boston, Mass. on 3/31/61, and a "Walk For Peace" on Saturday, April 1, 1961, from Lexington, Mass. to Faneuil Hall, Boston, Mass.

The pamphlet stated that this "Walk for Peace" was being made to:

1. Urge our government to end the nuclear arms race and begin the process of disarmament.

2. Confront public apathy and make visible our concern by this literal act.
3. Demonstrate solidarity with the Aldermaston marchers in England and with fellow citizens who are planning similar activities in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Philadelphia and other cities across the U.S.

On 3/30/61, ██████████ advised that the members of the North Shore Section, CP, USA, New England District, were planning, on an individual basis, to participate in part of this "Walk for Peace" on 4/1/61.

Sources in Boston will be alert for any indication of any attempt by the CP to infiltrate these organizations, and the Bureau will be advised of any such action.

Gentlemen:

3/2/64

Kindly inform me as to whether  
the American Friends Service Committee  
is a Communist front organization.

I would appreciate it if you could  
send your reply as quickly as possible.

Thank you.

March 31, 1961

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I have received your postal card dated March 20, 1961, and the interest which prompted your communicating with me is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that our files do or do not contain the information you desire.

In view of your interest in the internal security of the United States, I am enclosing some literature which you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours, \_\_\_\_\_

J. Edgar Hoover



327

March 31, 1961

Dear

I have received your letter of March 24, 1961, with enclosure. It was thoughtful of you to bring this matter to my attention and I appreciate your writing to me as you did.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover