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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**HQ FILE: 100-50869**

**SECTION 16**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

## **NOTICE**

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April 6, 1962

REC-100

100-57869-888

APR 6 11 50 AM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 2, 1962, has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, information contained in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of the foregoing, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible to comment in the manner you have suggested and trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relative to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20  
APR 6-1962  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)  
"You Versus Crime"  
The Courage Of Free Men  
Bulwarks of Liberty  
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?  
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

APR 13 1962

JCF:rc  
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



Apr. 2, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

National  
A minister in our town told his congregation that the Council of Churches is made up of Communists. Have you a way of knowing of the organization--how it started and whether this accusation is correct?

I shall appreciate hearing from you.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson   | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont  | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr     | _____ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | _____ |
| Mr. Conrad   | _____ |
| Mr. Felt     | _____ |
| Mr. Evans    | _____ |
| Mr. Malone   | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen    | _____ |
| Mr. Sullivan | _____ |
| Mr. Tavel    | _____ |
| Mr. Trotter  | _____ |
| Tele. Room   | _____ |
| Miss Holmes  | _____ |
| Miss Gandy   | _____ |

REC-101

100-50869-871

18 APR 1962

ACK 4/6/62

JCF/mc

EXP-PROC  
334 APR 4 1962

CORRESPONDENCE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: March 24, 1962

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT:

THE REVEREND ARTHUR E. WALMSLEY  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP  
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
281 PARK AVENUE SOUTH  
NEW YORK 10, NEW YORK

The Reverend Arthur E. Walmsley has contacted me to make a suggestion. On studying Bureau literature on communism he was most favorably impressed. He suggests that the Director may want to give consideration to preparing a document made up of selected quotations from all of the Director's speeches and articles. He believes that these quotations could be placed beneath appropriate headings and would be most useful in educating the American public about communism and the need to oppose it in an effective and rational manner.

I have thanked Reverend Walmsley and told him that his suggestion would be taken under advisement. Additionally, I told him that if he had any further suggestions, please do not hesitate to so inform us of them.

I believe that Reverend Walmsley's suggestion has considerable merit. It would allow for selecting the best and most compelling and impressive of the Director's thoughts and statements in the field of communism giving them evermore wider distribution.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the Central Research Section of the Domestic Intelligence Division handle the research in this matter and prepare the document with the counsel of the Crime Records Division.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. D. E. Moore
- 1 - Mr. J. A. Sizoo
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

62 APR 1 1962

APR 6 1962

SEE ADDENDUM NEXT PAGE

Tolson  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Casper  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Malone  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

RECEIVED  
M. A. Jones  
DE LOACH  
APR 5 1962

REC'D DE LOACH  
FBI  
APR 5 1962

CRIME RECORDS

W. C. Sullivan to Mr. Belmont memo dated 3-24-62

Re: The Reverend Arthur E. Walmsley  
Executive Secretary  
Division of Christian Citizenship  
The National Council of Churches  
281 Park Avenue South  
New York 10, New York

ADDENDUM: (CDD:sak):3-28-62:

I have discussed this matter with Mr. Sullivan and he agrees that this matter should be properly handled in the Crime Records Division. The Director's articles, speeches, tapes, etc., over the years have been coordinated by this Division and maintained in one place; consequently, there will be very little difficulty in handling this project. While the project is extremely worthwhile, we will have to be very selective.

- OK. *[Signature]* 3-28-62
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
  - 1 - Mr. Jones
  - 1 - Mr. D. E. Moore
  - 1 - Mr. Sizoo
  - 1 - Mr. Sullivan

*[Handwritten note:]*  
Research being  
conducted in  
Crime Research  
division 4/7/62

REC-6/100-50869-884

March 28, 1962

EX-105

**Committee of Christian Laymen**  
**Post Office Box 285**  
**Woodland Hills, California**

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 22, 1962, with enclosure, has been received.

Enclosed is a copy of the complete text of my speech given at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, on February 22, 1962. As you will see, no statement similar to that in your communication is contained in this address. However, I am also sending you a copy of "Let's Fight Communism Sanely!" which is pertinent to your inquiry. I am sending you a copy of "Let's Fight Communism Sanely!" which is pertinent to your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (2)

The Courage of Free Men  
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!  
REC'D BETWOM

NOTE:

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

NOTE CONTINUED

COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN LAYMEN  
P. O. BOX 285  
WOODLAND HILLS, CALIFORNIA

March 22, 1962

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

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

Dear Mr Hoover:

The following is an exact quotation from a copy of a printed sermon by Dr. Calvin Duncan of St James Presbyterian Church of Tarzana, California on March 4, 1962, which is being circulated in our area.

"On the extreme right we have the irresponsible accusations against individuals and organizations. These too often become sowers of suspicion, disciples of dissention, purveyors of hate. J. Edgar Hoover of the F. B. I., while speaking recently at Valley Forge for the Freedom Foundation, answered the accusation of "the Rightists" that there are 7000 Communists among the American clergy. If any man has the facts and knows wherof he speaks concerning communism infiltration, it is J. Edgar Hoover. He made the statement that there is no single group in America which has so successfully resisted the infiltration of Communism as has the Protestant clergy. Hoover declared that the accusation of 7000 Communists among the clergy is utterly ridiculous and false. In our United Presbyterian denomination we have spotted two Communists. They were brought to trial and promptly unfrocked. How could anyone preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and be an atheist and a Communist."

Now I personally doubt that you ever made the above statements attributed to you at Valley Forge since I recognize the statement of Dr. J. B. Matthews in American Mercury in 1953. I just don't believe that you have accused "the Rightists" of making any such charges. Am I correct in assuming that the statements attributed to you are inaccurate?

REC-6

100-50869-886

11 APR 4 1962

E R I

8-211



How some of our clergy on the one hand can be actively engaged in trying to abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities, the Senate Internal Security Committee while condemning the F. B. I. and then on the other hand use the findings of these Committees to prove their points we cannot understand.

The Ministerial Association have tried to get the press to refuse our Committee space but do not want Communist propaganda materials curtailed in distribution by the post office Department just does not make sense.

Please advise us if you were correctly quoted.

Sincerely



Copy: Hon. Francis Walter  
HCUA

COPY:hcw

Committee of Christian Laymen  
P.O. Box 285  
Woodland Hills, California

March 22, 1962

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

~~EXP.~~ PROC.

38 MAR 23 1962

33

|              |
|--------------|
| Mr. Tolson   |
| Mr. Belmont  |
| Mr. Mohr     |
| Mr. Callahan |
| Mr. Conrad   |
| Mr. DeLoach  |
| Mr. Evans    |
| Mr. Malone   |
| Mr. Rosen    |
| Mr. Sullivan |
| Mr. Tavel    |
| Mr. Trotter  |
| Tele. Room   |
| Miss Holmes  |
| Miss Gandy   |

Dear Mr Hoover:

The following is an exact quotation from a copy of a printed sermon by Dr. Calvin Duncan of St James Presbyterian Church of Tarzana, California on March 4, 1962 which is being circulated in our area.

"On the extreme right we have the irresponsible accusations against individuals and organizations. These too often become sowers of suspicion, disciples of dissention, purveyors of hate. J. Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I., while speaking recently at Valley Forge for the Freedom Foundation, answered the accusation of "the Rightists" that there are 7000 Communists among the American clergy. If any man has the facts and knows whereof he speaks concerning Communism infiltration, it is J. Edgar Hoover. He made the statement that there is no single group in America which has so successfully resisted the infiltration of Communism as has the Protestant clergy. Hoover declared that the accusations of 7000 Communists among the clergy is utterly ridiculous and false. In our United Presbyterian denomination we have spotted

Mr. H. H. H.  
m. d.

two Communists. They were brought to trial and promptly unfrocked. How could anyone preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and be an atheist and a Communist?"

Now I personally doubt that you ever made the above statements attributed to you at Valley Forge since I recognize the statement regarding 7000 Communists as a distortion of a statement of Dr. S. B. Matthews in American Mercury in 1953. I just don't believe that you have accused "the Rightists" of making any such charges. Am I correct in assuming that the statements attributed to you are inaccurate?

How some of our clergy on the one hand can be actively engaged in trying to abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities, the Senate Internal Security Committee while condemning the F. B. I. and then on the other hand use the findings of these Committees to prove their points we cannot understand.

The ministerial association here tried to get the press to refuse our Committee space but do not want Communist propaganda materials curtailed in distribution by the post office Department just does not make sense. Please advise us if you were correctly quoted.

Sincerely,

Cpy: Hon. Francis Walter  
H.C.N.A.



# Double Talk and The National Council Of Churches Of Christ

The front page of The Valley News and Green Sheet, issue of Feb. 8, 1962, carried a news story to the effect that the West Valley Ministerial Association backs "Bomb Victim's Right to Speak Out" on right wing extremism. They do not however, want the same right to speak out extended to others as you will note from the letter reportedly sent to this same newspaper on January 24, as reprinted below.

January 24, 1962  
Mr. Larry Fowler  
Green Sheet and Valley News  
14539 Sylvan  
Van Nuys, Calif.

Dear Mr. Fowler:

The great majority of our churches in the Valley are member churches of the *thirty-four denominations* which form the National Council of Churches and which also belong to the World Council of Churches. Both church groups are under attack, and have been since their inception, by various splinter groups. These attacks are aimed at American Protestantism and our Orthodox Catholic bodies, representing *forty million members*, and is both divisive and a distortion.

At the January 17th meeting of the West Valley Ministerial Association it was voted unanimously to write to you and to commend your paper for refusing to accept paid advertisements from these groups in their campaign to attack the National Council.

We thank you sincerely,

(signed) R. L. Danner  
President, West Valley Ministerial Assn.  
Pastor, First Christian Church of Rededa  
6750 Lindley Ave  
Rededa, California

Note that the letter follows the National Council line mentioning their strength of 34 denominations representing 40,000,000 members. This letter, it seems to us, was intended to pressure this news media into not printing anything critical of The National Council of Churches. The American Civil Liberties Union, of which Rev. Simmons (one of the ministers whose home was bombed) has been a very active member, on Sunday, Feb. 11, was reported to have urged the Senate not to pass legislation barring distribution of Communist propaganda through the mails because it would limit the individual's right to read, guaranteed by the first Amendment. We feel that these ministers, however, are trying to prevent our Committee from being heard in regard to The National Council of Churches. We doubt that the management of The Valley News will be intimidated. We suggest that you write The Valley News as to your feelings on this matter.

The Communists have murdered millions of Christians in the countries they have over-run. They have engaged in bombings all over the world, yet not once did the West Valley Ministerial Association mention the Communist Party by name as a probable participant in the bombing of the homes of the two ministers, Rev. Walker and Rev. Simmons. The Christian Century magazine, a N.C.C. spokesman in a recent issue passed judgment without a hearing in an article titled "Why Must Rightists Resort To Terror!"

Our Committee wrote Rev. Danner, President of the West Valley Ministerial Association, deploring the bombings and our letter was read at the meeting of the Association at Loop's Restaurant, Feb. 7, but reportedly in such a manner as to draw a laugh from the assembled ministers. Thank God there were a number of ministers in the group who did not concur with what could be interpreted as a well-staged propaganda performance, even though they kept quiet at the meeting.

We are grateful to Mayor Yorty, Police Chief Parker, George Putnam, Tom Duggan and others who did not climb on the bandwagon in placing responsibility for the bombings either directly or indirectly on so-called right wing extremists.

Our Committee believes that our Country is in a life or death struggle with atheistic Communism. We think the danger is far greater from within than from without as has been the case with countries which have already fallen behind the Iron Curtain. We contend that the clergy should provide the spiritual and patriotic leadership that will result in our winning the cold war. Instead the N.C.C. oriented clergy are blindly following the policies of the National Council of Churches which has advocated banning nuclear testing, abolition of security laws, clemency for Communist spies, abolition of universal military training, more and more foreign aid to the point of national bankruptcy, abolition of government committees investigating Communist activities, opposition to loyalty oaths, and many, many Socialistic programs, all of which have Communist approval.

Are you aware that local church laymen were never given an opportunity to vote for or against the establishment of The National Council of Churches? But, rather, denominational leaders arbitrarily took the denominations into N.C.C. membership. Could this be one reason why the N.C.C. oriented clergy do not want the press to print anything critical of the National Council? The time has come for lay people to assert themselves. Our Country and Christianity are in real danger.

COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN LAYMEN  
P.O. Box 285  
Woodland Hills, California  
(a Non-Profit Organization)

If you wish to help, please write us. Reprints are available. Any contributions are welcome. Reprint of an advertisement published in the Woodland Hills (Calif.) Reporter.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: March 28, 1962

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| Tolson     | _____ |
| Belmont    | _____ |
| Mohr       | _____ |
| Casper     | _____ |
| Callahan   | _____ |
| Conrad     | _____ |
| DeLoach    | _____ |
| Evans      | _____ |
| Malone     | _____ |
| Rosen      | _____ |
| Sullivan   | _____ |
| Tavel      | _____ |
| Trotter    | _____ |
| Tele. Room | _____ |
| Holmes     | _____ |
| Gandy      | _____ |

By letter received March 22nd captioned individual enclosed numerous articles regarding communism and the National Council of Churches. Included among the enclosures were two issues of "Presbyter" published by the First Presbyterian Church of Phoenix, Arizona, two issues of "The Capitol Informer" published by the Capitol Methodist Church in Phoenix, and miscellaneous other articles and publications on which she has made notations.

Bufiles show that when Assistant Director W. C. Sullivan lectured in Phoenix in November, 1961, [REDACTED] called the Phoenix Office asking to talk to him. He called her and discussed with her the fact that newspaper accounts of his talk to the ministers and her church bulletin had used his speeches in an attempt to destroy the anticommunist group which are opposed to the National Council of Churches. By letter dated December 6th [REDACTED] advised the Director of her discussion of these matters with Mr. Sullivan. On the Bureau's reply, Mr. Sullivan noted that she appeared to be a sincere person, but extremely distraught over communism and prone to take the usual extremist viewpoints. (100-0-34917)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That in light of the above, [REDACTED] letter not be acknowledged.

2. That her letter be referred to Domestic Intelligence Division for a review of the enclosures to determine if they contain any information on communism of interest to the Bureau.

63 APR 5 1962

1 - Mr. Sullivan

EFT:baw (8)

CORRESPONDENCE

TRUE COPY

March 12, 1962

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am only sending these because I think they might interest you. Nat to be witch-hunting. May God Bless you.

yours truly

National Council of Churches

REC-42

100-50869-884

APR 8 1962

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

ENCLOSURE

6 APR 5 1962

ms  
17C  
3-26-62  
Morrill to Delaney  
mem 3-27-62  
JH/MS

[REDACTED]

March 12, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am only sending these  
because I think they might  
interest you. Not to be witch-  
hunting. May God Bless you.  
yours truly

[REDACTED]

me  
1961-62  
3-21-62  
Morrill to Palmer  
memo, 3-22-62  
JH/low

REC-53 1 32 54 .65

FBI

REC.D-COMM & LOGS

REC-53 2 33 54 .65

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS  
REC.D

REC-28

100-50869-883

March 28, 1962

MAR 28 5 25 PM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

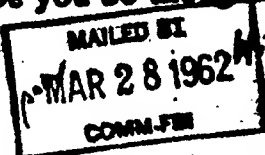
Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of March 22nd, with enclosure, and want to thank you for your interest in writing. I certainly appreciate your kind remarks concerning my administration of the FBI.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

With regard to the matters you discussed, the Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. However, the Party's efforts are being thwarted by the FBI's internal security programs, by investigation, arrest and prosecution of Party functionaries, and by widespread, intelligent public opposition to the communist philosophy. These achievements are being accomplished through orderly, legal procedures.

In view of your concern, enclosed is some material I hope will be of assistance to you. I am returning the stamped envelope you so thoughtfully sent.



Sincerely,  
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)

Note and encls. next page.

BS:ipp

TELETYPE UNIT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**Encs.**

**Correspondent's stamped envelope**

**4-17-61 Internal Security Statement**

**4-1-61 LEB Introduction**

**Let's Fight Communism Sanely!**

**Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?**

**Faith to Be Free 12-7-61 Director's Speech**

**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.**



TRUE COPY

March 22, 1962

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

Dear Sir:

I have heard that you have often repudiated charges that certain right wingers often make that the FBI has found the clergy and such organizations as the National Council of Churches and Federal Council of Churches to be infested with Communists and fellow-travelers. To what extent is it true that these organizations are not to be trusted?

The right wing extremists are accused by some of so undermining the confidence of the American People in their government, and religious, and social leaders as to pose a greater threat to American Security than they are a benefit to it. What are your opinions on these matters, and are there any government documents available on this subject.

I appreciate your good work and have every confidence in you in your position. I trust you or one designated by you will be able to help me on this question. I am preparing a paper on Super-patriotism for a college course, otherwise I would not trouble you in this way.

Sincerely,

/s/

[Redacted signature]

REC-28 100-50869-88

17 APR 2 1962

ack: 3-29-62  
BS: jar  
TC 3-27-62  
jar

8/2

March 22, 1962

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson   | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont  | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr     | _____ |
| Mr. Callahan | _____ |
| Mr. Conrad   | _____ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | _____ |
| Mr. Evans    | _____ |
| Mr. Malone   | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen    | _____ |
| Mr. Sullivan | _____ |
| Mr. Tavel    | _____ |
| Mr. Trotter  | _____ |
| Tele. Room   | _____ |
| Miss Holmes  | _____ |
| Miss Gandy   | _____ |

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

EXP. PROC.  
 MAR 26 1962

Dear Sir:

I have heard that you have often repudiated charges that certain right wingers often make that the FBI has found the clergy and such organizations as the National Council of Churches and Federal Council of Churches to be infected with Communists and fellow-travelers. To what extent is it true that these organizations are not to be trusted?

The right wing extremists are accused by some of so undermining the confidence of the American people in their government, and religious and social leaders as to pose a greater threat to American security than they are a benefit to it. What are your opinions on these matters, and are there any government documents available on this subject.

1TC  
 3-27-62  
 I appreciate your good work and have every

ENCLOSURE



or one designated by you will be able to  
help me on this question. I am preparing  
a paper on Super-patriotism for a college  
course. Otherwise I would not trouble you in  
this way.

Sincerely,  
[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address Block]

MR. INNES

MAR 26 6 14 PM '62

RECEIVED FBI

MAR 29 3 16 PM '62

REC'D  
DOM INTELL DIV.

REC'D DE LOACH

FBI

MAR 26 4 42 PM '62

MAR 26 2 02 PM '62

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F. B. I.

