

THIS FILE IS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DECLASSIFICATION EFFORTS AND RESEARCH OF:

THE BLACK VAULT

THE BLACK VAULT IS THE LARGEST ONLINE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT / GOVERNMENT RECORD CLEARING HOUSE IN THE WORLD. THE RESEARCH EFFORTS HERE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECLASSIFICATION OF THOUSANDS OF DOCUMENTS THROUGHOUT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND ALL CAN BE DOWNLOADED BY VISITING:

[HTTP://WWW.BLACKVAULT.COM](http://www.blackvault.com)

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO FORWARD THIS DOCUMENT TO YOUR FRIENDS, BUT PLEASE KEEP THIS IDENTIFYING IMAGE AT THE TOP OF THE .PDF SO OTHERS CAN DOWNLOAD MORE!

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

HQ FILE: 100-50869

SECTION 24



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOTICE

THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.

December 29, 1965

REC-70

[REDACTED]


On December 27th I received your note enclosing copies of correspondence you have had in connection with communism and the churches and want to thank you for making them available to me.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover

100-100000-100000


file copy



December 13, 1965

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
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, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover:

 has forwarded
to me a copy of your address before The Supreme
Council, 33rd of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish
Rite of Freemasonry, given October 19, 1965, in
Washington, D. C.

When talking to  he
expressed the opinion that possibly you might like
to have in your files the enclosed copies of letters
which I have already furnished to him.

Very truly yours,



Enclosures

RLC 70

RECEIVED
CORRESPONDENCE
DEC 14 1965

An Open Letter Protestant Church Lay People regard to the **The National Council of Churches of Christ**

The National Council of Churches is now under the domination of a small group of professional one-world, idealist clergy, who may be termed liberal, or left wing, depending upon your own political philosophy. This group has taken it upon themselves to speak in the name of 40,000,000 Protestants and have, as a consequence, made the National Council one of the most potent political organizations in the country. Either directly or indirectly, through one of their many subdivisions, including denominational affiliated Social Action groups, they have taken actions such as those listed below, plus many more:

1. That the United States recognize Red China and admit Red China to the United Nations;
2. That the United States suspend atomic bomb testing, even on a unilateral basis;
3. That the United States show greater willingness to let World Courts settle disputes;
4. That a purely national concept of security is wrong;
5. That the United States abolish universal military training;
6. That the House Un-American Activities Committee be abolished; (N.C.C. members in this instance placed a full page advertisement in the Washington Post and took the lead in securing petitions)
7. That the United States re-establish diplomatic relations with Fidel Castro (R. W. Moon, Methodist Social Action).

8. Active leaders in the August 28, 1963 "March on Washington."

9. *Lobbying for the Repeal of Section 14B of Taft-Hartley Act - "Right to Work"*
The control of the National Council of Churches rests in two boards, the General Board and the General Assembly, each composed of approximately two-thirds Clergy and one-third Laymen. At the time of organization in 1950, lay persons were represented by the National Lay Committee. The National Lay Committee opposed the National Council pronouncements on political, social and economic matters but the General Board refused to publish or publicize the Lay opposition. Finally, in order to silence Lay opposition, the General Board, on March 17, 1954, took action to dissolve the National Lay Committee as of June 30, 1955. Since that date, with no effective opposition, the National Council, or affiliates listed, have taken the position listed above on political matters. It is interesting to note that Dr. Eugene Carson Blake was President of the National Council of Churches when the National Lay Committee headed by Mr. J. Howard Pew was refused an extension of life.

Any Lay person who now dares to speak out against actions of N.C.C. is accused of making scurrilous attacks and being from the Ultra-Right (Communist term for one who opposes Communist Party plans - See Red Manifesto of December 5, 1960 ("The New Drive Against the Anti-Communist Program" - July 11, 1961 U. S. Government printing office).