MAR 26 4 20 PM '62

FBI

RECEIVED-MORRIS

REC

gm

100-50869-882

March 28, 1962

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked March 24, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 51

MAR 28 1962

COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2) See next page  
SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCL:lc\*

(3)

60 APR 4 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM

MAR 28 5 26 PM '62

MAR 28 2 01 PM '62

RECEIVED SECTION

REC'D MAR 28 1962

[REDACTED]

**Enclosures (5)**

**Internal Security Statement (4-17-61)**  
**FBI Jurisdiction Does Not Cover Making Evaluations**  
**Deadly Duel**  
**The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals**  
**One Nations's Response to Communism**

**NOTE: No record Bufiles identifiable with correspondent or her husband. There has been much controversy between the American Council of Christian Laymen and the National Council of Churches reflecting considerable controversy among various religious groups. Neither group, as such, has been investigated by the Bureau, and the above reply is best serving the Bureau's interest. (62-100432)**

[REDACTED]

*See index*

[REDACTED]

*SS 8-*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I have seen literature being distributed locally from the American Council of Christian Laymen, Madison-1-Wisconsin. Could you tell me if this is a Church organization; if so, what denomination?

I am especially with the attack by this particular press on the National Council of Churches and Bishop Ordan.

REC-3

*100-50869-882*

Thank you for any information concerning this. Also information as to HUMAN EVENTS, 410 first St., S.E., Washington-3-D.C. I would like any information you have as to the National Council of Churches being infiltrated with communists.

13 MAR 29 1962

Yours very truly,

[REDACTED]

*ack  
3-28-62  
OCL:dc*

**FBI**  
REC'D CORR & 10002

**CORRESPONDENCE**  
*per [unclear]*

*mm/loc*

RT RSC-21

100-50869-881

March 27, 1962

EX-116

[Redacted]

MAR 27 10 55 AM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated March 23, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only, due to regulations of the Department of Justice. I must point out, however, that this Bureau has not made any statement relative to the group you named since we are strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, do not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. Please do not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is material on the topic of communism available for general distribution by the FBI. I hope you find it of value.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 31  
MAR 27 1962  
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Keyne*  
*ack*  
*del*

Enclosures (5)  
4/17/61 Internal Security statement  
Shall It Be Law on Tyranny?  
Time of Testing  
Deadly Duel  
Christianity Today Series  
The Communist Menace  
NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles

*you*  
*EW*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

3 APR 3 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[REDACTED]

March 23, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am a member of the Presbyterian Church of [REDACTED]. This church is having something of a problem because some of the membership cannot agree with the National Council of Churches, with which our local church is affiliated, through proper channels. I refer to the National Council of Churches, whose Office of Information lists its address as 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, New York.

Various charges are leveled at this National Council, but the most troubling deals with Communism. I have been told that a Deputy Director of the FBI recently made a statement as to the presence or lack of presence of communistic influence within the National Council of Churches.

If you have information of this sort, regarding the National Council of Churches as an organization, and regarding the individual persons in positions of leadership within the Council; and stating whether or not there seems to be any communistic influence or communistic leanings; I would be most happy to receive it. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

80

X-116

REC-72

100-50869-881

MAR 28 1962

APR 5 1962

FBI

REC.D-COMM & 10082

CORRESPONDENCE



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont *also*

DATE: March 25, 1962

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *See*SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
NEW YORK

It will be recalled that I gave an off-the-record lecture in January before a group in Connecticut sponsored by the National Council of Churches. Since that time I have been trying to make some contacts with this group who could be helpful to the Bureau and the country in the security field. I have recently been informed by [redacted] of this group that the Council plans to write a booklet condemning and opposing communism in the United States. If this is done properly, it could accomplish some good. I will follow this matter discreetly and keep the Bureau advised.

RECOMMENDATION:

For the information of the Director.

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Mohr
- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - M. A. Jones
- 1 - D. E. Moore
- 1 - J. A. Sizoo
- 1 - Sullivan

WCS:baw/eab  
(8)FBI - 102ALICE  
REC'D BELMONTFBI  
REC'D DE LOACH

R A ADD 9 1067

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

NOTED  
*Law*

100-50869-879

REC-113

March 21, 1962

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 12th has been received, and I want to thank you for your interest in writing.

With regard to the matters you mentioned, I pointed out in my book, "Masters of Deceit," that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

In view of your concern, enclosed is some material I hope will be of assistance to you.

MAILED 32  
MAR 21 1962  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)  
10-1-61 LEB Introduction  
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?  
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!  
The Communist Party Line  
Director's Speech "The Faith to be Free"

NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding correspondent and (Continued next page)

BS:lch (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

3 APR 2 1962

TELETYPE UNIT



[REDACTED]

Note continued: there is no further identifying data. Only outgoing 9-20-61, Enclosed reprint material on communism, none of which is identical with that being furnished now. The quotation of the Director's which [REDACTED] mentions is accurate and appeared on the last page of the HCUA publication "100 Things You Should Know About Communism and Religion." [REDACTED]



March 12, 1962

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Mr. Tolson   | ✓ |
| Mr. Belmont  | ✓ |
| Mr. Mohr     | ✓ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | ✓ |
| Mr. Casper   | ✓ |
| Mr. Callahan | ✓ |
| Mr. Conrad   | ✓ |
| Mr. Felt     | ✓ |
| Mr. Gale     | ✓ |
| Mr. Rosen    | ✓ |
| Mr. Sullivan | ✓ |
| Mr. Tavel    | ✓ |
| Mr. Trotter  | ✓ |
| Tele. Room   | ✓ |
| Miss Holmes  | ✓ |
| Miss Gandy   | ✓ |

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

During a meeting of the National Council of Churches today I made the following quotation from you: "I confess to a real apprehension, so long as Communists are able to secure ministers of the gospel to promote their evil work and espouse a cause that is alien to the religion of Christ and Judaism."

Mr. Miller, who was conducting this meeting, discounted this statement by asking if I had heard your latest quotation which seemed to change this quotation that made from you. I am sorry that I do not recall his quotation but would appreciate it if you would comment on it.

I would appreciate your confirming this statement which was taken from the back of 100 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMMUNISM AND RELIGION dating back to around 1950.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

FMH:akg

REC-113

100-50869-879

11 MAR 16 1962

MAR 12 15 10 PM '62

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

8/8

March 27, 1962

REC-42

100-50869-878

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

MAR 27 2 52 PM '62

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 20, 1962, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind prayers and generous comments.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In this connection, information contained in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of the foregoing, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible to comment in the manner you have suggested, and trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relative to the subjects of your inquiries.

Enclosed is some literature I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 31

MAR 27 1962

COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures 3 1/2 5 BH .PS

JCF:lml FBI  
(3) REC'D MAR 27 1962  
APR 3 1962

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

(Enclosures and note on next page)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**Enclosures**

**Director's 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement**

**LEB Intro, 4-1-61**

**Let's Fight Communism Sanely!**

**The Courage Of Free Men, Director's 2-22-62 Speech**

**Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?**

**NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.**

March 20, 1962,

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Belmont ✓  
Mr. Mohr ✓  
Mr. Callahan ✓  
Mr. Conrad ✓  
Mr. DeLoach ✓  
Mr. Evans ✓  
Mr. Malone ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Sullivan ✓  
Mr. Tavel ✓  
Mr. Trotter ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Miss Holmes ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓  
*[Signature]*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
4936 30th Place,  
Zone 8, Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty of writing to you at your home address as I am most desirable of your personal attention, and, answer to this letter. I would appreciate knowing your opinion on the National Council Of Churches, and, any and all literature you have available on it; Its precepts, purpose, intents, ect.. I have read that eventually all churches belonging to this organization will have one united head, and, that this head will be in Rome. (This I rebel against, if true!)

Information on all communist, and, communist dominated organizations would also be appreciated.

Are you familiar with the work of Dr. Billy James Hargis? If so, would you care to state your opinion on this work? I believe him to be a dedicated christian and American.

May I take this opportunity to say a heart-felt THANK YOU for the stand you have always taken for America, and, all for your fight against those things which would destroy our country, whether on an individual, state, or, national level!

May God richly bless you, and, give you continued courage and loyalty.

Most Sincerely, *[Signature]*

REC-42

100-50869

RECORDED

878



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. Mohr

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

DATE: March 23, 1962

SUBJECT:

**CIRCUIT RIDERS**  
**CINCINNATI, OHIO**

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Captioned individual telephonically contacted my office this morning, 3-23-62, and in my absence spoke with SA Hanning.

Lowman was just calling to advise that Karl Prussion had just put out a new recording in which he goes into his background and experiences in the Communist Party. The record is entitled, "Inside a Communist Cell." [redacted] stated he had just received this record from Key Records, Box 46128, Hollywood 46, California. He stated he had played it last night and thought it was very good, and [redacted] believes it has wonderful uses if it is correct and factual. He wanted to know whether the Bureau or SAC Mason could brief him as to how factual this recording is after hearing it. No promises were made to [redacted] concerning this matter. [redacted] also mentioned that the Circuit Riders are putting out a new book which just went to the printers today. It will be a compilation of the record of 658 persons connected with the National Council of Churches. He was quite enthusiastic about it and said that it is merely a statement of the record with no commentary that the liberals might jump on.

[redacted] was thanked for his information.

100-50869-  
NOT RECORDED  
176 MAR 28 1962

RECOMMENDATION:

That this memorandum be forwarded to the Domestic Intelligence Division for their information.

1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

DGH:jcs

(4)

58 APR 2 1962

Rec. no action -  
J-1-3  
100-50869  
JAKOZ  
MAR 28 1962

8 MAR 27 1962

March 16, 1962

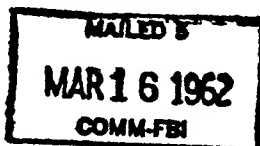
REC-91 100-50869-877

EX-101 Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 14, 1962, has been received, and I welcome the opportunity to clarify the statements attributed to me in your communication. As I indicated in my letter of February 3, 1951, to [REDACTED] the quotation to which you refer was lifted out of context from congressional testimony I gave in 1947. In this testimony I made several statements, general in nature, to the effect that communists were, and still are, endeavoring to infiltrate all mass-type organizations. I mentioned no group in particular.

While I would like to be of assistance to you concerning your other inquiry, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible to comment in the manner you have suggested and trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material I hope you will find to be of interest.



Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover

Director

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (5)

ENCLOSURES and NOTE are in the  
GENERAL SECTION

60 MAR 27 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RECEIVED  
MAR 16 1962  
FBI

RECEIVED  
MAR 16 1962  
FBI

RECEIVED  
MAR 16 1962  
FBI

[REDACTED]

**Enclosures (5)**  
**Communism and The Knowledge To Combat It!**  
**Bulwarks of Liberty**  
**"You Versus Crime"**  
**The Courage of Free Men, February 22, 1962**  
**Let's Fight Communism Sanely!**

**NOTE: Only reference identifiable with correspondent was outgoing letter to him of 1-18-62 at which time he was sent reprint material. This material is not being duplicated.** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Mr. Tolson   | ✓ |
| Mr. Belmont  | ✓ |
| Mr. Mohr     | ✓ |
| Mr. Callahan | ✓ |
| Mr. Conrad   | ✓ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | ✓ |
| Mr. Evans    | ✓ |
| Mr. Malone   | ✓ |
| Mr. Rosen    | ✓ |
| Mr. Sullivan | ✓ |
| Mr. Tavel    | ✓ |
| Mr. Trotter  | ✓ |
| Tele. Room   | ✓ |
| Miss Holmes  | ✓ |
| Miss Gandy   | ✓ |

14 March 1962

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

Dear Sir:

I pray that his letter finds all well with you and yours.

In our church here there is quite a concern and discussion over the National Council of Churches. There are many charges made that it is Communist Controlled, or either very much in sympathy with the Communist cause. As a result of this, I am making a close study of all material that I can find on the subject. There is so much 'documentation' on both sides, much of which is out of context, that I am attempting to trace a good deal down myself in order to find the truth.

You could help me very much here. Below is quoted a portion of a paragraph. I would like for you to read it and explain what is true and what is misrepresented in it. The paragraph comes from Sowing Dissension in the Churches, page 23, put out by the National Council of Churches.

"A statement attributed to J. Edgar Hoover, dating from 1947 is often used as proof that the American clergy has been used by the Communists. The statement reads: 'I confess to a real apprehension so long as Communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work and espouse a cause that is alien to the religion of Christ and Judaism.' This statement was used in a pamphlet entitled 'How Red is the Federal-National Council of Churches' as proof positive that Council leaders were red-tinged. In a letter dated Feb. 3, 1951, addressed to [redacted] Mr. Hoover explained that 'the quotation which you set forth was taken out of context from remarks I made before the Committee on Un-American activities of the House of Representatives on March 26, 1947 . . . I want you to know that neither on this occasion nor at any other time have I ever made any statement criticizing the Federal Council of Churches of the National Council of Churches.' In spite of Hoover's repudiation of this statement, Bundy, Hargis, McIntire and others continue to use it. This repetition of discredited and disproved charges is a favorite method of 'Documentation' of these critics of the NCC."

I would appreciate very much your comments on this.

Sir, I realize that you cannot speak officially to me from the F.B.I. files on any organization or person. But, I would appreciate any personal word or advice you could give me on the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

Expressing appreciation in advance for all the help that you can give me, I am with best regards

Respectfully yours,

EXP. PROC. MAR 15 1962

EX 101

REC-91

100-50869-877

9 MAR 25 1962

CORRESPONDENCE

100-50869-877  
TCF: [unclear]

[REDACTED]  
19 March 1962

Director J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

○ Thank you very much for your prompt reply to my questions concerning  
the National Council of Churches.

Yours sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

REC-46

EX-105

100-50869-876

30 MAR 21 1962

*No act. nec.  
"Thanks for letter 3/14/62  
JC7"*

63 MAR 28 1962

FBI

*Correspondence*

March 20, 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

MAR 20 10 52 AM '62

REC-69 100-50869-875

44-113

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 14, 1962, has been received, and I can appreciate the concern prompting you to write.

While I would like to be of help to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In this connection, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the matters you discussed, nor can I suggest a source where you could obtain the information you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material I trust you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5  
MAR 20 1962  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5) You Versus Crime  
Bulwarks of Liberty  
The Courage of Free Men (Director speech 2-22-62)  
Communism and The Knowledge To Combat It!  
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Enclosures contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62 MAR 26 1962

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
"John W. [unclear]"  
"Dwy" (signature)  
"Hoy RC" (signature)  
"MAR 22 11 05 AM" (stamp)  
"MAR 19 11 44 AM '62" (stamp)  
"FBI" (stamp)  
"JAN 03 1962" (stamp)  
"JAN 03 1962" (stamp)  
"JAN 03 1962" (stamp)

TRUE COPY

March 14, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am a member of the Methodist Church and have been placed on a committee to look into the possibility of communism within the National Council of Churches. Our church has been giving financial support to this organization. Quite a bit of feeling has arisen over this question and, presently, is reaching the point of possible dissention within our church.

I have given much study to the question, pro and con, of the National Council of Churches, and feel this organization has done much good. Some of our laymen rely completely on the charges of Edgar C. Bundy and Carl McIntyre. However; they have every confidence in anything that you say.

If it is possible, will you give to us information, pro and/or con on Mr. Bundy and Mr. McIntyre? Anything that you have to say, pro and con, on the National Council of Churches will also be appreciated. If you cannot give any of the above requested information, can you refer me to another source.

I would like to see this question solved so that our membership can once more, pull together and work for the Glory of God.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/

1 cc. 3-19-62/jp  
ack 3-20-62  
JCF:wp

gc

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson   |  |
| Mr. Belmont  |  |
| Mr. Mohr     |  |
| Mr. Callahan |  |
| Mr. Conrad   |  |
| Mr. DeLoach  |  |
| Mr. Evans    |  |
| Mr. Malone   |  |
| Mr. Rosen    |  |
| Mr. Sullivan |  |
| Mr. Tavel    |  |
| Mr. Trotter  |  |
| Tele. Room   |  |
| Miss Holmes  |  |
| Miss Gandy   |  |

March 14, 1962

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

**EXP. PROC.**

MAR 16 1962 / 6

Dear Mr. Hoover:

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I have given much study to the question, pro and con of the National Council of Churches, and feel this organization has done much good. Some of our laymen rely completely on the charges of Edgar L. Bundy and Carl McIntyre. However, they have every confidence in anything that you say.

If it is possible, will you give me information, pro and con on Mr. Bundy and Mr. McIntyre? Anything that you have to say, pro and con on the National Council of Churches will also be appreciated. I cannot give you the above requested information.

ST-113

REC-65

100-50869-875

18 MAR 26 1962


CORRESPONDENCE



source.

I would like to see this question  
solved so that our membership can once  
more, pull together and work for the glory  
of God.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  




100-50869-874

March 16, 1962

ST-113

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
MAR 16 11 29 AM '62

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

It was good of you and Mr. Nelson to write me on March 13, 1962, concerning the matters you discussed.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In view of the foregoing, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible to comment in the manner you suggested and trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiries.

Enclosed is some material I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 5  
MAR 16 1962  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!  
The Communist Party Line  
The Courage of Free Men, February 22, 1962  
"You've Got a Choice"  
Bulwarks of Liberty  
F.B.I.

NOTE: Enclosures contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JCF:klw

TELETYPE UNIT

62 MAR 20 1962

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*  
MAR 16 1962  
FBI  
REC'D NY

TRUE COPY

March 13-62

Dear Mr Hoover-

Officially, the leaders of the N. C. C. of Churches teach that they are against Communism. Yes, they seem to be fighting it. But there seems to be a lot of talk and their actions often betray them.

The leaders of the National Council of Churches testify in favor of Communism by having been Associated and affiliated with numerous Communist fronts, projects publications and causes. In a pamphlet, "How red is the F. C. C. and the N. C. C. ?" there are 46 Communist fronts named. Names of the leaders are listed and the Number of fronts they have been affiliated with are also listed.

Let me share with you a quotation from an Un-American Activities Publication on Communism. "We are talking about those Clergymen who have over a period of years consistently followed the party line and gained, not one of two fronts but ten, twenty or thirty.

We are Lutherans and as a local rural Congregation will in a few months join the N. C. C. We fear the head is it sound?

We would appreciate greatly to hear from you soon as possible.

Sincerely-

Thank you.

[Redacted signature]

nmel  
3-15-62  
JCF:bbw  
3-16-62

qcl

Jesus said

March 13 - 62

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Dear Mr. Hoover.

Officially, the leaders  
of the N.C.C. of Churches teach  
that they are against Communism.  
Yes, they seem to be fighting it.  
But there seems to be a lot of  
talk and their actions often  
betray them.

The leaders of the National Council  
of Churches testify in favor of  
Communism by having been  
associated and affiliated with  
Numerous Communist fronts,  
projects, publications and causes.  
See a Pamphlet, "How Red is  
the F.C.C. and the N.C.C.?"

and

there are 46 Communist fronts  
named. Names of the leaders  
are listed and the number of  
fronts they have been affiliated  
with are also listed.

Let me share with you a quotation  
from the Un-American Activities  
Publication on Communism: "We  
are talking about these clergymen  
who have over a period of years  
consistently followed the party line  
and joined, not one or two fronts  
but ten, twenty or thirty."

We are Lutherans and as a  
local rural Congregation will  
in a few months join the  
N.C.C. We feel the lead is  
it sound?

We would appreciate greatly to

Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Belmont  
 Mr. Callahan  
 Mr. Conrad  
 Mr. DeLoach  
 Mr. Evans  
 Mr. Malone  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Sullivan  
 Mr. Tavel  
 Mr. Trotter  
 Tele. Room  
 Miss Holmes  
 Miss Gandy

Letter from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

EXP. PROC.  
 MAR 15 1962  
 FBI  
 REC'D DE LOACH

100-50869-9

16 MAR 20 1962

CORRESPONDENCE

ST-113

ack 3-16-62  
 EBT  
 REC'D 3-16-62  
 11 30 AM '62  
 RECEIVED DIRECTOR



001 XE

March 14, 1962

REC-42

100-50869-873

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
MAR 14 4 18 PM '62

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 9, 1962, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind message.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5

MAR 14 1962

COM.M-FBI

Enclosures (5) 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement

Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?

Director's speech "The Courage of Free Men"

The Communist Party Line

The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles.

DGL:ctj (3)

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
MAR 21 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐



[REDACTED]  
March 9, 1962

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

Dear Sir:

Our community is presently engaged in a debate about the National Council of Churches. My own church will soon have a meeting to decide if it will take any action at the local level concerning the Council.

Has the Federal Bureau of Investigation uncovered anything subversive about the National Council of Churches and/or its officials? Do you have any personal opinion, as one who has studied the subversive situation in this country?

Your comments will be counted on to throw a great deal of light on the problem in this community.

Might I say in closing that every American appreciates the tremendous job you have done over the years and hopes that you will be able to serve this nation for many more years in your present capacity.

I shall appreciate correspondence from you or your office concerning this matter.

Yours truly,  
[REDACTED]

100-50869-873

REC-17

EX-111

MAR 15 1962

MAR 15 1962

FBI

REC'D-COMM & 10082

CORRESPONDENCE

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3-14-62  
disc  
nm

March 6, 1962

Hon. Francis Walter, Chairman  
House Committee on Un-American Activities  
House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Walter:

I have received an insert with a Church bulletin "The Informer" March 1962 issue put out by the First Baptist Church, 30<sup>th</sup> Street & Clinton Ave. Bayside, Illinois, which has all the earmarks of being prepared by Communists or fellow travelers. This insert is broken down as follows:

1. Sen. Walter - The man on foot or horseback?

2. This is the "Molloy Crusade of Reaction"

- (a) Network of race organizations, including John Birch Society
- (b) Business and industrial leaders, top brass of the armed forces, influential members of Congress, House Un-American Activities Committee and Senate Internal Security Committee

3. This is the program of the Ultra Right

- (a) Rejection of all peaceful alternatives to nuclear war
- (b) Withdrawal from United Nations and end to foreign aid
- (c) "White Rights" and segregation
- (d) "Right to work" laws
- (e) Censorship of the press and art
- (f) Restrictions on freedom of speech, press and assembly
- (g) Impairment of Warren & limiting power of courts to review legislation
- (h) Incitement to racial hatred, bombings and terrorism

4. This is a Twisted Program for Peace and Freedom

- (a) The issues of Peace and disarmament are of paramount importance. In recent months thousands of women, students and professors have made their voices heard for and in opposition to nuclear war.
- (b) Continuing strikes, freedom rides, and other demonstrations
- (c) Growing number of Americans are willing to defend of freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights
- (d) Rights of labor and advancement of welfare are important aspects to a strong democracy. Teachers, civic, and professional groups are active in strengthening legislation to promote these ends.

REC-8 100-50869-872

EX 101

13 MAR 14 1962

61 MAR 19 1962

ENCLOSURE

Mr. C. Jack Jones, Pastor of the church is included among the names about a year ago he concluded with the Church bulletin "The Informer" a reprint from the January 5, 1961 issue of Christian Century, urging the abolishing of the House Un-American Activities Committee and an editorial condemning the film "Operation Abolition". This reprint was forwarded to Mr. Jones by

Street Chicago Illinois (1) which Richard H. Cady was Secretary while Leon Katzen was a Board member. As I recall a number of Communist front organizations have operated from Suite 811 - 189 West Madison St. - Chicago.

The list of sponsors on the insert just received are as follows:

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| * Frank E. Anglin Jr.                                 | * Mrs. M. C. Carbo        |
| * Dr. William T. Baird                                | Prof. Elizabeth M. Kinsky |
| * Dr. Frederick C. Bell                               | Jay A. Miller             |
| Mr. Marcus Barth                                      | William Dorman            |
| * Leo Berenson  | Dr. E. Spenser Parsons    |
| * Perry Cartwright                                    | Louis J. Palmer           |
| Prof. Carl W. Andell                                  | Dr. James C. Tatum        |
| Dr. Carl B. Oauer                                     | * Prof. Bela Tordian      |
| Dr. R. F. Becker                                      | Dr. S. B. Riebt           |
| Miss Annetta Blackmann                                | * Dr. J. M. Roytson       |
| Rev. Dorfman  | William R. Salk, M.D.     |
| Prof. Wallace W. Hughes                               | Thomas A. Slater          |
| * Miss Pearl M. Hall                                  | * Jack Spiegel            |
| * Mr. A. Eugene Haydon                                | * Prof. William T. Stone  |
| Mr. & Mrs. Marshall G. S. Hodgson                     | Rev. Donald B. Stone      |
| Rev. Jack E. Jones - <u>Minister of Christ Church</u> | * Otto Wender             |
| Mr. Alfred F. Kang                                    | Prof. Bernard A. Wislizen |
| * Prof. Corinne Mac Hungall                           | * Rabbi S. B. Yoniss      |

The names marked \* appear as Board members or officers of the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights. As I recall you had Richard H. Cady, Secretary of this Committee appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Will you please advise if the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights have been listed as subversive.

The Committee of Christian Laymen is concerned when so many of our Clergy support Communist Causes. How can you change suggestions for us?

Sincerely,  
James R. Taylor - President

Cpy - Dr. J. Edgar Hoover.

To The Clergy of  
***The National Council of Churches of Christ —***

**Is This True or False?**

A Methodist of 50 years standing wrote the letter below to the editor of The Woodland Hills Reporter. The Methodist thinks he is entitled to an answer and we agree with him. It would no doubt be easier and less embarrassing to the National Council of Churches to pass this off as coming from a right wing extremist but laymen are reaching a point where they are going to insist on straight answers. The letter is as follows:

February 21, 1962

Editor,  
Woodland Hills Reporter  
Dear Sir:

Since reading some of the letters of The Committee of Christian Laymen, P.O. Box 285, Woodland Hills that have appeared in your paper, my attention has been called to the following information which appears in Document No. 117 of the United States Senate entitled "A Handbook for Americans, The Communist Party of the United States of America". These are exact quotations:

"One of the most important instruments of Communist deception is the front organization. With an eye to religious groups, the Communists have formed religious fronts such as the Methodist Federation for Social Action, The Protestant Labor Council." The Methodist Federation for Social Action has no official connection with the Methodist Church.

On page 94 of this same publication there appears a list of names of individuals with this heading "List of most

typical sponsors of Front organizations." In this list, among others of the Clergy, appears the name of Jack R. McMichael.

Now we come across the following article in a church Bulletin "The Blue Print" published at 1530 Foothill Blvd., Oakland 6, Calif. dated January 16, 1962.

"Dr. Jack R. McMichael, identified Communist and Pastor of Grace Methodist Church of Stockton, was chairman of the nominating committee for Methodist Federation for Social Action annual meeting July 25-27, 1961 at Wilberforce, Ohio." The article then listed a number of other ministers.

In the Dec. 19, 1961 issue of Blue-Print reference is made to the H.C.U.A. book "Communist activities in the New York area — Part 6" in which Benjamin Gitlow stated — The principal individuals involved in the Communist conspiracy to subvert the Methodist church for Communist purposes are: — Dr. Harry F. Ward, Rev. Jack R. McMichael, Rev. Chas. C. Webber, Rev. Alton S. Smith, Dr. Willard Uphaus, Margaret Forsyth, Rev. Lee H. Ball and Prof. Walter Rautenstrauch.

Mr. Gitlow stated that in his opinion The Methodist Federation for Social Action played a most important part in the Communist infiltration of religion.

Now then as a Methodist of 50 years standing, I am concerned when the West Valley Ministerial Association, instead of replying to the Committee of Christian Laymen in Woodland Hills, writes a letter such as they are reported to have written on Jan. 24, 1962 for the purpose of trying to induce a newspaper not to carry news stories or advertisements critical of the National Council of Churches.

As a Methodist Layman I want some answers as to whether or not the information published in the United States Senate Document No. 117 and the articles in the Blue-Print are true. If they are true then in my opinion there is something seriously wrong in our Church organization.

Sincerely,

Frank Ableson  
10022 Burnet Ave.  
Sepulveda, Calif.

Now it just happens that Mr. Jack Lotto, in his column in the February 17, 1962, issue of the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, wrote "Pro-Communists are pushing a campaign among Clergymen and religious groups in an effort to destroy our Nation's Internal Security laws. Behind this drive is an organization called 'Religious Freedom Committee of New York', whose treasurer and active head is Rev. Lee H. Ball of Ardsley, New York. Mr. Ball has been an officer of the 'Methodist Federation for Social Action'. Please note that Rev. Ball is one of the ministers mentioned in the above letter.

Mr. Lotto, in the February 24, 1962, issue of the Herald-Examiner, reported that Alger Hiss recently made his first known appearance, since his conviction, at a Pro-Red Welcome Home rally for Frank Wilkinson, identified under oath as a member of the Communist party. You may also recall that our Publication No. 18 lists a number of prominent clergymen who petitioned for Wilkinson's release. One of these Clergymen, President of a Theological Seminary, referred to Wilkinson as "a prominent protestant political prisoner". Surely some of you of the Clergy are ready to "Come ye from among them."

Dr. Martin E. Marty, an editor of Christian Century Magazine which serves as an un-official defender of The National Council of Churches, according to a heading for a news item in the Los Angeles Times, Feb. 2, 1962, "urged Pastors to make Churches Controversial." If this is the primary objective of The National Council of Churches even we must admit that it is a huge success.

How long are you lay people going to tolerate this situation? If you are giving your financial support to a church which is making no effort to correct the practices of The National Council of Churches, then in our opinion you are sanctioning socialism and the One-World, One-Church program of The N.C.C. Is this what you wish to leave to your children? "As goes the Church so goes the Nation".

✓ COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN LAYMEN  
P.O. Box 285  
WOODLAND HILLS, CALIFORNIA  
(A Non-Profit Organization)

If you wish to help, please write us. Reprints are available. Any contributions are welcome. Reprint of an advertisement published in the Woodland Hills (Calif.) Reporter.

100-1-119-272



## **James R. Taylor**

**Born, Odon, Indiana**

**Graduate of Purdue University (1922), B.S. M.E.**

**Present Status, Retired.**

**Residence, 20937 Dumetz Road, Woodland Hills, California.**

### **Prior Business Connections**

**Executive Vice President and Director, W. H. Barber Co. (Division of Pure Oil Co.)  
Chicago, Illinois.**

**Director, Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil Assn., Oil City, Pennsylvania.**

**Director and Board Chairman, Central West Oil Corporation, South Bend, Indiana.**

**Director, Investors Oil Company, Lander, Wyoming.**

**Director, Automobile Dealer Associates Inc., Chicago, Illinois.**

**President and Director, Dixie-Land Specialties Co., Gainesville, Florida.**

### **World War I and II**

**Veteran of World War I, Infantry.**

**Member of National Advisory Committee, Office of Price Administration, Washington, D.C.**

**Member of National Advisory Committee, Office of Defense Transportation, Washington, D.C.**

**Chairman, State of Illinois Local Delivery Committee, Office of Defense Transportation.**

**Member of Committee for Defense of Petroleum Facilities (Great Lakes Region).**

### **Organizations**

**The American Legion.**

**Sons of The American Revolution.**

**Woodland Hills Rotary Club.**

**Los Angeles Breakfast Club.**

**Indiana Society of Chicago.**

**The Indiana Historical Society.**

**32° Mason and Shriner.**

### **Churches**

**Presently, Member of St. James Presbyterian Church, Tarzana, California.**

**Presently, President, Committee of Christian Laymen, P.O. Box 285, Woodland Hills, Calif.**

**Formerly, Elder of First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Florida.**

**Formerly, Director, Presbyterian Student Center, University of Florida.**

**Formerly, Member Florida Crusade Committee (Presbyterian Church U.S.).**

**Formerly, Director Camp Montgomery, (owned by Suwanee Presbytery of Florida).**

*The N.C.C. Clergy have been planning the terms John Bucher and Extreme Rightists on our Committee. So far as we know there is no member of the John Bucher society on our membership.*

REC-104

100-50869-871

March 9, 1962

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of March 1, 1962, with enclosures, has been received.

With regard to your inquiry, representatives of the FBI who are privileged to speak before various groups throughout the country do so with my full knowledge and approval. I can assure you that their remarks on communism do not repudiate in any way statements I have made in my speeches, or that have been reflected in my book, "Masters of Deceit." Assistant Director William C. Sullivan in his comments on communism dealt with this subject accurately and objectively.

In accordance with your request, enclosed is the tenor of remarks of one of Mr. Sullivan's speeches, together with some other material I hope will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5  
MAR 9 - 1962  
COMM-FBI

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Evans
- Mr. Malone
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

- Enclosures (2)
- Communism and Religion
- Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
- 17381 Internal Security statement
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Correspondence not identifiable in Bufiles.

RLR: [Redacted] L.B.I.  
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58 MAR 16 1962

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|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson   |  |
| Mr. Belmont  |  |
| Mr. Mohr     |  |
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| Mr. Conrad   |  |
| Mr. DeLoach  |  |
| Mr. Evans    |  |
| Mr. Malone   |  |
| Mr. Rosen    |  |
| Mr. Sullivan |  |
| Mr. Tavel    |  |
| Mr. Trotter  |  |
| Tele. Room   |  |
| Miss Holmes  |  |
| Miss Gandy   |  |

March 1, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In recent months our local news paper, The Redding  
 Record-Searchlight, has had articles quoting Chief Inspector  
 William C. Sullivan.

Would you please send me any information concernig these  
 statements made by Mr. Sullivan, which seem to be contradictory  
 to your's. (when, where and before what group and if printed-  
 what periodical- so that I may read the whole article?)

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours

35 MAR 7 1962

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REC-104

100-50569-871

11 MAR 1962

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FBI

RES

ENCLOSURE

Saturday, Feb. 17, 1962

Redding (Calif.) Record Searchlight

Page Five

## Pastor says FBI man defends church leaders

Charges that Communists have infiltrated the National Council of Churches have been denounced by an official of the federal bureau of investigation, a Redding church group has been told.

The statement was made by the Rev. Ray Welles, pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational church, as he discussed the charges at a fireside gathering Wednesday.

The Rev. Welles quoted FBI Chief Inspector William C. Sullivan on the charge that Communists have succeeded in infiltrating many churches.

"This is a patent falsehood," the minister said Sul-

livan declared. "The truth of the matter is that the Communist party has not achieved any substantial success in exerting dominance, control or influence over America's clergymen or religious institutions on a national scale."

Sullivan said his speeches on the subject have made the Communists unhappy. "The Communists are in favor of anything that will weaken America's churches and discredit their leaders," the Rev. Welles quoted Sullivan as saying.

The minister said the "very serious charges" against the National Council of Churches have been repeated by ministers in the Redding area.

100-50869-871  
ENCLOSURE

**Editorial:****Self-appointed patriots  
hit the wrong 'enemy'**

In each period of war or serious international tension, some Americans have let their emotions get out of control, and have done some things in the name of patriotism that they and the country regretted later.

During World war I, people with German names were ostracized and taunted by "patriots" who couldn't distinguish between the enemy in Europe and perfectly innocent and loyal Americans of German extraction. Hamburger sandwiches became disloyal; they had to be called "Liberty sandwiches"; orchestras couldn't play music by Beethoven and Bach, because they were Germans.

Well, we were all a bit ashamed afterward, so during World war II we didn't go around suspecting the Schmidts and banning Bach, but with Japan as a new enemy, some Americans felt it was patriotic to beat up Japanese they encountered in the United States. Some of the victims turned out to be Chinese or Filipinos — the misguided "patriots" didn't distinguish very clearly between real and imaginary enemies. Even our government was guilty of what it acknowledged later was an unconstitutional invasion of rights when it moved Japanese-Americans into relocation camps.

Now we're in a cold war, and the enemy is a particularly exasperating one, because it's not only a group of countries, headed by the Soviet Union, but it's also an ideology, communism. Some of our own native born American citizens, unfortunately, are loyal to the enemy and not to their own country. Some of them are open about it; some are secretive.

But again we have the problem of some misguided Americans who cannot distinguish between the real and imaginary enemies, denouncing those they think must be Communists or their tools.

Just as we once had people who thought that "anyone with a German accent must be an enemy" or "anyone with slant eyes must be an enemy," we have people who are convinced that anyone who holds certain beliefs must be a Communist or "is doing the Communists' work for them."

76d-50869-871

ENCLOSURE

Christian clergymen who concern themselves with social problems find themselves under attack. There is, for instance, the charge by extremists that the churches have been infiltrated by Communists. (This is answered by FBI Chief Inspector William C. Sullivan: "But this is a patent falsehood. The truth of the matter is that the Communist party has not achieved any substantial success in exerting domination, control or influence over American clergymen or religious institutions on a national scale . . . There can be no question as to the loyalty of the overwhelming majority of the American clergy to the nation, and the fact that they have been among the most consistent and vigorous opponents of communism.")

Those who believe in public power (a native American institution since long before the Russian revolution), or in desegregation, or in the social security approach to the problem of medical care for the aged, or in other "liberal" programs, are likely to find themselves under attack.

The Communists are for, or say they're for, a number of good things: peace, civil rights, an end to poverty, an end to racial discrimination, etc. (Their performance where they're in power shows they aren't really for these things.) Now we have "anti-Communist" speakers telling us it's all right for Americans to be for some of these things, but let any American be for more than three—or five—or seven of these things, and he's to be suspected.