The Communist Party under the direction of Frank Wilkinson organized a nation-wide drive to abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities. This drive reached its peak in January, 1963. One of the propaganda pieces that the Communist Party used was the full-page advertisement in the New York Times of February 22, 1962 urging that H.C.U.A. be abolished. This advertisement carries 610 signatures including many prominent Church leaders. While N.C.C. may take no official board action supporting this Communist objective, the fact remains that top N.C.C. leaders are themselves personally supporting the Communist objective. There is no likelihood that the National Council of Churches or the affiliated denominations will do anything to counter this drive on the part of the Communist Party. This indicates tacit approval.

Dr. Eugene Carson Blake led the demonstration in Baltimore directed against a privately-owned amusement park in July 1963. He knew that he was breaking the law, yet he, a leading clergyman, encouraged this mass demonstration. Socialism requires the breakdown of property rights of the individual, as does Communism. Here is an example of the lengths to which N.C.C. leaders will go in order to bring about a socialistic, one-world, one church society.

Socialism and Communism have much in common. The leaders of the National Council of Churches have actively campaigned for every piece of Socialistic legislation that has passed the Congress since 1950 when N.C.C. came into being. They have in fact been the instigators of much of it.

The Church, as an organization, does not belong in politics. Only a lay revolt can get them out since the clergy has perfected an organization as stated above which assures the clergy complete control.

Copies mailed to the F.B.I. and the House Committee on Un-American Activities

COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN LAYMEN, INC.

Additional copies of this "Open Letter" are available upon request. All literature sent on the free-will offering plan.

GOSPEL TRACT SOCIETY, INC.

2302 Blue Ridge Blvd.

Kansas City, Mo. 64129

December 17, 1965

EC-45

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

DEC 17 2 16 PM '65

Mr. Hoover received your letter of December 14th and asked me to advise you that the FBI has never released a statement either approving or disapproving the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Candy
Secretary

SENT BY	D. O.
TIME	
DATE	
BY	

Mr. Tolson	/
Mr. Belmont	/
Mr. Mohr	/
Mr. Casper	/
Mr. Callahan	/
Mr. Conrad	/
Mr. Felt	/
Mr. Gale	/
Mr. Rosen	/
Mr. Sullivan	/
Mr. Tavel	/
Mr. Trotter	/
Tele. Room	/
Miss Holmes	/
Miss Gandy	/

Dec. 14, 1965

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 U.S. Department of Justice
 Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Hoover,

About a month ago I wrote you inquiring about any public statements you have made about the National Council of Churches. We have a reader information service and one reader had called and asked if you have ever made any public statements about the Council.

Your secretary replied that you were out of town but would be shown my letter upon your return. She said material in F.B.I. files is confidential.

I did not asked for any material from the files. I simply asked what statements, if any, you have made publicly about the National Council of Churches. I don't care if there is or is not material on the National Council of Churches in F.B.I. files. All I care about is knowing whether you have made any public statements about the Council and, if so, where I could obtain copies.

Sincerely,



EXP. PROC.

DEC-16-1965

DEC 21 1965

December 20, 1965

R-C, A
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of December 14th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to the National Council of Churches. I can assure you that I have not made any public statement regarding this organization.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: On the basis of the information furnished, correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

JRP:cao
(3)

DEC 20 1965
COMM-FBI
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

December 14, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am chairman of a committee of our church, appointed by the chairman of the Board of Stewards, to ascertain some truth about the National Council of Churches. Will you be kind enough to answer the following questions?

As Director of the FBI have you made any public statements about the N. C. of C.? If you have please give me the gist of any such statements. Or copies if available.

To your knowledge has there ever been any question as to the character, affiliations or interests of any of the officers of this organization?

If you will answer the above for me and give me any other information relative to the activities of this Council I will be indebted to you and it will help to settle some questions in the minds of some good people.

Very truly yours,


WHE:1

3 DEC 21 1965

(Handwritten signature)

November 30, 1965

DEC 14 1965
100-100000-
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of November 19th and want to thank you for your interest in writing.

With respect to your inquiry, the matter you mentioned is one to be decided by your church membership. I regret I cannot be of help but trust you will understand.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - St. Louis - Enclosure

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:des (4)

R

11/10

11/10

NOV 30 1965
COMM-FBI
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

November 18, 1965

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

Dear Sir:

Perhaps you can assist me with a problem that I am deeply concerned with. I am [redacted] of the Church Council of the [redacted] of St. Louis, Missouri, which is a member of Missouri Synod of the United Church of Christ, which is, as I understand it, a member of the National Council of Churches.

Our minister has approached us with a radical idea that seems very questionable. He is proposing that several of our young people discontinue attending church, although they would continue to render financial support to the church, and meet in groups of six to twelve in the homes of members of these groups, without the direction of the ordained ministry of the church for the purpose of "trying to find our relationship to Christianity".

Several of our members have questioned this for various reasons, however, the question of communistic tendencies has occurred here. I or no member of our congregation can possibly be sure exactly what this approach implies, but we do apparently need the confidential assistance of some person who is an expert on communism, communist organization, and communist tactics. If you would be so kind, please forward any information that you feel would be helpful to us in determining whether or not this action follows a subversive pattern. In no way do I want this to be

100-50869

30

24

24

ack 11-23-65

DFC/cmt/rsp/llf/bw/idea

100-50869-1426

DEC 2 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

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

-2-

November 18, 1965


construed as an accusation directed to our minister, the Missouri Synod, or the National Council of Churches. But as American citizens, we are seriously concerned as to what action we should take on this matter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your anticipated assistance.

Respectfully,



48. November 16, 1965


Dear Sir:

Your letter of November 8th was received during Mr. Hoover's absence. You may be certain your communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

I know he would want me to tell you that information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I hope that you will not infer either that there is or is not data in the files of this Bureau relating to the National Council of Churches.

Also, the FBI does not issue clearances or non-clearances of any type.

Very truly yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

COMM-FBI

Nov. 8, 1965

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
9th and Pennsylvania
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

A North Carolina minister recently made a public statement in which he said your office had issued a statement "clearing" the National Council of Churches of any taint of subversion.

One of our readers has challenged the minister's statement on grounds that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is purely an investigative agency and does not issuance clearances for persons or organizations.

Has the F.B.I. any statement of record concerning the National Council of Churches? Would you please forward a copy to me.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

EX-103

REC-48 100-50569-141

24
NOV 17 1965

NOV 17 1965

MCKII-16
JRP. 11/12/65
nm

NOV 17 1965

November 17, 1965

REC-40

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of November 8th, and the kind sentiments you expressed serve as a source of encouragement for me. You may be sure I will strive to merit your continued approval.

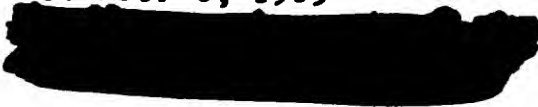
In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning [REDACTED]. We have enjoyed prior limited correspondence, and our last letter was on 3-20-63.

JRP:jdm (3)

November 8, 1965




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

Dear Sir:

Since there is so much confusion and controversy being circulated in our churches regarding the National Council of Churches, I decided to write you regarding this. We are being told that the National Council is aiding the Communists and since I consider myself a good American, and strictly opposed to Communism, it would be a great comfort to me if you could send me any information you have on this subject.

May God bless you and continue to give you the blessings of good health so you may remain in the F.B.I., as we need you as never before with this terrible cancer of socialism and communism that is spreading over our land.

A very concerned American,



REC-40

25 NOV 18 1965

COPIES

November 17, 1965

REC-40

Dear [REDACTED]

Your communication was received on November 15th.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the matter to which you referred does not come within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI, based upon the facts which you furnished. Since the topic of your inquiry may be of interest to another governmental agency, I am referring a copy of your communication to the Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D. C., for whatever action may be considered appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Bufiles reflect [REDACTED] as cooperated with us in the past, furnishing information on 12-10-41 regarding individual whom he considered pro-Nazi. During 9/42 he likewise made information available concerning an individual whose loyalty he questioned. He received separate letters of thanks for his interest in communicating with this Bureau. Bufiles contain no record concerning his company.

JRP:cs (3)

57 NOV 24 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

The F.B.I.

Washington, D.C.