Just as we had the misguided would-be patriots who couldn't tell a Chinese from a Japanese, we have those now who lump "liberal, left-wing, socialist and Communist" together as being essentially the same thing. Or we have the speaker who told the local Democratic club:

"We have in the Democratic party a breed of liberalism so much like Communism you can't tell where one begins and the other leaves off."

The effect of all this is to make people hesitant to express ideas that don't please the ultra-conservatives. When that happens, we've diluted one of the basic elements of the American way of life: freedom of thought, speech and press. Another effect is to hamper our government in its efforts to meet serious world and national problems.

We're not proposing that the ultra-conservatives be muzzled. Free speech belongs to everyone, rich, poor, fool, wise man, knave and saint. For our Anglo-Saxon tradition, embodied in the Magna Charta and the U. S. constitution, is that when all ideas, true and false, are offered freely, we'll choose the true and the good. Let's not go around denouncing as disloyal those who offer ideas we don't agree with.



REC-7A

100-50869-870

March 8, 1962

DATE

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 5, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general topic of communism which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5  
MAR 8 - 1962  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (5)
- The Courage of Free Men 2-22-62
  - Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
  - Time of Testing
  - Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
  - The Communist Party, Line

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

60 MAR 16 1962

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EX-124  
FBI  
REC'D MAR 11 1962

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**NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.**

**The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)**



TRUE COPY

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

I know that you are a very busy man, but I would like you to clear something up for me.

NATIONAL

There is propaganda going around here that the United Council of Churches is a Communist Organization, Our denomination is a member of it and I don't know whether it is true or not.

I don't know whether that is the right title or not, on some literature it is called The National Federal Council of Churches and on another booklet it called The National Council of The Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

These were loaned to me to read but I see the one can be procured from Am. Council of Christian Laymen Madison, Wis 3 copies 25¢ and the title is "How Red is the Nat. Fed. Council of Churches." The other is a Booklet entitled "St Marks Vestry Com. Report on The Nat. Council of The Churches of Christ in the U. S. A and can be procured from St. Marks Episcopal Church 908 Rutherford St., Shreveport, Louisiana. pr. 40¢

I know if any one knows about this you certainly would, and if it is true I don't think the laymen should be kept in the dark about it, and if it is not true, that should be published too.

Yours very truly

REC-71

100-50869-870

EX-13

11 MAR 9 1962

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8-Dun Nov

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

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Madison, Wis 3 copies 25¢

CORRESPONDENCE

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Report on The Nat. Council of The Churches  
of Christ in the U. S. A and can be  
procured from St. Marks Episcopal  
Church 908 Rutherford St,

Shreveport, Louisiana. pr. 40.4

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you certainly would, and if it is true  
I don't think the laymen should be  
kept in the dark about it, and if it is  
not true, that should be published too.

Yours very truly

MR. J. S. AM. 12

FBI

REC'D-CORR. & TOURS

MAR 6 1962

DOI XE

March 7, 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
MAR 7 9 30 AM '62

100-50869-869

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of March 1st and want to thank you for your kind comments.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer that we do or do not have data relating to the subject of your inquiry. I trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general topic of communism I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 5  
MAR 7 - 1962  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4-17-61 Internal Security Statement

The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals (Christianity Today)

The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Neither correspondent nor [REDACTED] can be identified in Bufiles.

JH:ljt (3)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 15 1962

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

March 1, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has come to my attention that throughout the churches in this area and especially in my church, there seems to be a great deal of discussion regarding the National Council of Churches. The allegation that there is evidence of Communist infiltration in this organization to some degree, is the subject of these discussions.

One man, a [redacted] who lives in [redacted] has been especially active in talking to individuals, church groups and civic organizations promoting the idea that the N.C.C. or members of it have been used to promote the Communist cause. I believe he has some very convincing arguments to back up what he says and I have no reason to believe he is not entirely sincere in his efforts.

[redacted] has convinced me that this matter should be looked into and should positive proof be found that indicates the N.C.C. is wittingly or unwittingly allowing themselves to be used or members of the N.C.C. are being used to promote the Communist conspiracy something should be done about it.

However, I have seen and read much lately about extreme rightist groups that seem to be doing as much harm as good. They seem to criticize for the sake of criticism alone, almost anything and everything. I do not believe [redacted] has any association with such a group but some of the people whom I have met at his discussions very well could be of this caliber.

I have talked with the ministers of my church who are both very fine men of the highest intelligence. It is their stand that the N.C.C. has been investigated by various organizations and they feel the subject is closed.

I would like to ask for whatever help, advice or recommendation you can give on the subject of the N.C.C. so that I as a Presbyterian layman and my family can straighten out in our mind what exactly the situation is and what action should be taken.

Thank you for many fine years of service to our country.

Regards,

16 MAR 1962

REW:gs

100-50869-829

EXP. PROC.

34 MAR 5 1962

REC-70

CONFIDENTIAL



March 7, 1962

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 28, 1962, has been received, and I certainly appreciate the confidence you expressed in the work being done by this Bureau.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general topic of communism which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5

MAR 7 - 1962

COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

The Courage of Free Men

Shall It Be Law or Tyranny

Time of Testing

The Communist Party Line

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

SAVING 13)

RECEIVED 3/14/62

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

58 MAR 14 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
MAR 7 4 44 PM '62

MAR 12 55 AM '62  
REC'D 4/11/62  
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[REDACTED]

NOTE: The Bureau conducted an Atomic Energy Act-Applicant investigation on [REDACTED] in 1949. Nothing derogatory was developed.

The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

There has been no indication of any communist infiltration or control of the mental health movement in this country.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
February 28, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

My purpose in writing to you is two-fold. My husband and I want to say a most profound "Thank You" for your great service to our country through your constant alertness and uncompromising integrity.

For some time comments have been uttered and written about the National Mental Health organization as being a Communist tool. Since the communists openly state their objective to control men's minds that possibility certainly seems plausible. I have been asked to work on the forthcoming drive and herewith request any information you might furnish to prepare me for my actions. If the organization is questionable from your investigations I think the general public should be informed and wish to work toward that end. My fear is that the local service is commendable such as [REDACTED] Child Guidance work, but national activities are perhaps questionable.

If you have any information to clarify the controversy regarding the National Council of Churches, I would most gratefully receive it. I fear that the local and national responsibilities and activities are out of balance there also. As an active Episcopalian and Board Member of the [REDACTED] United Church Women I am vitally interested in this matter.

Any information which you could forward to enlighten us about these two organizations would be deeply appreciated.

Again our thanks for your dedicated public service and for being the one national official whom we can trust completely.

Respectfully yours,  
13 MAR 8 1962  
[REDACTED]


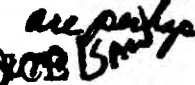
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True copy  
3/4/62  
mmh  
ack  
3-9-62  
Saw: j

February 28, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

My purpose in writing to you is two-fold. My husband  
and I want to say a most profound "Thank You" for  
your great service to our country through your constant  
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In some time comments have been uttered and written  
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their objective to control men's minds that possibility  
certainly seems plausible. I have been asked to work  
on the forthcoming drive and herewith request any  
information you might furnish to prepare me for my  
actions. If the organization is questionable from your  
investigations I think the general public should be informed  
and wish to work toward that end. My fear is that  
the focal service is commendable such as   
child guidance work, but national activities are perhaps  
not   
at 3-7-62

CORRESPONDENCE

questionable

If you have any information to clarify the controversy regarding the National Council of Churches, I would most gratefully receive it. I fear that the local and national responsibilities and activities are out of balance there also. As an active Episcopalian and board member of the [redacted] United Church Women I am vitally interested in this matter.

Any information which you could forward to enlighten us about these two organizations would be deeply appreciated.

Again we thank you for your dedicated public service and for being the one national official whom we can trust completely.

Respectfully yours,  
[redacted]

March 5, 1962

REC-43

100-50469-867

MAR 5 4 48 PM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

EX 103

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received both of your letters dated February 22nd, together with your enclosure.

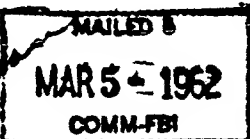
In response to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Thus, it is not within our province to issue clearances of any type. In view of the above, the statement you quoted in your letter is inaccurate.

I am enclosing some material which I hope will be of assistance to you in regard to your inquiry. I am also returning the enclosure you so thoughtfully forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



Enclosures (5)

CJJ:brd

Enclosures and NOTE next page.

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

F.B.I.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3 1962

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT



[REDACTED]

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.  
The enclosure, "Let's Fight Communism," is being sent in order  
to answer her question re infiltration of churches.

Enclosures (5)  
Correspondent's enclosure  
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!  
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism  
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?

REC'D - JUSTICE  
MAY 2 8 11 AM '65

MAY 1 10 23 AM '65

REC'D  
MAY 1 10 23 AM '65



[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoover,

We are having a bit of a discussion in our church re-  
garding the National Council of Churches. Our head minister  
has stated from the pulpit, "The National Council of Churches  
has been investigated by the F.B.I. at its own request, and  
they (the Bureau) have found nothing to fear from it."

Is this true?

Sincerely,

REC- 42

100-50469-86

MAR 11 1962

25 973

**FBI**

REC'D CORR & LONG

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

February 27, 1962

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I do appreciate your calling to my attention that my statement to you concerning Mr. Hoover's statement regarding the National Council of Churches was in error. I do not like to misquote people and obviously will refrain from using this quotation in the future. You were kind to bring it to my attention.

I cannot remember where the quote came from. It was in some of the reams of mail and literature I have received during the past six months concerning the National Council of Churches. So many people have been borrowing from this file that the information seems to be gone. Again, my apologies for misleading you.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]

P.O. Box 337  
Charleston, S.C.

CC: The Hon. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

REC-24 100-58869-866  
EX-101

MAR 1 3 05 PM '62

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR MAR 1 2 07 PM '62

MAR 1 4 14 PM '62

RECEIVED - MOHAWK

63 MAR 14 1962

DIRECTOR

REC-32

March 2, 1962

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked February 26, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiries.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general topic of communism which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 10  
MAR - 2 1962  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)  
God & Country or Communism?  
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement  
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?  
Christianity Today Series (The Communist Menace)  
One Nation's Response to Communism

RECEIVED NOTE NEXT PAGE

DCL:js\* (3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62 MAR 13 1962

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MAR 2 4 20 PM '62

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FBI  
REC'D UNIT 11/11/62

[REDACTED]

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.  
The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

TRUE COPY

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

Mr. Hoover

The question has been raised in our lives and community concerning Communism. Please give me information on how to discern Communism.

Also tell us how the National Council of Churches stand on the question of Communism. We have read in the phamplet: "30 of the 95 men Who Gave us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible," of the men who had Communistic dealings or served on committee's associated with Communism. Are these statements true?

The National Council of Churches say, "No," these men have been misrepresented. Can you tell me which ones are true?

The following men seem to be doing a fine job of speaking out against Communism: Dr. Billy James Hargis, Fulton Lewis, Dean Clearence Manion, Dan Smoot, Dr. Carl McIntire, Martha Roundtree, Dr. Wayne Paucher, Paul Harvey and Dr. Bob Jones. The National Council of Churches say these men have misrepresented the National Council and the men who translated the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. As the National Council of Churches is supposed to be the leader of our churches of our Country we are concerned.

REC-32  
Please give me any information you can on this subject and of the Men mentioned above who speak out against Communism. MAR 6 1962

Concerned,

Return address as on envelope:

ack  
3-2-62  
del. fin  
181  
1 True copy  
3-1-62  
cal

ack



[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Hoover

The question has been raised in our  
press and community concerning Communism.  
These give me information on how to  
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Also tell us how the National Council  
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Communism. We have read in the  
pamphlet: "30 of the 75 men who gave us the  
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men who had Communist dealings or  
served on committees associated with  
Communism. Are these statements true?

The National Council of Churches says "No."

These men have been misrepresented. Can  
you tell me which ones are true?

The following men seem to be doing a  
fine job of speaking out against Communism

Dr. Billy James Hargis, Fulton Lewis, Dean  
Charles M. Hanson, Dan Smoot, Dr. Carl

ak  
7-2-62  
del  
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CONFIDENTIAL

McLachlan, Martha Lundberg, Dr. Wayne  
Rucker, Paul Hensky and Dr. Bob Jones.  
The National Council of Churches say  
these men have misrepresented the  
National Council and the men who translated  
the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.  
As the National Council of Churches is  
supposed to be the leader of our churches  
of our Country we are concerned.  
Please give me any information  
you can on this subject and of the  
men mentioned above who speak out against  
Communism.

Concerned,  
[REDACTED]

X-116  
REC-42

100-50869-864

February 28, 1962

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 23, 1962, has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In this connection, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects about which you asked.

Enclosed are publications relating to communism I hope you find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20

MAR - 1 1962

COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

4-17-61 Internal Security Statement

2-22-62 "The Courage of Free Men"

The Communist Party Line

Christianity Today Series: The Communist Menace

12-7-61 "The Faith to be Free"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DCL:mes

(3)

MAR 13 1962

TELETYPE UNIT

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

MAR 1 8 21 AM '62

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

COMM-FBI

By

TRUE COPY

February 23, 1962

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Do you have facts that the National Council of Churches is communist infiltrated or that men in the Council belong to communist front organizations? Is there any printed material on proving this that I can secure?

I have been asked to speak on this subject and need to have documented proof.

Sincerely,

/s/

1 true copy  
2/27/62  
all

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ack 2-28-62  
del

X-116

REC-42

100-50869-864

MAR 16 1962

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February 23, 1962  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoauer,

Do you have facts that the National Council, Churches is communist infiltrated or that men in the Council belong to communist front organizations? Is there any printed material on proving this that I can secure?

I have been asked to speak on this subject and need to have documented proof.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

nmh  
ack 2-28-62  
cel

CORRESPONDENCE



NEWS

from

WLOF-TV

ABC-TV

CHANNEL 9

316

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* The following WLOF-TV Editorial was telecast on ORBIT at 1:30 P.M. and on \*  
\* MID-FLORIDA NEWS at 6:15 and 11:15 P.M. February 21, 1962 and is furnished \*  
\* for your information. Permission granted to reprint with credit. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

This is a WLOF-TV News Editorial in the public interest -- entitled:  
THE NONSENSE CONTINUES

This week, Orlando is the target again for another so-called anti-communist rally. The obvious purpose of this one is to keep up the malicious attacks against the National Council of Churches, to perpetuate the myths and phoney charges against respectable ministries. They will even claim that the revised standard version of the Bible is communist inspired. How silly can you get?

It is about time we begin to disown organizations developed by individuals and a small group posing as gigantic organized crusades. Merely because they sound "official" or highly organized, it doesn't mean any more than the so-called communistic front organization they purport to oppose. They are usually privately run by one man or a small group with no public accounting of their funds.

It must give the Propaganda Ministry in Moscow a laugh to see Americans sow fear and dissension among other Americans. Never have so many falsehoods appeared so well-documented. The technique is for one source to quote another source which is a quote from a third or fourth source with half-truths, opinions, and outright inaccuracies as the fundamental basis of it all. They justify their ridiculous charges on the basis that any means justify the end, which parallels the Communist point of view.

We can only warn Central Floridians to cold-shoulder these rabble rousers. Here's what an expert anti-communist has to say about them: "Far too many self-styled experts on communism are giving out erroneous and distorted information. Our fight against communism must be a sane, rational understanding of the facts. Emotional outbursts, extravagant name-calling, gross exaggerations hinder our effort." These are the words of J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, writing in the American Bar Association's Journal.

Watch out for these pseudo-patriots who while claiming they are trying to protect American freedom would destroy it. 100-50869-

50 MAR 2 1962

NOT RECORDED  
FBI MAR 1 1962  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

100-50869

L. MENDEL RIVERS  
FIRST DISTRICT  
SOUTH CAROLINA

COMMITTEES  
ARMED SERVICES  
AND  
MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

February 8, 1962

DEACON SHUMAN  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

225 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

12 BROAD STREET  
CHARLESTON, S.C.

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am now preparing a speech on the history of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America whose antecedent was the Federal Council of Churches. Will you advise me if this organization or its antecedent has ever at any time been infiltrated with Communism or the loyalty to this Country of any of its members been questioned by your organization.

The old Dies Committee and the present Committee on Un-American Activities have furnished me with a lot of information on this organization. I would appreciate your advising me of your stand as fully as you can give it on this subject. I plan to reflect your views in my speech.

Sincerely,

L. MENDEL RIVERS, M. C.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

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EX-113  
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REFERENCE

February 26, 1962

REC-48

100-50869-862

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52 MA 28

Dec 20 1961

I have received your letter of February 18th, I want to thank you for writing and for your interest in my articles. Although I would like to be of service in response to your inquiry, as a matter of policy, I am unable to comment on any publication not prepared by this Bureau. I am sure you can understand my position in this regard. Enclosed is some material on the menace of communism I thought you would like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 20  
FEB 26 1962  
COMM-FBI

- Enclosures (5)
- 4-17-61 Internal Security Statement
  - 4-61 LEB Introduction
  - The Deadly Contest
  - Let's Fight Communism Sanelly
  - The Communist Party Line

- Tolson  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Malone  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Ingram  
Gandy

RECEIVED

50 MAR 5 1962

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Butties. The pamphlet she refers to, which was published by the National Council of Churches in February, 1961, is identified in the attached memorandum of Mr. Smith to Mr. Sullivan entitled "National Council of Churches Report on 'Operation Abolition'"

TELETYPE UNIT

BS:cjk (3)

February 18, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

With a special interest in your writings and the religious publications dealing with the same subjects, I am attempting to make a constructive criticism of the pamphlet "Operation Abolition" published by the National Council of Churches in February, 1961.

This pamphlet gives your report "Communist Target Youth" as a primary source but prints only one direct quotation from you (page 4, both pamphlets). This is a verbatim quote but gives the reader of the Church pamphlet an impression which is diametrically opposed to the main point of your report. Had the Council of Churches quoted you either above or below on the same page, your thinking would have appeared to the reader to be quite different.

Do you agree with me or am I in error?

If you care to make any other comments on this Church publication, I would be happy to have them.

Thanking you for your attention to this matter,  
I am yours sincerely,

REC-48

100-50869-88

FEB 27 1962

FEB 21 1962

FBI

REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS DIV.

CORRESPONDENCE



February 23, 1962

REC-45

EX-116

100-50864-861

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

Your letter of February 11, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general topic of communism which I hope will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 20

FEB 23 1962

COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5) Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism  
The Deadly Game  
4117-61 Internal Security Statement  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

CJJ:lc\*

(3)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
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- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

51 MAR 5 1962

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FEB 23 6 05 PM '62

FEB 23 2 50 PM '62

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR



[REDACTED]

February 11, 1962

Public Information Office  
Federal Bureau of Information  
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

This letter is written to request the help of your office. As a Presbyterian minister and the leader of my congregation, I feel compelled to try to investigate to my own satisfaction this whole question of possible Communist infiltration in American Church life. Having gathered and read the charges of such men as Hargis, Bundy, Matthews, etc., and the defences of men within the N. C. C., I now want to ask your office for concrete facts which will let me decide for myself if there have been or are Communists in the National Council of Churches. For instance, I have the personal testimony of John Mackey where he cites exactly what the committee has published on him; he then lists his defence and it is possible for me to conclude that John Mackey is not a Communist nor a fellow traveler.