11-13-'65

Gentlemen; Will you please advise why the Internal Revenue Dept. continues to let USA Citizens contribute to the National Council of Churches and use these gifts as tax deductions on their Federal Tax Return each year, when the Law concerning deductible items states specific any that any Cause soliciting gifts as charity does not qualify as a cause if it engages in lobbying in Washington or elsewhere in politics.

DATE

REC-59

COPIES DESTROYED

27 DEC 14 1973

CONFIDENTIAL

November 10, 1965

REC-41

NOV 11 11 04 AM '65

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 5th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of [REDACTED]

JRP:mel (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



[REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen

I wonder if you could give me a brief statement which would be usable in stating the status of the National Council of Churches.

I have met with a number of accusations of this organization which I know is not true. It is to the effect that the National Council of Churches is a communist organization.

I believe this originates with a Carl MacIntyre who broadcasts over radio, and which is picked up in this area for broadcast. There probably are others also who make such WILD statements.

It is my opinion that the American Council of Churches led by this man MacIntyre is to religion, what the John Birch Society is to politics. It stirs up contention and questionings, which, in my opinion, is just what the communists want.

Any statement which you can give me, which will help, will be greatly appreciated for it is rather difficult to counteract such, without some concrete backing.

Thank you.

Sincerely
[REDACTED]



REC-41

101

NOV 16 1955

CORRESPONDENCE

UNITED STATES

'ENT

Memorandum

Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: October 26, 1965

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Some press accounts have indicated that the National Council of Churches has recommended that China be admitted to the United Nations. These press accounts are false. On talking to Reverend James C. Moore today, he advised me that recently a conference of delegates of various Protestant churches affiliated with the National Council of Churches met in St. Louis. They discussed and considered many, many different religious and social issues and set forth a list of their findings and suggestions. Among them was:

"The United States without prejudice to its own policy of diplomatic recognition sees its opposition to the seating of the Peoples Republic of China in the United Nations under conditions which take into account the welfare, security, and future political status of Taiwan. Careful study should be given to recognizing diplomatic communications with Red China (Peoples Republic of China) and conditions under which diplomatic recognition might be appropriately extended."

Reverend Moore pointed out that all these findings and suggestions will be sent to the National Council of Churches for consideration. He said he sees no likelihood that the Board of the National Council of Churches would vote in favor of admitting Red China to the United Nations. He pointed out that the last time that such a suggestion was sent to the National Council of Churches as a result of a conference held it was voted down strongly. Another one of the findings of this recent conference was that the Christian churches of the United States should take every opportunity to establish contact with Christians in China. Still another finding was that every effort should be made to involve Red China in disarmament talks and to control nuclear weapons in the China area.

RECOMMENDATION:

REC 1

For your information.

WCS:lm1
(5)

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

8 NOV 9 1965

REC-76

November 3, 1955

101-10117-1

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 28th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

JRP:cvb
(3)

4/11

02 pm

Nov 3 19 03 AM '55

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

October 28, 1965

Would you be able to give me any information you may have available regarding the activities of the National Council of Churches?

I have heard and read much about the things it advocates and have arrived at the conclusion that it leans to the 'pink' side to say the least. Several years ago I seem to remember that the House Committee on Un-American Activities actually accused the Council of siding with the Communists.

I do not want any information for publicity purposes. I am active in our local church and would like very much to set my mind at rest because I am beginning to suspect the trend away from good Americanism. In other words, I am beginning to be very concerned that our denomination belongs to the Council. Perhaps, you could guide me to some reliable source if you are unable to give me the desired information.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

REC-76

NOV 2 1965

23
[REDACTED]
Hear Mr. Hoover:

October 28, 1965

Would you be able to give me any information you may have available regarding the activities of the National Council of Churches?

I have heard and read much about the things it advocates and have arrived at the conclusion that it leans to the 'pink' side to say the least. Several years ago I seem to remember that the House Committee on Un-American Activities actually accused the Council of siding with the Communists.