Could you supply me with actual testimony regarding men such as Eugene Carson Blake, Reinhold Niebuhr, Harry F. Ward, E. Stanley Jones, Edwin T. Fahlberg and G. Bromley Oxnam? Your help in supplying this information which will help me to make an objective decision on this Communism question will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

181  
REC'D - CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION  
FEB 14 1962

REC-45

100-50869-861

FEB 26 1962

CRIME RECORDS  
CORRESPONDENCE

REC-45

100-50869-860

February 16, 1962

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your communication postmarked February 13, 1962, has been received.

In response to your specific inquiry, it is a pleasure to clarify my position for you on the subject of communism and religion. In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that the Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society, including the field of religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, the Party's efforts are being thwarted by the FBI's internal security programs, by investigation, arrest and prosecution of Party functionaries, and by widespread, intelligent public opposition to the communist philosophy. These achievements have been accomplished through orderly, legal procedures. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

With regard to the other matters you discussed, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In this connection, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I am unable to comment in the manner you have suggested.

Enclosed is some material I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely,  
J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

See note & enclosures next page

Enclosures (5)

MAILED 6  
FEB 16 1962  
COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

JCF:rc

62 MAR 1 1962

TELETYPE UNIT

FD 16-3 48 PM '62

REC'D-READING ROOM

  
Enclosures

10-61 LEB Introduction

The Deadly Contest

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!


The Communist Party Line

"The Faith to be Free" (Criss Award)


NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

TRUE COPY

Please give me information about clergymen in the U. S. Some say that 7000 clergymen or about 30% of them belong to Communist fronts. Is these correct? Could you break them down as to denominations and regions. Are there any to your knowledge in S. C.? What do you think of the National Council of Churches? Why do you give out conflicting statements about this matter in your department.

Yours truly—  


gcj

  
Please give me information  
about clergy men in the U. S.  
Some say that 7000 clergy men  
or about 30% of them belong to  
Communist fronts. Is there  
correct? Could you break them  
down as to denominations and



regions. Are there any to your  
knowledge in S.C.? What do  
you think of the National  
Council of Churches?  
Why do you give out conflicting  
statements about this matter in  
your department.

Yours truly, [REDACTED]

1 - Mr. Smith

February 21, 1962

REC-12

100-50869-859

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated February 14, 1962, 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, organization or publication. Furthermore, a regulation of the Department of Justice prohibits the disclosure of information to other than appropriate agencies of the executive branch of the Federal Government. I am precluded, therefore, from commenting on the organization you mentioned. You should not infer, however, that we do or do not have information in our files concerning it.

I am enclosing some literature dealing with the subject of communism and religion which I hope will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures - 4

FBI-7021ICE  
REC'D-20071AVH

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FEB 21 10 30 AM '62  
WLS:bge

MAILED 20  
FEB 21 1962  
COMM-FBI

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE

MAR 5 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

The National Council of the Churches of Christ includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. We have not investigated this organization and our answer to correspondents concerning it have been to the effect that we do not evaluate organizations, publications or individuals. 100-50869

The following literature was sent to the correspondent.

1. "Red Goals and Christian Ideals."
2. "Time of Testing."
3. "Faith in God - Our Answer to Communism."
4. "Let's Fight Communist Sanely!"

February 14, 1962

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

Dear Sir:

The First Methodist Church of [REDACTED]  
needs your answer to a question which threatens  
to split the Church.

Our Adult Sunday School Class has been studying about  
the National Council of Churches. Out of this study  
have come charges and counter charges about the work  
of the N. C. C.

It is my belief that your answer to the following  
question will stop all of the debate that has been  
going on and allow us to get back to an even keel.

Is the National Council of Churches a primary source  
of or a front for action which is detrimental to the  
people or government of the United States?

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

33  
FEB 16 1962

REC-12 100-50869-859

13 FEB 16 1962

EX-113

2 52 611.95  
Baumgardner

ack 2/21/62  
W.S. Gage

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: February 14, 1962

FROM : R. W. Smith

SUBJECT:

BOOK REVIEW: A CHRISTIAN'S HANDBOOK ON COMMUNISM  
 PUBLISHED FOR COMMITTEE ON WORLD LITERACY AND  
 CHRISTIAN LITERATURE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
 CHURCHES  
 CENTRAL RESEARCH MATTER

The Book

Captioned book, reviewed by Central Research Section, was published for the Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. (NCCCA). This 1962 edition is a third and enlarged edition of a booklet first put out in 1952. It has not been officially sanctioned by the General Board of the NCCCA. There is no mention of the Director or the FBI.

The Purpose

This Handbook is designed for both American and foreign readers. In six chapters it seeks to examine communism in theory and practice and to point out the role of the Christian in combatting it.

The Theme

The Handbook makes the following points:

1. Economic exploitation and bitter social injustice afford communism a fertile breeding ground.
2. Marxist theory is refuted by subsequent history.
3. The communist regimes have a disregard for the rights of individuals.

JEK:bbp

(11)

1 - Mr. Mohr

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - Mr. Butler

1 - Mr. Morrell

1 - Mr. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Smith

1 - Miss Butler

1 - Section tickler

1 - 62-46855

50 FEB 28 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962

FEB 20 1962



Memo Smith to Sullivan

Re: BOOK REVIEW: A CHRISTIAN'S HANDBOOK ON COMMUNISM

4. Atheism is a part of communism.
5. Communism can be fought by preaching Christianity.
6. The church has a clear directive for action in community and national life.

#### Possible Controversial Issues

The Handbook does an objective and effective job of refuting communist theory and exposing communist tactics. There are some minor errors such as attributing the theory of historical materialism to Hegel as well as to Marx and stating that communists campaigned for peace with fascism in order to unleash World War II. In discussing communism in practice in Russia, the disadvantages are shown to outweigh the accomplishments. However, if the accomplishments listed, for example bringing the problem of unemployment under control, are taken out of context the material could be used effectively by opponents of the NCCCA.

We know that some members of the NCCCA, for whatever reasons, have been identified with communist fronts. An attempt is made to justify this and blame communist tactics. Further, it is asserted that "In order to put moderately liberal people into a bad light with conservative groups, Communists often identify themselves with them, get them labeled 'red' or at least 'pink,' and so create distrust and confusion."

It is also asserted that about three-fourths of the sponsors of communist-led organizations are "unsuspecting people of good reputation asked to lend their names as sponsors of some worthy cause." No effort is made to show the need to learn the nature of an organization before sponsoring it.

While stating that no argument is made for or against any form of social or economic organization, producers and consumers cooperatives are presented in a favorable light. On the other hand, while condemning Marxism for glorifying science and denying God, the free enterprise system is said to encourage an attitude of worshipping science and denying God's Providence.

By urging support of the United Nations and promoting social action programs, the NCCCA may be giving ammunition to its theological opponents.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

*[Handwritten initials: S, J, V, and others]*

**Mr. Simpson**

REC-33

EX - 107

**I have received your letter dated February 10, 1962.**

Although I would like to be of assistance, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and its jurisdiction and responsibilities 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; however, you should not infer that our files do or do not contain information concerning it.

There is enclosed some material distributed by the FBI concerning the menace of communism.

**Sincerely yours,**

**J. Edgar Hoover**

**John Edgar Hoover**  
**Director**

MAILED 8  
FEB 16 1962  
COMM-FBI

ENCLOSURES - 8

FBI - JUSTICE SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO  
REC'D - 207714W

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**RDS: bgc**  
**(3)**

63 FEB 26 1962  
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

The National Council of the Churches of Christ has not been investigated by the Bureau. Its membership allegedly includes most of the major religious denominations in the United States. We receive numerous inquiries concerning it.

The following literature was furnished to the correspondent.

1. "The Faith to be Free."
2. "The Communist Party Line."
3. "Let's Fight Communism Sanely!"
4. "Time of Testing."
5. Director's statement 4/17/61 re Internal Security.

[REDACTED]  
Feb. 10, 1962

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

Dear Sir:

I am on the Social Concern Committee of  
the [REDACTED] Methodist Church, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We are studying the subject of  
Communism in the National Council of Churches.  
Please send me available information about  
this subject at your disposal. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]

REC-33

EX-107

100-50869-857

22 FEB 20 1962

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BOM INLET DIA  
REC.D

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*158 13 1965*

*all 9/14/62 encl 3*  
*205179C*

February 18, 1962

**REC- 22**

gml 100-30869-856

no 8-2

**EX-101**

Dear

I have received your letter dated February 7, 1962.

While I would like to be of service 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; however, you should not infer that our files do or do not contain information concerning it.

There is enclosed some material available for distribution by the FBI concerning the menace of communism.

Sincerely yours,

**J. Edgar Hoover**

**John Edgar Hoover**  
**Director**

MAILED 8  
FEB 16 1962  
COMM-FBI

**Enclosures (5)**

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

12. 2. 1. Will Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondents and no derogatory information relative to the United Council of Church Women. (94-1-32501)

HELHOFF DR. SKELOW, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

**RDS : p**

68<sup>3</sup> FEB 26 1962

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



NOTE ON YELLOW:

We have not investigated the National Council of the Churches of Christ; however, we receive numerous inquiries concerning this organization. Its membership represents most of the major church organizations in the United States.

The following material was sent to the correspondent:

1. "The Communist Party Line."
2. "The Faith to be Free."
3. "Let's Fight Communism Sanely!"
4. "The Deadly Contest."
5. "Time of Testing."

February 7, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I realize that you are a very busy man, and I hesitate to impose upon your time; but I am deeply disturbed and since you are one of the very few men in this country whose image has, it seems to me, remained completely untarnished over the years, I feel constrained to write for your advise.

Let me begin by explaining something of the kind of person I am so that you will not think I am some kind of crack pot. I am one of the "little people" in this country. I have never done anything particularly outstanding, and, frankly, I don't ever expect to. And that's allright with me. But I like to think that in my own plugging way, I am part of the "backbone" of this country too. My loyalties are fierce and firm. I believe in God. I believe a woman's place is in the home, but I'm not in mine very much anymore, because I also believe in Sunday School and the P.T.A. and Girl Scouts and a few dozen other things. And I believe somebody has to work to keep these things going and it might as well be people like me.

Now, for the problem. Since I am a "believer" in Causes, I allowed my name to be put up for President of the United Council of Church Women in our small town. As you know, this organization is connected with the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Now comes all the smear and mud-slinging and charges and counter-charges and one group of ladies withdrew from the group. Our town has a population of about 5000. It is predominately Catholic since we are so close to New Orleans. We just cannot afford, as Protestants, to be disunited. With regard to staying in the Council, I feel that if it is a good organization which has been deliberately infiltrated by Communists, we would be doing our country a disservice to pull out and let the Communists have it. I'd rather stay in and fight. If, on the other hand, the National Council is so riddled with Communists as to be dangerous to America, I want to get out -- and NOW. I have read so much material on both sides that I am completely confused. May I put you on the spot? What do YOU think? Please believe me to be completely sincere when I tell you that I want to do what is plain old-fashioned RIGHT, but I don't know anymore what Right is in this case. Can you help me?

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours very truly,

HOW INLET DIA  
REC'D

EX 101

FILED  
FEB 12 1962

REC-72 100-50869.856

16 FEB 1962

1 - Mr. Simpson

February 15, 1962

EX-116

100-50869-855

20  
8-1

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated February 9, 1962.

Although I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency and its jurisdiction and responsibilities 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. However, you should not infer that our files do or do not contain information concerning it.

There is enclosed some material available for distribution by the FBI relating to the subject of communism.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5  
FEB 16 1962  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures - 4  
NOTE ON YELLOW:

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent. The National Council of the Churches of Christ has not been investigated by the Bureau. It consists of representatives of all major Christian churches in this country. We receive numerous inquiries concerning it.

(3) NOTE ON YELLOW CONTINUED PAGE TWO

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FEB 26 1962

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW CONTINUED:

[REDACTED]

The following literature was furnished to the correspondent:

- (1) "The Faith to be Free"
- (2) "The Communist Party Line"
- (3) "Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!"
- (4) "Time of Testing"



TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Febr. 9, 1962

John Edgar Hoover,  
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir,

Do you know anything about the National Council of Churches as to what kind of an organization they are as to whether or not they have communist officers. I was reading a book written by Billy Hargis he tells about it that they are.

If you have any information on it as to whether or not there is communism in the N.C.C. I would appreciate it if you would send me some or tell me where to get it. I will be willing to pay for it. Thank you very much for the work you are doing for our country.

Respectfully yours

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY



[REDACTED]  
Feb. 9, 1962  
John Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D.C.

National Council of Churches

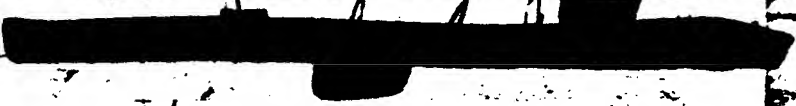
Dear Sir,

Do you know anything about the National Council of Churches as to what kind of an organization they are as to whether or not they have Communist officers. I was reading a book written by Billy Hargis he tells about it that they are.

If you have any information on it as to whether or not there is Communism in

ack (enc-4) 2-15-62 AOS:clt

the N. C. C. I would  
appreciate it if you  
would send me some or  
tell me where to get it. I  
will be willing to pay for  
it. Thank you very  
much for the work you  
are doing for our Country.  
Respectfully yours



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

Robert F. Campbell, EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR  
 EDITORIAL PAGE STAFF: H. Clay Ferree, Frances B. Griffin,  
 Howard L. Myers, Romulus T. Weatherman, Lloyd Preslar.

## Looking Communism in the Eye

THE National Council of Churches has published a new study booklet which will be helpful to those who are concerned about communism. Entitled *A Christian's Handbook on Communism*, the booklet's arguments are couched primarily, of course, in the terminology and principles of Protestant Christianity. Most of the analyses, however, would be equally meaningful to all Americans.

The handbook is valuable most of all, perhaps, because it contains no smoke-screen, no traces of blind hysteria. The authors were strong enough in their own faith to be able to face communism forthrightly and confidently. They were willing to give communism its due. They realized that the American is best able to combat an alien system when he understands it fully. They realize also that so far as communism is concerned, the condemning features of the system stand out most clearly when they are contrasted against its deceitful strong points. For example:

"Much has been accomplished in the U.S.S.R. and other Communist countries, and credit must be given to those who have improved conditions. Gains, however, must always be balanced against losses."

And many of the "losses" are listed—the loss of brotherhood among Communists, which is accompanied by a hatred of and

opposition to all non-Communist systems and thereby fosters world tensions; the totalitarian techniques and new imperialism; and, above all, the Communist system's total disregard for the individual.

Too many opponents of communism have missed the mark in their campaigns because they have failed to understand communism's strong points. The National Council's booklet is not so blind. "The great appeal of communism to people of high ideals," it says, "is that it proposes a prompt and vigorous remedy for some of the worst evils in modern society."

The booklet contains some good advice for American Christians who would fight communism. It tells them to apply the force of their own consciences to the ills of society and to develop strength in Christian love and in the fellowship of the church and the community.

The strongest point in the Handbook is its indictment of communism as a force which, despite its pretenses, makes the individual a tool who has no need for personal values of his own and who deserves no respect as an individual. Christians, the booklet says, "realize that any system, whatever its slogans or outward program, that denies God and the dignity and worth of all his children leads the Christian only into a dead-end street."

WINSTON SALEM JOURNAL  
 WINSTON SALEM, N. C.  
 2-11-62

Re: COMMUNIST MATTERS

*FAS*  
*H. H. H. H. H.*

*File 100-50869*

100-50869-

NOT RECORDED

48 FEB 23 1962

61 FEB 26 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 2-13-62

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: HONORABLE L. MENDEL RIVERS (D-S. C.)  
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR'S VIEWS ON NATIONAL  
 COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

By letter of February 8th, Congressman Rivers asked the Director to advise him if the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) or its antecedent, the Federal Council of Churches, has ever at any time been infiltrated with communism. He also asked whether the loyalty to this Nation of any of the members of NCCC had ever been questioned by the FBI. Mr. Rivers said he had been supplied with quite a bit of data by the old Dies Committee and the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He stated his request is based on the fact that he is presently preparing a speech on the history of NCCC and that he plans to reflect Mr. Hoover's views of the organization in it.

The Bureau has had a very cordial relationship with Congressman Rivers over the years. He is a long-time friend of the FBI and has supported it on many occasions and has often voiced his admiration of the Director; although he has made many bitter comments about the Department of Justice as a result of his opposition to its work in the field of civil rights. The 3-22-61 issue of the "Congressional Record" indicated Rivers spoke in support of the John Birch Society.

For a number of years allegations have been made by a great number of people, including some clergymen, that NCCC, which includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the Nation, has been infiltrated by communists. Although the FBI has never conducted an investigation of the organization, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, to subvert it. This has been done through our over-all investigations of the Party and its endeavors to infiltrate all segments of our society. From the information developed, it does not appear that the communists are dictating the policies of NCCC.

- 1 - M. A. Jones
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

HHA:cfm

(5)

58 MAR 1 1962

1100-50869  
NOT RECORDED

10 FEB 28 1962

XEROX

FEB 28 1962

FEB 26 1962

ORIGINAL FILE IN 62-5978-5

Morrell to DeLoach memo

OBSERVATIONS:

The outspoken views of some of the leading members of NCCC generated a nation-wide controversy and resulted in thousands of letters to the FBI asking about the status of the organization. You will recall that, in early 1960, the Air Force Training Manual alleged NCCC was communist dominated and this added fuel to the fires. Claims have also been made that 30 of the 95 individuals who worked on the revised standard version of the Bible were members of numerous communist front groups. Hardly a day passes without the Director being asked to verify that NCCC is being run by communists.

Mr. Rivers is very careful to give no indication as to his feelings with respect to NCCC. It is felt, however, that neither the Director nor the Bureau has anything to gain by making any statements pro or con for the end result will be the placing of both in the middle of another fierce battle of accusations, condemnations, charges and countercharges. Too, Mr. Rivers' request would entail voluminous research as there have been a horde of members since the founding of the organization.

It is believed that some one in your office should contact Congressman Rivers and explain to him that while the Director would like to be of service to him, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization.

RECOMMENDATION:

That some one in your office personally contact Congressman Rivers, cordially acknowledge receipt of his letter and explain that while the Director would like to be of service to him, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization.

*gpc*  
*Handled with Adm Asst. White 2/15/62*  
*I will handle - J-1.3*  
*2/15/62*



February 6, 1962

REC-16  
EX-105  
100-50869-854-27

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of January 31, 1962, with enclosures, and it was certainly good of you to furnish me copies of your correspondence with Reverend Kelley.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

FEB 6 1 30 PM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

NOTE: [REDACTED] is on the Special Correspondents' List. Her letter to Reverend Kelley attacked the National Council of Churches for their stand on the San Francisco riots of May, 1960. [REDACTED] had previously furnished a copy of her letter to Reverend Kelley of 1-11-62 which was acknowledged on 1-23-62. She enclosed a copy of Reverend Kelley's reply to her letter which stated that the communists should not be given credit for having the skill and subtlety to cause the San Francisco riots. Reverend Kelley also contended that if the results were actually caused by "trained Communist agitators" why haven't they been inflicted. [REDACTED]

MAILED 5  
FEB 6 - 1962  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

EST BLR:kiv

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

FEB 14 1962

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

DEC 10

*Handwritten initials and notes*

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

EX-115

REC-45

February 6, 1962

100 50869 - 853

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of January 30th, and want to thank you for your kind remark relative to my efforts as Director of the FBI.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I am unable to comment in the manner you have suggested.

In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including the field of religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations. I would like to emphasize, however, that churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions, and we must remain alert to any attempts to replace our national traditions with the atheistic philosophy of communism.

Enclosed is some material on the general topic of communism you may like to read.

Sincerely yours, FEB 8 3 22 PM '62

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 5

FEB 6 - 1962

COMM-FBI

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FBI

FEB 1 3 15 PM '62

Enclosures (5)

(ENCLOSURES &amp; NOTE NEXT PAGE)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JCF:rjg (3)

REC'D-READING ROOM

FEB 6 3 22 PM '62

[REDACTED]

Faith In God--Our Answer To Communism  
The Deadly Contest  
10-61 LEB Introduction  
Let's Fight Communism Sanely  
The Faith To Be Free--Criss Award Speech, 12-7-61

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

Jan. 30, 1962

J. Edgar Hoover  
F. B. I.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

*① National Council  
of Churches*

I am a Methodist minister and pastor of The Methodist Church here in [REDACTED]

I am quite concerned over the accusations that some of my people make concerning ministers of our own denomination and also concerning the National Council of Churches in Christ of America.

Some of them will not support their church as they should because they feel since their church is a Methodist Church and it belongs to the National Council of Churches in Christ of America, they feel the leadership of it is Communist influenced.

I would like to know for my own personal benefit and for the benefit of my people and I ask you because of your position in the F.B.I. I congratulate you for the fine work you are doing for our country. I would appreciate any information that would help to educate of the truth.

Sincerely yours:

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson   |  |
| Mr. Belmont  |  |
| Mr. Mohr     |  |
| Mr. Casper   |  |
| Mr. Callahan |  |
| Mr. Conrad   |  |
| Mr. DeLoach  |  |
| Mr. Evans    |  |
| Mr. Malone   |  |
| Mr. Rosen    |  |
| Mr. Sullivan |  |
| Mr. Tavel    |  |
| Mr. Trotter  |  |
| Tele. Room   |  |
| Mr. Ingram   |  |
| Miss Gandy   |  |

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F. B. I.  
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oh  
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F.M.

FEB 5 15 22 PM '62  
REC'D

F. B. I.  
REC'D DE LOACH

FEB 7 10 10 AM '62  
FEB 7 1962

100-50869-853



January 23, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I read your letter to the editor of the Charleston Evening Post which appeared January 22. I am enclosing a clipping from the Evening Post which appeared, as you see, several days earlier.

For some time now the clergy, and others, in this area have been subjected to embarrassment because we have dared to speak out in defense of the National Council of Churches - and in defense of our Bishops and Theological professors some of whom are leaders and spokesmen for the NCC. Just as we thought the hysteria was dying down, Mr. Philbrick appears to start it up again.

I am aware that this is a free country and any American has the right to suspect or accuse whomever he chooses - for all I know, Mr. Philbrick is quite sincere in saying he thinks the NCC is "being infiltrated by Communists." But the subtle thing about this is, in the minds of a host of people he says this with the authority of the FBI, and J. Edgar Hoover in particular. In fact, while I know you have warned not only against Communism but against the dangers of misguided anti-communism, your name has been used repeatedly in attacks against liberal and loyal Americans.

My request is simple: Could you write the Editor again and simply say that Mr. Philbrick does not now have any connection with the FBI, and that opinions about the NCC's being infiltrated by Communists are the opinions of one individual only?

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina, and especially the Diocese, is undergoing unnecessary stress and strain, and I think we deserve some support from your Bureau against the smear tactics of men like Mr. Carl McIntire and Mr. Philbrick. We don't ask much.

Yours very truly,

ENCLOSURE

774 SE 4 58 611 .PS

E. B. T.

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

67 FEB 12 1962

5 FEB 5 1962

8/HHA.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

JAN 25 1962

EXP. 100-5869-31

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: January 26, 1962

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: DR. CHARLES POLING, D.D.  
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CENTRAL RESEARCH MATTER

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Synopsis

Memorandum 1/9/62 in captioned matter advised of efforts to authenticate for the Director a quotation used by Dr. Poling. He claimed officials of National Council of Churches and World Council of Churches met in Nybrok, Denmark, 1959, and issued statement recommending Christians surrender on enemy's terms to avoid all-out nuclear war. Initial efforts to verify unsuccessful, but we now have answers. Meeting took place in Nyborg (not Nybrok) in 1958 (not 1959). Quote appeared in study document prepared by 14-man subcommittee created to assess problem of prevention of war. Upon presentation to Central Committee of World Council of Churches by subcommittee, study document was sharply criticized and exception was taken to statement concerning surrender. Document was distributed among member churches for continuing study with specific statement that it was not a statement of official policy. Upon culmination of study, World Council of Churches issued revised report in 1961 in which it specifically rejected proposition that Christians should surrender on enemy's terms. Thus, Dr. Poling's use of material is misleading, questionable, and suspect as to purpose.

## RECOMMENDATION:

For the information of the Director.

## Details

By memorandum dated 1/9/62 in captioned matter you were advised of our efforts to authenticate for the Director a quotation which appeared in an article by Dr. Poling [redacted] entitled "The National Council of Churches." Dr. Poling

## Enclosures

CDB:maj

- (8)  
1 - Mr. Belmont 1 - Mr. Mohr 1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Mr. Sullivan  
1 - Mr. J. M. Sizoo 1 - Mr. Smith 1 - Section

100-50867-  
NOT RECORDED  
141 FEB 1 1962

FEB 1 1962

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL RESEARCH

58 FEB 8 1962

Memo Sullivan to Belmont  
Re: Dr. Charles Poling, D.D.  
United Presbyterian Church

claimed that officers of the National Council of Churches (NCC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC) had met in Nybrok, Denmark, in August, 1959, and had issued a report containing the statement that "If all-out war should occur, Christians should urge a cease fire, if necessary on the enemy's terms, and resort to non-violent resistance." You will recall that we located a reference to the quotation in the Christian Century issue of 5/13/59 but found no reference to an NCC or WCC meeting in a place called Nybrok in 1959. You were advised that we would follow up on this to try and pin it down.

We had the New York office make some discreet inquiries into the matter, and we have the answers. In the first place, Dr. Poling was incorrect in stating that the meeting occurred in Nybrok, Denmark, in August, 1959. As we had previously noted, there is no such place. The meeting occurred in Nyborg, Denmark, in August, 1958. In the second place, Poling's use of the quotation making it appear that the officials of the NCC and the WCC had sanctioned surrender on the enemy's terms rather than risk an all-out atomic war was not only a distortion of the true facts but was actually contradictory to the facts.

The facts are these. In 1955, the Central Committee of the WCC named a 14-man subcommittee to study the problem: "Christians and the Prevention of War in an Atomic Age." The Subcommittee, or Commission as it was called, met three times, in 1956, 1957, and 1958. At its last meeting, it drew up a Provisional Study Document which it presented to the Central Committee of the WCC at its 1958 meeting.

The New York office succeeded in discreetly obtaining a copy of the Provisional Study Document, which is attached hereto. On page 30, it contains the portion quoted by Dr. Poling, namely: "...Christians should openly declare that the all out use of these weapons should never be resorted to. Moreover, that Christians must oppose all policies which give evidence of leading to all out war. Finally, if all out war should occur, Christians should urge a cease fire, if necessary on the enemy's terms, and resort to non-violent resistance."

But Dr. Poling left out some very pertinent points in using the quotation. On page 29a of the Study, for example, the Commission itself frankly admitted that urging a cease fire on the enemy's terms was by no means suggested as an appropriate solution of the crisis of an all out war. It added that "Nobody should be under the illusion that non-violent resistance gives us a guarantee to preserve

Memo Sullivan to Belmont  
Re: Dr. Charles Poling, D.D.  
United Presbyterian Church

our freedom; non-violent resistance or non-resistance may mean decades of tyranny and suffering."

In addition, the Central Committee of the WCC took sharp exception to the recommendations contained in the Study. The Central Committee submitted a "Critique" of the Study (pages 37-39) outlining "The difficulties the document raises in our minds." It questioned whether the Study represented too great a departure from the original intention, and said that portions were unevenly worked out, that other portions were confusing and unclear, that some of the terminology was inappropriate, that it was not well drafted, that it did not adequately discuss some issues, and that it omitted others.

In specific reference to the statement in the Study which Dr. Poling later quoted, the Central Committee "Critique" reads:

"...Without entering upon this debate fully, we wish simply to question two proposals - that in certain circumstances surrender on the enemy's terms should be prepared, and secondly that a nation is not permitted to be the first to use a megaton weapon."

The Central Committee added that the 14-man study group had, in effect, ignored the ethical requirements and the political risks involved. Adopting such a position, the Central Committee stated, would actually destroy the balance of deterrence that does, in fact, inhibit war-making.

It was finally agreed at the 1958 meeting that the Provisional Study Document would be made available to member churches of the WCC to stimulate reflection and discussion on the issues involved. However, the Central Committee first took the precautionary step of including a statement on the cover of the document explaining what its purpose was and adding that it was a "first step in a continuing study process." In bold type, it stressed the fact that: "No point here expressed is to be understood as an official view of the World Council of Churches. This document is in no sense a statement of World Council policy."

In the light of these facts, Dr. Poling's use of the quotation is not only misleading and questionable, but downright suspect as to his purpose.



Memo Sullivan to Belmont  
Re: Dr. Charles Poling, D. D.  
United Presbyterian Church

Finally, Dr. Poling failed to mention that, in 1961, the WCC published a revised report which was a culmination of the continuing study in which it stated its official position in regard to the question whether or not a cease fire should be accepted on the enemy's terms. The report is entitled "Christians and the Prevention of War in an Atomic Age," a copy of which is enclosed. In reference to this question, the WCC states on page 37 that its own answer to the question in "No."

Along with the Provisional Study Document and the 1961 WCC report, there is also enclosed for future reference a full report of the minutes and reports of the 1958 WCC meeting.



EX-115

100-50869-852

January 17, 1962

JAN 17 3 50 PM '62

REC'D-READING ROOM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of January 10th has been received, and I want you to know your expression of confidence in the work of this Bureau is indeed appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In addition, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiries. Regrettably, no suggestions come to mind as to where the information you seek may be secured. As a matter of policy, I am unable to recommend any publications other than those prepared by this Bureau or me.

I would like to point out that our churches have been and will continue to be important targets in the over-all communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life. The communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, and patriotic Americans must continue to take a firm stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. But this opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must always be kept within the due process of law.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE AND encs. next page.

Tolson  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Malone  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Ingram  
Gandy

ENCLOSURE

1962  
EFT:nlb (3)

Encs.

12-7-51 Director's Speech

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

4-17-61 Internal Security Statement

Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

Series from "Christianity Today" The Communist Menace

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

SEP 11 2 00 PM '65

REC'D MAIL ROOM  
FBI

[REDACTED]  
Jan. 10, 1962

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

Dear Sirs:

I am pastor of a Congregational Christian Church (Now, The United Church of Christ). Our churches are part of the National Council of Churches. For quite a long time now our people have been reading articles which accuse the NCC of being Communist controlled, or at least of having Communistic leanings. But supposedly reliable people give such conflicting reports concerning this issue that we do not know what to believe!!

In your books and articles you warn against false accusation, but also warn us of the subtility of Communists. Can you give me information concerning the NCC? Or could you tell me where I can get RELIABLE information?? Does the FBI publish periodicals giving definite information about these things? I have The Un-American Activities Comm. Publications. What other publications should a minister have?

I am especially interested in knowing the truth about the NCC.

Thank you very much for all you have done and are doing for our country.

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]

EX-115

REC-79

100-50869-852

80 JAN 30 1962

72 15

03 34.05

FBI

REC-1088 10882

CORRESPONDENCE

# FBI

**Date:** 1/23/62

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

(Type in plain text or code)

**Via AIRTEL**

**(Priority or Method of Mailing)**

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
PERSONAL ATTENTION: INSPECTOR J. A. SIZOO  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK  
SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES;  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Retelcal to Mr. SIZOO from ASAC RONEY, New York,  
today.

Enclosed are one copy each of three booklets captioned as follows:

# "Christians and the Prevention of War in An Atomic Age"

"Minutes and Reports of the Eleventh Meeting  
of the Central Committee, Nyborg Strand,  
Denmark, August 21-29, 1958"

"A Provisional Study Document on 'Christians  
and the Prevention of War in an Atomic Age  
A Theological Discussion'"

Paper "flags" have been inserted in these booklets at pages which will be of particular pertinence. These booklets may be retained by the Bureau.

3 - Bureau (Encls 3)  
1 - New York (SURE)

**DER:MEW**

5

Approved:

68 FEB 5 1962 Special Agent in Charge

memo Sullivan La Belmont  
1/26/62 re "Dr. Charles S  
Poling, D.D. LPI of the  
0 JAN 25 1962



100-50869-849

REC-4

January 26, 1962

EX-107

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of January 22nd has been received, and the thought prompting you to write is appreciated.

With respect to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In this connection, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of the foregoing, I want to assure you that no representative of this Bureau has made any statement concerning the group you mentioned.

Enclosed is some material on the general topic of communism you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 20  
JAN 26 1962  
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (4)

The Deadly Contest  
The Faith To Be Free--Criss Award Speech, 12-7-61  
The Communist Party Line  
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: See next page.

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

JCF: [REDACTED]  
50 FEB 5 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JAN 26 4 06 PM '62  
REC'D-READING ROOM

JAN 26 2 15 PM '62  
REC'D- [REDACTED]

[Handwritten signatures and initials]



[REDACTED]

**NOTE:** Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Jan 22 1962

Dear Mr. Hoover

There have been some real nasty Editorials and Public Forum letters in our Lebanon Daily News stating they can prove that members of the National Council of Church are connected with the communists and that people and churches who support the N.C.C. are also aiding and helping the commies. A year ago I talked to a member of the N.C.C. and I asked him if this is true. He said there is no one on the N.C.C. who is connected with the Communists That the F.B.I. had investigated and found nothing. Some Church people in our area are terribly opposed to helping or even going to a church who belongs to the Local Council of Churches. So this is why I would like a statement from you. Did you investigate, and did you find any communist on the N.C.C. ?

Thank you

/s/ [REDACTED]

*True copy  
1-25-62 mmh  
JCF: [unclear] 1-26-62  
[unclear]*

907

208-15-1000000

Jan 22 1962

Dear Mrs. Homer

+ There have been some real nasty Editorials and Public Forum letters in our Lebanon Daily news stating they can prove that members of the National Council of Church are connected with the communists and that people and churches who support the N.C.C. are also aiding and helping the communies. A year ago I talked to a member of the N.C.C. and I asked him if this is true. He said there is no one on the N.C.C. who is connected with the communists. That the F.B.I. had investigated and found nothing. Some Church people in my area are terribly opposed to helping or going to a church who belongs to the Local Council of Churches. So this is

Feb 1-26-62

J.C.F. - B20/101

I.T.C. - 12562

Thank you - Fred

January 24, 1962

REC-52

100-50869-848

EX-113

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of January 13th has been received, and the interest prompting your communication is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments as to 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 either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

In connection with your discussion, I would like to point out that our churches have been and will continue to be important targets in the over-all communist program of endeavoring to infiltrate our established institutions, and we must remain alert to such efforts to subvert our way of life. The communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, and patriotic Americans must continue to take a firm stand against communism and combat it wherever possible. But this opposition to communism must be careful, constructive and positive, and it must always be kept within the due process of law.

I am enclosing some material dealing with the general subject of communism you may like to read. You may also wish to refer to my book, "Masters of Deceit," which was written in the hope that it would become a primer for those interested in learning the true nature and objectives of communism. You will probably be able to obtain a copy of it at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE & encs. next page.

MAILED 20  
JAN 24 1962  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

68 JAN 31 1962

ENCLOSURES (5) TELETYPE UNIT  
EFT:JPP (3)



NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

Encs.

12-7-61 Director's Speech (*Cross award speech*)

God & Country or Communism

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion

Series from "Christianity Today" The Communist Menace

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
January 13, 1962

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

Dear Sir,

I am a teen-ager attending [REDACTED] and a matter has recently come to my attention that I would like some information on. I received some literature from another teen-ager in our High School put out by various people concerning the National Council of Churches. The literature inferred that certain leaders of this council are Communist Party members, and that the organization itself is promoting communistic doctrines.

Needless to say, the information was quite shocking to me and to many other Christian young people in our community. We refuse to uphold any organization that follows the doctrines put out from communist headquarters in Moscow, but we do not wish to refuse anything on mere hearsay evidence, or on the advice of a fanatic either. Thus, a letter to you was in order.

Would you please send us information on this matter? If this is not possible, I would appreciate addresses that could help me. This is quite important to me, as it involves a serious breach of faith in an organization which carries the name of the church.

Thank you for your time and kind attention.

Sincerely,

8 JAN 25 1962

[REDACTED]  
CORRESPONDENCE

Act: 1-24-62

EFT: gip

TC

1-22-62 gip

[REDACTED]  
January 13, 1962

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

Dear Sir,

I am a teen-ager attending [REDACTED] and a matter has recently come to my attention that I would like some information on. I received some literature from another teen-ager in our high school put out by various people concerning the National Council of Churches. The literature inferred that certain leaders of this council are Communist Party members, and that the organization itself is promoting communistic doctrines.

ITC  
1-22-62 Needless to say, the information was quite shocking to me and to many other Christian young people in our community. We refuse to uphold any organization that follows the doctrines put out from Communist headquarters.

ml  
Ans: 1-24-62 EFT:ms

CORRESPONDENCE

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Would you please send us information on this matter? If this is not possible, I would appreciate addresses that could help me. This is quite important to me, as it involves a serious breach of faith in an organization which carries the name of the church.

Thank you for your time and kind attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

APR 13 1965

FBI

REC'D COMM & TOURS



FBI

Date: 1/18/62

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

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, NEW YORK  
 SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
 WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

Retelcal Inspector SIZOO to ASAC D. E. RONEY, New York,  
 1/18/62.

Attached is the original of a memorandum prepared in the NYO dated 1/18/62, captioned, "ARTICLE BY DR. CHARLES S. POLING, D.D., UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A., ENTITLED, 'THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES,' WHICH APPEARED IN 'THE SPEARHEAD,' WICHITA, KANSAS, DECEMBER, 1961, PAGE 4."

As a result of a pretext inquiry made by Agents of the NYO at the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES in New York City, it was ascertained that the meeting of a commission of the WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES actually took place in Nyborg, Denmark, in August, 1958, not Nybrok, Denmark, in August, 1959. According to accounts of the proceedings of this commission as reported by the "New York Times" newspaper, it would appear that a statement was made by this commission as quoted in "The Spearhead." However, the manner in which the quotation is set forth in "The Spearhead" would indicate that this represents an official position or policy of the WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES whereas the report of the "New York Times" indicates that this is only a partial statement of a sub-commission of the WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES and is not in accord with the final statement issued by the commission.

3 - Bureau (ENCLOSURE)

1 - New York

DER:MEW

(5)

REC-12

801-13

JAN 20 1962

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

57 FEB 1

1962

100-231551-100  
 ENCL. COPY AND COPY OF ENCL. FILED IN



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO

ASAC DONALD E. RONEY

DATE

1/18/62

FROM

SA JAMES P. HALLERON, #41

SUBJECT

ARTICLE BY DR. CHARLES S. POLING, D.D.  
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.  
ENTITLED, "THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES"  
WHICH APPEARED IN "THE SPEARHEAD"  
WICHITA, KANSAS, DECEMBER, 1961, PAGE 4

Article

Subject article refers to the following:

"In Nybrok, Denmark, August 23, 1959, when officers of the National and World Councils defined what Christians should do about the threat of atomic war: 'If all-out war should occur, Christians should urge a cease fire, if necessary on the enemy's terms, and resort to non-violent resistance.'"

A review of the "New York Times" newspaper for Sunday, 8/24/58, page 24, column 1, reflects the following article paraphrased:

Churches Accept Lesser Atom War. World Council Board Agrees to limited use but bars all-out employment. Article by WERNER WISKARI (Special to the "New York Times").

Nyborg, Denmark, 8/23. A special commission of the World Council of Churches has concluded after a three-year study that a Christian could in conscience agree to the use of atomic arms in a limited war.

But the commission declared in a report made public here tonight that "Christians should openly declare that the all-out use of these weapons should never be resorted to." What is more, the report added, Christians must oppose all policies giving evidence of leading to all-out conflict. But if such a war should break out, the report said, then they should urge a cease fire, if necessary on the enemy's terms.

JPH:MEW

(2) XEROX

JAN 30 1962  
AA UML

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-847

and resort to non-violent resistance.

This report entitled, "Christians and the Prevention of War in an Atomic Age," was presented to the World Councils Central Committee, now holding its annual meeting in this Danish coastal town. The meeting of representatives of Protestant, Anglican and Orthodox communions began Thursday and will continue through next Friday. It was emphasized at the meeting that the document was in no way a legal one or one giving a set of rules for the use of power. Rather, it was said, it was a report of a discussion lasting three years.

The study.....was intended as a means of trying to help member churches "come to grips with the extraordinary developments of society in Asia, Africa and Latin America and with their implication for the West."

The study of the prevention of war was prepared by a fourteen-man commission headed by SIR THOMAS MURRAY TAYLOR, Principal and Vice-Chancellor at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Included Rear Admiral SIR ANTHONY BUZZARD of ENGLAND London and one member of the United States, Dr. HENRY MARGENAN, Professor of Physics, Yale University. CONN.

The "New York Times" dated 8/28/58, page 11, column 3, reflects the following article paraphrased:

Churches Patience on Arms Curb Urged. Nyborg, Denmark, 8/27. The Central Committee of the World Council of Churches advised Christians today to avoid over-simplifying the question of disarmament and atomic tests.

The committee in a policy statement emphasized the importance of inspection and control if any nuclear weapons test ban or disarmament was to be ultimately successful. It welcomed the idea of suspensions of tests by the United States, the Soviet Union, and Great Britain, and added, "We must not

deceive ourselves by resting content with suspension for the subsequent steps in disarmament are at least as urgent and may well be more difficult."

A review of the several "New York Times" articles which referred to the general conference held in Nyborg reflected that the fourteen-man (sub) commission studied for a three or more year period and submitted their findings to the World Council as a whole for declarative or definitive statements. The study by the commission had for its purpose a study of the prevention of war.

The review of the "New York Times" article for 8/24/58 does include <sup>in substance</sup> the quotation noted marginally on page two of the Verifax copy. The quotation is, "If all-out war should occur, Christians should urge a cease fire, if necessary on the enemy's terms, and resort to non-violent resistance." However, the account appearing in Dr. POLING'S article differs from that appearing in the "New York Times" in that Dr. POLING'S article can give the impression that the statement within the quotes is a conclusion or definitive declaration of the World Council as a whole, whereas the "New York Times" article indicates that this quotation was only part of the sub-commission's findings which were given to the council as a whole for their consideration. It should be noted here that the New York Office has determined that the conferences in question, according to the "New York Times" articles were held in 1958 and not in 1959 as indicated in Dr. POLING'S article, and that the name of the town in Denmark is properly spelled "Nyborg."

The review of the "New York Times" articles indicated that the sub-commission had two general matters for study: (1) Concerning the use of atomic weapons, and (2) Concerning the position to be taken by Christians in the event of all-out war. The review of the articles disclosed a definitive statement by the Council as a whole with respect to the first matter only. No conclusions by the Council as a whole could be located in the review of the "New York Times" articles with respect to the second matter under study.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: 1-15-62

FROM : R. W. Smith *RS*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
REPORT ON "OPERATION ABOLITION"

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

Reference is made to the enclosed newspaper clipping from the Richmond News Leader concerning a report by the National Council of Churches (NCC) on the film "Operation Abolition." The clipping refers to a report published by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) entitled "The Truth About the Film 'Operation Abolition'" in which it was stated that the NCC report took a portion of material from "Communist Target--Youth" and quoted it out of context. The Director asked: "What about this?"

The portion of "Communist Target--Youth" involved is two paragraphs describing the setting in San Francisco when the 1960 HCUA hearings were announced. It points out that the HCUA had proposed to hold hearings in 1959 concerning communist activities among educators and that widespread opposition to the proposed hearings had arisen among teachers' groups, church organizations, civil liberties groups, student groups, and a few newspapers. Although the 1959 hearings were cancelled, a nucleus of these groups remained intact. When the 1960 hearings were announced, the Communist Party skillfully propagandized the idea that they were again aimed at teachers. The combination of the existing nucleus of these groups and communist propaganda resulted in a quick reactivation of them.

The NCC report referred to these two paragraphs, but left out the subheading "Party in Advantageous Position" and the first sentence of the first paragraph which read: "The proposed setting for the hearings placed the party in a particularly advantageous position for launching the attack." The NCC report emphasized only that early opposition to the HCUA had been noncommunist in nature and implied that the same was true of the 1960 opposition to the hearings.

Enclosure

CDB:lm

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - R. W. Smith
- 1 - Section tickler

50 MAR 5 1962

EX-105 REC-14 100-50869-846  
SEC. 1 - 702 LICKEN 53 IC 25 JAN 24 1962  
JAN 12 4 25 PM '62  
JAN 24 1962  
CENTRAL SEARCH



**Memo R. W. Smith to W. C. Sullivan**  
**RE: National Council of Churches**  
**Report on "Operation Abolition"**

As the enclosed newspaper article indicates, the HCUA rebuttal exposed the NCC's report on this point, correctly showing that the material had been used out of context.

Unfortunately, the HCUA erred equally in its rebuttal by going to the opposite extreme. In its report on the point it attempts to emphasize the Communist Party opposition and minimize the noncommunist opposition to the HCUA, stating that what really was meant in "Communist Target--Youth" was that the communists reactivated their own front groups. This clearly is in contradiction to what was said and obviously is a distorted interpretation of it.

The truth, then, is that both the NCC and the HCUA are wrong on the point. The former quoted out of context for the purpose of minimizing the role which communists played at the San Francisco riots. The latter distorted the meaning to stress the role which communists played at the riots. The incident is typical of the distortions which have been made by those who have engaged in the bitter battle about "Operation Abolition" and have attempted to use "Communist Target--Youth" to support their particular positions in the squabble.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**For information.**



|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Mr. Tolson   | ✓ |
| Mr. Belmont  | ✓ |
| Mr. Mohr     | ✓ |
| Mr. Callahan | ✓ |
| Mr. Conrad   | ✓ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | ✓ |
| Mr. Evans    | ✓ |
| Mr. Malone   | ✓ |
| Mr. Rosen    | ✓ |
| Mr. Sullivan | ✓ |
| Mr. Tavel    | ✓ |
| Mr. Trotter  | ✓ |
| Tele. Room   | ✓ |
| Mr. Ingram   | ✓ |
| Miss Gandy   | ✓ |

FILE  
JAN 10 1962

# The Committee Fights Back

On May 12-14, 1960, the House Un-American Activities Committee attempted to hold hearings in the San Francisco City Hall on Communist activities in the California area. The hearings were completely disrupted by a riotous mob, composed chiefly of college students demanding that the committee be abolished. Some weeks after the incident, the committee had a 45-minute motion picture film prepared from pictures taken at the time by San Francisco television stations. This film, "Operation Abolition," has been shown widely around the United States; it has itself become an issue of intense controversy.

The film is a shocker. Most Americans never knowingly have seen a real, live Communist in action; few Americans ever have witnessed a full-scale riot. Whatever its inconsequential inaccuracies may have been, the film vividly educates its viewers in the techniques of the Communist apparatus put to work in our own country. Here is the ugly, impassioned face of anarchy — an organized and well-planned attempt to overthrow an agency of the United States Government by force and violence.

To Communist sympathizers, and to woolly Liberals known as anti-anti-Communists, the film has proved entirely too successful. Last year they embarked upon a concerted effort to discredit "Operation Abolition" as a mass of "distortions." The Nation, the Reporter, the Washington Post, and the National Council of Churches have played significant parts in this effort, and it must be said that in many respects their campaign has achieved its purpose. "Operation Abolition" has been withdrawn by the Pentagon from exhibition to troops, and many persons, only vaguely aware of what the controversy is all about, have come to regard the film as suspect.

RICHMOND NEWS LEADER  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Date: JAN 8 1962  
Editor: JAMES J. KILPATRICK

AUTHOR:

RE:

RH FILE:

BU FILE:

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
JAN 15 1962  
E.B.T.

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-846

Last week the House Committee released an 80-page report, "The Truth About the Film 'Operation Abolition'." In our view, this report is an impressive and altogether convincing refutation of the charges made against the film. The Committee acknowledges that a few shots in the film are out of sequence, but persons who have seen the film will agree that these flaws are wholly immaterial in terms of the film as a whole.

The Committee's report is not entirely defensive. It carries an assault against the National Council of Churches for the NCC's 32-page pamphlet, "Operation Abolition: Some Facts and Some Comments." Persons who have tended to support the NCC may well be shocked by the House Committee's blunt charges of unethical and dishonest practices by a body that poses loftily as spokesman for more than 30 million Protestants. The Committee report says:

"The slanting of the National Council of Churches' document is obvious from the manner in which it has been put together. It opens with an almost two-page statement adopted by the NCC on Feb. 22, 1961—a statement which, without any justification what-

soever, makes vicious insinuations against the Committee. [The booklet continues with 30 pages of statements and editorials about the film, balanced 16-2 against the film and the House Committee; these are intended to present "some facts on which there seems to be no serious disagreement" and also comments by "responsible" publications and writers.] But some of the 'facts' in the National Council of Churches' report are not facts at all. They are falsehoods or misleading half-truths, and there is sharp disagreement concerning them... There would be nothing unfair or wrong in the NCC pamphlet's line-up against the committee and the film if the statements, editorials, columns, etc., quoted in the brochure, were completely truthful. In fact, however, every single one of these items contains either outright falsehoods, distortions of the truth, or subtle, unfounded insinuations against the committee and the film."

It is apparent, says the Committee report, that the NCC's booklet "is a thing but an objective or scholarly document." On the contrary, "It is obviously prejudiced and compiled to advance a certain view, while disclaiming any such objective."

The NCC booklet at one point quotes J. Edgar Hoover on certain opposition to the House Committee that arose in San Francisco in 1959. Says the NCC: "Mr. Hoover does not indicate that there was any subversive influence involved in this opposition in 1959." But the House Committee's report shows that the NCC's compilers lifted Hoover's quotation neatly out of context. Hoover was indeed talking about "the party." But the NCC left that sentence out.

The National Council says in its booklet that the Committee and its chairman, Congressman Francis Walter, have themselves "admitted that the film contains distortions." Says the Committee report: "This, of course, is completely untrue. Neither Mr. Walter nor any member of the committee staff has admitted 'distortions' in the film."

The Committee closes its rebuttal report by asserting, once more, that the San Francisco riots were deliberately planned and instigated by the Communist Party. Then the report adds this, and we leave it to supporters of the NCC and defenders of the cap and gown to think about:

"But was the party alone responsible? Would it have succeeded in fomenting violence without the help of the false, inflammatory statements of the professors and clergymen who had [publicized charges against the committee in letters to newspapers and through other media]? Perhaps it would have perhaps not. However, there can be no doubt but that these statements, signed primarily by non-Communists, played a major part in what has been described as the most successful Communist coup in the Bay Area in 25 years. The party owes a debt of gratitude to the professors and clergymen who helped it on this score."

What about this?

January 16, 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM

JAN 16 4 39 PM '62

FBI

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received the letter which you and [REDACTED] sent dated January 9th, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In addition, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested. I regret I am unable to make any suggestions as to where the information you seek can be obtained.

In view of the concern you expressed, I am enclosing some literature dealing with the general subject of communism. You may wish to consider my book, "Masters of Deceit," which was written in the hope that it would become a primer for those interested in learning the true nature and objectives of communism. You will probably be able to secure a copy of it at your local library.

MAILED 5

JAN 16 1962

COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (5)  
12-7-61 Director's Speech  
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism  
God & Country or Communism  
Communism the Bitter Enemy of Religion  
Series from "Christianity Today" The Communist Menace  
NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable record with [REDACTED]

EFT:pp (3)

[REDACTED]

January 9, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We have found the controversy surrounding the National Council of Churches an alarming and puzzling one. If our convictions are true, some of the most vocal members of the NCC are using their posts for political pronouncements which are more than just a little pink.

We have voiced our objections to the NCC and our own church's contribution to it and are ready to find a new church which does not support the NCC. But to help those in our present church find the truth about this subject, we are searching for any information available concerning the political activities of the NCC and its officers, leaders and prominent members.

Can you or your organization supply any documentation on this? If not, can you direct us to someone who can give us information on this subject?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

EX 100

100-50869-895

REC-8

JAN 17 1962

FBI

RECORDED

SEC. 10-1088 & 10892

CORRESPONDENCE

Act: 1-16-62  
EFT: jpp



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: January 9, 1962

FROM : R. W. Smith

SUBJECT: DR. CHARLES S. POLING, D.D.  
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA  
CENTRAL RESEARCH MATTER

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Tolson     |  |
| Belmont    |  |
| Mohr       |  |
| Callahan   |  |
| Conrad     |  |
| DeLoach    |  |
| Evans      |  |
| Malone     |  |
| Rosen      |  |
| Sullivan   |  |
| Tavel      |  |
| Trotter    |  |
| Tele. Room |  |
| Ingram     |  |
| Gandy      |  |

Re attached article by Dr. Poling entitled "The National Council of Churches" which contained an alleged quotation from the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC) concerning what Christians should do about the threat of atomic war. The Director asked: "Can we authenticate this quotation? H."

Exhaustive search for the source of the quotation was made at the Library of Congress and in the Bureau files. The only reference located concerning the quotation was an article in the Christian Century, issue of May 13, 1959, pp. 588-590. The Christian Century article presents the quotation as set forth in Dr. Poling's article and refers to it as coming from a study document still in preparation at that time by the World Council of Churches commission dealing with Christians and the prevention of war in an atomic age.

Dr. Poling attributes the quotation to a meeting of the officers of the NCC and the WCC in Nybrok, Denmark, August 23, 1959. A check of current atlases and other sources could not locate Nybrok although there is a Danish city Nyborg. No reference was found to such a meeting and it was noted that the annual meeting of the Central Committee of the WCC was held in Greece from August 19 through 27, 1959.

Bureau files show that inquiry has been made by a correspondent concerning the past allegations by Dr. Poling that the NCCC has "allied herself with communist fronts and advocated ideologies directly opposed to our free way of life."

Enclosure

REC-62

JMS:ma

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Section tickler
- 1 - J. M. Sizoo

ENCLOSURE

67 JAN 18 1962

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-5869-844



Memo Smith to Sullivan

Re: DR. CHARLES S. POLING, D.D.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA

The NCCC includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed the NCCC is communist controlled or influenced. It is noted that 27 of the 33 church group members of the NCCC are affiliated with the WCC. The WCC is allegedly composed of most of the Christian churches throughout the world except the Roman Catholic church and certain small sects. The Bureau has not investigated the NCCC or the WCC.

RECOMMENDATION:

For the information of the Director.

*S*  
*over*  
*get*  
*Wes*

ADDENDUM (1/10/62):

Through sources known to me in the American clergy, I will make a personal and discreet effort to find out about this quotation, and will advise the Director by memorandum as to the results of my inquiries.

W.C. Sullivan

*wrc*

*V*

*B*  
*7*

# THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

by  
Dr. Charles S. Poling, D.D.  
United Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

The answer now rests with the laymen. Our ministers have had abundant opportunity to lead in this crusade against the Godless forces of Communism and to part company with the National Council and World Council of Churches which, by the indisputable record have given aid and comfort to the atheist Communist conspiracy. Personally, I find it impossible to play on the same team with an organization that joins forces with Communism. Practically all of our National Council leaders shout to high-heaven that they hate Communism but their official pronouncements have them following the Communist line. The Communists are against the American Amendment--so is the National Council; the Communists are opposed to the Connally Reservation--so is the National Council; the Communists are eager to kill Selective Service--so is the National Council; the Communists want a ban of nuclear testing--so does the National Council; the Communists are against the Right to Work Laws--so is the National Council; the Communists have sought to discredit J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I.--the National Council joins them on this front; the Communists seek to abolish the American loyalty--security laws--so does the National Council; the Communists want recognition of Red China by the U.S. and her admission to a seat in the U.N.--so does the National Council. And knowing well that this nation slaughtered over thirty-million of her own people, gives millions of acres to the culture of the opium poppy with which to corrupt her own and the peoples

Note: Dr. Poling was a chaplain in World War One and Two, and has served forty-seven years as an active pastor. The statements following are extracted from Dr. Poling's: "An Expanded Statement." The complete statement may be obtained at 10¢ per copy, or \$3.00 per 100 copies from P. O. Box 5056, Phoenix, Arizona.

of the world, rather than convert this land to the raising of grain that her starving millions may be fed.) The Communist, (with rape and slaughter in his heart) pleads for peaceful coexistence--the National Council joins in this plea. There is more, much more, but is it necessary to document more?

We heartily agree with a resolution passed, May 16th, 1961, by the Session of the more than 64,000 member First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, California. "Pronouncements are made by the National Council on matters which are not religious but political, matters on which intelligent Christians have widely divergent views and opinions; particularly they have made pronouncements advocating precisely the things sought by the Communists--and in opposition to the movie 'Operation Abolition.'" For some reason this last has been banned by most of our Protestant churches. Is there something evil here? Is there something here that will make our people less Christian and less determined to defend our American way of life?

Seven ministers who were eye witnesses united in a statement as follows: "Inasmuch as the Communist conspiracy has launched a massive attempt to discredit this film, we ministers who were eye witnesses to this horrifying development locally, wish to certify that this film is a true and accurate representation of the activities of the hearings. The film is not 'doctored.' The sound-track is not distorted. The left-wing charge that the film is a forgery is a manifest lie. When Communism is breaching the wall of the U.S. of America, the last citadel of freedom, why

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

EX 100

ENCLOSURE

REC-62

100-50869-844

10 JAN 18 1962

RECEIVED  
Wichita, Kansas  
December 1961  
Page 4

more Smith's letter  
dated 4/9/62  
Jmd:may

Can we  
authenticate  
this quotation?

will ministers play patsy with the enemy? In Nybrok, Denmark, August 23, 1959, when officers of the National and World Councils defined what Christians should do about the threat of atomic war: "If all-out war should occur, Christians should urge a cease fire, if necessary on the enemy's terms, and resort to non-violent resistance."

Each year our churches are losing thousands of consecrated paying members. This exodus should alarm our church leaders and prompt us to take a second look... Those leaving are branded as "fanatics" and "troublemakers." But so were the early Christians... The layman is not stupid nor unschooled in secular and world affairs. He resents having the clergy speak politically for him in areas foreign to religion and spiritual matters... The layman is urging us to stick to our knitting, to prove that we are the messengers and prophets of God... It is difficult for me to understand why the clergy will fly to the defense of the National Council when that body is under attack and, all too often, be reluctant to oppose those who deny the fundamental and basic beliefs upon which the Christian church is founded.

One can refuse to affirm his belief in the Virgin birth of Christ and still remain in good standing in the church; he can pronounce portions of the Book "a myth," insist the miracles ascribed to Christ as never having been performed, and still retain his standing among the brethren. Has the NOC become another golden calf that we are called to accept as sacred and worship?

January 8, 1962

REC-29 100-50869-843

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated January 1, 1962, has been received.

Although I deeply appreciate the motives prompting you to write me, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only, due to regulations of the Department of Justice. Also the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Please do not infer in this connection, however, either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

I am forwarding a copy of your letter to the Chairman, House Committee on Un-American Activities, Room 225, Old House Office Building, Washington 25, D. C. to whom its contents may be of interest.

Enclosed is material on the subject of communism available for general distribution of the FBI, and I am including a copy of the list of organizations which have been cited by the Department of Justice as coming within the scope of Executive Order 10450.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

Enclosures (5) (SEE NEXT PAGE)

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Copy of incoming sent by form to HCUA.

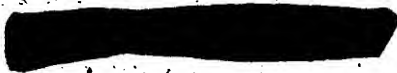
DCL:pdh (3)

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Telecom \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

68 JAN 10 1962



  
**Organizations Designated Under Executive Order No. 10450**  
**God and Country or Communism**  
**Criss Award Speech**  
**The Communist Party Line**  
**The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals**



January 1, 1962

ATTENTION: J. Edgar Hoover, Director

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

For two years I have been an appointed trustee of our church, the Evangelical Congregational Church of Easton, Mass. It has been brought to my attention there are many questions regarding the financial appropriations in our annual budget. This budget is to be voted on within the next few weeks by the church members.

One particular appropriation to be made very shortly pertains to a mission fund which is under the direct supervision of the, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. These appropriations have been made for years with no general discussion or question.

Since I feel responsible to my church, and the proper expenditure of public funds I would appreciate information regarding the, "Communist Key Control" of the various agencies of the National Council of Churches. The information we have is not authentic and therefore not reliable, but we understand this organization is under SURVEILLANCE and is or will be placed on the Subversive List of Un - American Activities, by the House Committee.

Our annual church meeting is to be held approximately January 15th. A reply received by that time will be appreciated and presented at our meeting as an authentic and true answer to many rumors.

I wish to thank you in advance for your attention to this matter in face of the tremendous and complex important matters.

Yours truly,

100-5124-843  
10 JAN 10 1962

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-36  
EX-109

100-50869-842

December 20, 1961

**[REDACTED]**

Dear **[REDACTED]**

Your letter of December 11, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

DEC 20 2 20 PM '61  
FBI

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signature]*

MAILED 20  
DEC 20 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (4)  
God & Country or Communism  
10-61 LEB Intro  
The Communist Party Line  
Christianity Today Series (The Communist Menace)

DEC 50  
10-61  
10-61  
10-61

NOTE Bufiles contain no record on either correspondent or her husband on the basis of information furnished.  
NOTE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

58 DEC 29 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[REDACTED]

**NOTE:** The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)

TRUE COPY

Dec. 11, 1961

Mr. Edgar J. Hoover  
c/o F.B.I.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the course of my anti communist reading I keep hearing the National Council of Churches mentioned in a very distasteful way. It seems that some of the leaders over a period of years have been mixed up in many communist fronts. Now while I am sure that most of our clergymen are dependable and true blue wouldn't religion as our chief weapon against communism, be the most logical thing for the communists to try to gain control of?

I feel that the communists do not want to have to ruin our lovely, bush country with atom or hydrogen bombs. I feel an all out effort will be made to take us peaceably and subjugate us from within.

The liberal attitude of so many of our modernist preachers has watered down our Protestant religion so that young people no longer fear God or have any knowledge of the Bible.

If I have been wrong and have unjustly accused the N. C. C. will you please straighten me out?

Yours truly,

REC-36

DEC 21 1961

100-50869

EX-105

Y.C.  
12-19-61

arb  
12-20-61  
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mme

842  
Jdel

Dec 11, 1966

Mr. Edgar J. Hoover  
C. I. O.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I in the course of my anti  
Communist reading I keep hearing  
the National Council of Churches  
mentioned in a very ~~distasteful~~  
way. It seems that some of  
the leaders over a period of  
years have been mixed up in  
many Communist fronts.  
Now while I am sure that most  
of our clergymen are dependable  
and true blue shouldn't religion  
be a ~~subliminal~~ <sup>subliminal</sup> chief weapon against  
Communism, is the most  
logical thing for the Comm-

CORRESPONDENCE



attempts to try to gain control  
of.

I feel that the Communists  
do not want to have to return  
our lovely, lush country  
with atom or hydrogen bombs.  
I feel an all out effort will  
be made to take us peacefully  
and subjugate us from within.

The liberal attitude of so  
many of our modernist  
preachers has watered down  
our Protestant religion so  
that young people no longer  
fear God or have any  
knowledge of the Bible.

If I have been wrong and  
have unjustly accused the  
D.C.C. will you please  
straighten me out?

Yours truly,

J.C.  
W

[Redacted signature]

December 14, 1961

160-50869-841

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of December 8, 1961, with enclosures, has been received. I appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending this material to me, and I also want to express my thanks for your generous comments. In view of the interest you indicated, I would like to clarify our position relative to communism and religion.

In my book, "Masters of Deceit," I pointed out that it is a continuing program of the Communist Party to attempt infiltration of every part of our society, including religion. This is still true today. Fortunately, this evil conspiracy has not made any substantial penetration into our religious organizations, and the majority of our clergy are loyal to the United States. Of course, even one clergyman subscribing to the communist ideology is one too many. We are engaged in a world-wide struggle for survival against the worst form of totalitarianism ever established by man, and our churches will continue to be important targets in the over-all subversive plan of endeavoring to control our established institutions. Clergymen must be alert and continue to resist communism in the future.

Enclosed is some literature you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 22  
DEC 14 1961  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

- Enclosures (5)
- The Communist Party, USA (P-61 Social Order)
- Faith in God - Our Answer To Communism
- Internal Security statement 4-17-61
- The Communist Party Line
- Christianity Today Series (The Communist Menace)

CJH:kkj (3)  
DEC 20 1961 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

(See Note next page)

RECEIVED

[REDACTED]

**NOTE:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It is not known if any of the foregoing information pertains to correspondent. He enclosed two bulletins issued by the First Methodist Church, Fullerton, California, reporting statements by Assistant Director William C. Sullivan concerning communist infiltration of churches; two newspaper clippings containing a letter to the editor in which the writer deplored what she felt were communist influences in our churches; and two copies of a leaflet critical of the National Council of Churches.

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|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Tolson   | _____ |
| Mr. Belmont  | _____ |
| Mr. Mohr     | _____ |
| Mr. Callahan | _____ |
| Mr. Conrad   | _____ |
| Mr. DeLoach  | _____ |
| Mr. Evans    | _____ |
| Mr. Malone   | _____ |
| Mr. Rosen    | _____ |
| Mr. Sullivan | _____ |
| Mr. Tavel    | _____ |
| Mr. Trotter  | _____ |
| Tele. Room   | _____ |
| Mr. Ingram   | _____ |
| Miss Gandy   | _____ |

December 8, 1961

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

First of all, I would like to thank you for the great personal effort, as well as the effort of the organization of which you are the head, to make America aware of the dangers and threats to our society from international communism working through some of our respected institutions. People in these institutions use statements or parts of statements by members of the FBI to support the lullabies they use on so many American citizens.

The enclosed church bulletin is one of those instances. Preaching from the platform against people becoming concerned and attending anti-communistic rallies, is a commonplace activity in this particular church,

If it were possible to prevent misuse, or use out of context, of statements by you and your agents, it sure would encourage and support those of us who are trying so desperately to alert the public to the effects this insidious conspiracy will have on our way of life.

Again, my deepest appreciation for your good work, and for your taking a positive position under most difficult circumstances.

I have enclosed two church bulletins, two newspaper clippings, and two pamphlets, How Red is the Federal Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]

EXD-PROC  
 DEC 12 1961  
 ML

ENCLOSURE  
 12-19-61  
 GH

DEC 15 1 51 PM '61

REC-36

100-50869-841

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
 L.B.T.

DEC 14 2 03 PM '61

10 DEC 12 1961

AS/mh  
 Enclosures

CORRESPONDENCE

Our Readers Express Their Views

**THE CLEARING HOUSE****Leave Out Church?**

Editor, Register:

Just a few weeks ago I heard a Methodist minister say something like this from the pulpit, "I don't mind these people going to these anti-communist meetings and schools but I wish they'd leave the church out of it."

His wish is understandable but how is this possible? As long ago as 1953 Dr. J. B. Matthews in the American Mercury issue of July 1953 said: "Some seven thousand Protestant clergymen have been drawn during the past 17 years into the network of the Kremlin's conspiracy." He mentions that his card file contained the names of 1,673 such clergymen, the greater number of whom, naturally, belonged in the category of unwitting dupes of the communist-front apparatus. Dr. J. B. Matthews is the man who made the Dies Committee, gave it its foundation and set up its research files in the days when he led in developing the anti-communist movement. The opening sentence of his article on "Reds and Our Churches" reads as follows: "The largest single group supporting the communist apparatus in the United States today is composed of Protestant clergymen." This same Dr. Matthews, an ordained Methodist deacon, graduated from two of Methodism's largest institutions

and was once a missionary in the Far East.

In the Dec. 1960 issue of "The American Mercury" the article: "Do the Reds Speak Through The Methodist Church" by Kenneth W. Ryker, which is excerpted from a booklet, we have a report by Methodists to Methodists about Methodists. It brings out that parts of some conference committee reports found in The Journal, the Calif.-Nevada Annual Conference of The Methodist Church 1958, are practically identical with aims of the Communist Party U.S.A. It reveals sending the ideas of a man identified as a communist in sworn testimony before a congressional committee to Methodist Churches in a conference billed as a program for peace! The Journal of the Conference refers to unethical practices by the House Committee on Un-American Activities Committee and the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security and urges that the committees be eliminated! (my exclamation mark, added) Who says these committees use unethical practices? The communists and their fellow-travelers do, we know. J. Edgar Hoover said of these committees: "Your committee's role in safeguarding our freedom is well-known to every patriotic citizen and real Americans are not going to be fooled or misled by efforts to discredit your vital

Register  
Santa Ana, Calif.  
11-30-61

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-841



Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Re: REQUEST FOR LECTURE BY  
DR. DEAN KELLEY

Dr. Kelley said they would like to have me give the opening lecture and present the material in such a manner that it would set the tone and the scope of their three-day conference.

In addition to my work with the NCC, this lecture may give me an opportunity to develop Brooks Hays, Special Assistant to the President, whom Kelley said will be present at this off-the-record meeting. He is considered to be an outstanding Baptist layman. As you know, Brooks Hays was a former congressman from Arkansas and later held the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations. Bureau files reveal that Mr. Hays is on the Special Correspondents' List.

RECOMMENDATION:

That approval be given for me to participate at this conference and for me to so advise Dr. Dean Kelley by telephone today or tomorrow that the Director has approved of my participation.

I think good idea, but would like to see draft of speech.

*Handwritten notes:*  
Kelley  
Dean Kelley  
advised  
2-1-54  
WCS

*Handwritten initials:*  
CH  
B

*Handwritten signature:*  
W.C.R.

*Handwritten initials:*  
J. H.

We have been referring to criticism by Methodists to Methodists. Let us continue. In Dr. Philip Wogaman's booklet, "The Methodist Ministry and Communism - The Truth Behind the Charges" which I obtained in the Methodist itself, and quite understandably, The Circuit Riders, Inc. are berated for their publication: "A Compilation of Public Records of 2109 Methodist Ministers." Although they were painted as villains by Dr. Wogaman, to me the Circuit Riders were the heroes and represented the thinking of Methodism in its earlier days. I must say that on the basis of other material that has come to my attention this book by Dr. Wogaman is more incriminating than exonerating as far as the guilty in the Methodist ministry is concerned.

It seems to me that so much of the truth is omitted in Wogaman's booklet that it would have been more appropriate to have left "The Truth Behind The Charges" from the title. I would term the book a very lame apology at best and far from convincing to the person of average intelligence. Such generalities as "unfounded charges" and "glaring examples of irresponsibility" are leveled at the Circuit Riders, Inc. but I sensed them as being empty of meaning. The book tries hard to excuse but makes no scathing denunciation of the ministers involved. There was no desire expressed or resolve to change the direction of the Methodist church away from the control of the National Council of Churches. Social crisis was given as an understandable reason for the stand of some of the ministers to aid or underwrite the communist line. We learn in this book that the Methodist Federation of Social Action was reprimanded by the 1952 General Conference. Can we take this to mean a scolding, not a repudiation? I have seen where the Methodist Federation of Social Action was cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities as "a tool of the Communist Party which tried to use the prestige of the Methodist Church to promote the line of the Communist Party."

One sentence from the Wogaman book struck me in particular: "There probably are sound reasons why a Christian should be very cautious about lending a hand to organizations which are dominated by communists, even for apparently laudable purposes." This sentence deserves an exclamation point but such does not appear in the original text so you can accept the statement casually if you want to. At the close of the book, although the House Committee on Un-American Activities is not mentioned as such, I got the distinct impression that this is the body Dr. Wogaman is attacking. I can think of a number of other organizations that I don't consider very American in their viewpoint that would like to see this committee abolished.

And, then again, with the backing the churches are giving the National Council of Churches and the United Nations to what I consider Dmitri Manulsky's gigantic peace offensive we come back to the original question: How can we leave the churches out of this? They asked to get in and now they're in it up to their necks. By the way, I see in today's paper where the Russian Orthodox Church called on the World Council of Churches to press for universal disarmament. This came within 24 hours after they had been admitted to the global church body. Doesn't take em long, does it?

Sincerely yours,  
Martin R. Taylor  
1163 Chateau Ave.  
Ann Arbor, Mich.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: December 14, 1961

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR LECTURE BY  
DR. DEAN KELLEY  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

Yesterday afternoon Dr. Dean Kelley of the National Council of Churches (NCC), 475 Riverside Drive, New York City, called me. He said that he was acting to convey a request of Brooks Hays, Special Assistant to the President, that I deliver a lecture to a very select group of officials of the NCC meeting in a private, off-the-record capacity January 25-27, 1962, in New York. No press will be present. The purpose of this meeting of the NCC will be to consider very seriously and extensively the communist problem and effective ways and means which can be employed to solve it. Dr. Kelley told me that high-ranking officials of the Catholic Church and the Jewish faith have been invited to attend and have accepted.

I advised Dr. Kelley that Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI, made these decisions in regard to lecturing and that I would consult with him on the matter. As the Bureau is aware, because of heavy administrative duties, I have eliminated some nineteen of my lectures. Each week I decline invitations to give new lectures. I am at the present time completing some lectures which have long been scheduled and cannot be cancelled or assigned to someone else. I do think in the future because of my administrative responsibilities, that my lectures should be limited to some four to six a year which the Director would want me to give.

I do think that this invitation would fall in the category of those which the Director would certainly want me to accept. As we know, the NCC is the most powerful Protestant organization in the country. To date we have not been able to get this Council to actively, consistently, and effectively support the FBI. At this point I am willing to "go out on the end of a limb" and say that I do think the Council can be developed and induced to give its full support to the FBI. I would like an opportunity to make the effort to bring this about. Therefore, I think that approval should be given to me to accept this invitation.

WCS:lml

(6)

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. M. A. Jones

SENT DIRECTOR

12-15-61

EX-115

DEC 15 1961

DEC 20 1961

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

CRIME RESEARCH