I do not want any information for publicity purposes. I am active in our local Church and would like very much to set my mind at rest because I am beginning to suspect the trend away from good Americanism. In other words, I am beginning to be very concerned that our denomination belongs to the Council. Perhaps, you could guide me to some reliable source if you are unable to give me the desired information.

1 TC 11-2-65
at

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

REC-35

November 1, 1955

NOV 1 1 05 PM '55

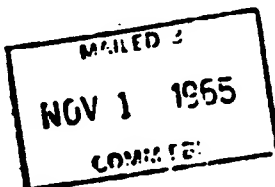


Your letter was received on October 28th.

It is a pleasure to learn that you enjoyed reading "Masters of Deceit." Perhaps you will also want to read another of my books, "The Story of Communism." This was written to furnish a basic analysis of international communist practices and contrast them with American methods with life in a free country. It may be available at your local library.

In response to your inquiry, information concerning our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to the National Council of Churches. Further, I can assure you that I have never made any such statement as that attributed to me.

Enclosed is a copy of my recent speech which I hope you will find of interest.



Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

"The Faith of Free Men"

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Profiles.
JEP:efs (C)

TRUE COPY



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

Dear Sir:

For sometime there has been charges that the National Council of Churches has subversives operating within it's ranks. According to a newspaper article you and the late President Kennedy are quoted as saying that the council is clear of any "taint of subversion of communism. I am writing you because I know you will give me a straight answer to the questions.

I have been an admirer of the bureau all my life and feel even closer now that so many government agency personnel are falling into liberalism.

Would you please give me an answer to this important question?

I would also like to tell you how much I enjoyed your book "Masters of Deceit". At my suggestion our Civitan Club gave a copy to the graduating class at the local high school. I have tried to practice your advice given in the book, and I believe I have the NCC in the proper perspective but I would like your opinion since this article quoted you as clearing the NCC.

Sincerely

REC-35

/s/



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
F.B.I.

Washington, D.C.


EXP. PROC.
64 OCT 28 1965
4100-2

Dear Sir:

For sometime there has been charges that the National Council of Churches has subversive operating within its ranks. According to a newspaper article you and the late President Kennedy are quoted as saying that the Council is clear of any "taint of subversion or communism." I am writing you because I know you will give me a straight answer to the question. I have been an admirer of the Council all my life and feel sure of its honesty now that so many government agencies around are falling into liberalism. Would you please give me an answer to this important question?

I would also like to tell you
how much I enjoyed your book
Master of Deceit. At my suggestion
our Civitan Club gave a copy to the
graduating class of the local high school.
I have tried to practice your advice
given in the book and I believe I
have the NCC in the proper perspective
but I would like your opinion since
this article quoted you as clearing
the NCC.

Sincerely



EX 110

REC-61

October 27, 1965

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of October 22nd, with enclosure, and the interest which prompted your communication is appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested.

I am enclosing a copy of my recent speech, which I hope you will enjoy reading. The envelope you furnished is being returned.

Sincerely yours,


J. Edgar Hoover


Enclosures (2)
Correspondent's envelope
The Faith of Free Men

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

JRP:sag (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐


October 22, 1965


United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C. 20535

Dear Sir;

I am writing in regard to the World Council of Churches and National Council of Churches. I have heard so much about them being Communist front organizations and their leaders being Communists that I would like to find out from you if this is true. I would also like to know if they have participated in any subversive activities.

Also I am wondering about Martin Luther King and the Negro Civil Rights demonstrations. I have heard that he is a communist and that the demonstrations are led by communists. Is this true?

I would appreciate an answer to these questions as soon as possible. Also any other pertinent information that you may have concerning the Calif. area.

I am enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope for your convenience.

Thank you,


EX-110
RFC-61

CORRESPONDENCE

October 21, 1965

REC- 63

Dear 

Your letter of October 13th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to furnish the data you requested. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have information in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours, :

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

JRP:cai

(3)

TRUE COPY


Oct 19. 65

Mr J. Edger Hoover.

Dear Sir

I am very much concerned about the Situation of our country. May I ask you just one question? this is about The National Council of Churches. from the information that I gather. I am led to believe that the National Council of Churches are communist fronts or at least communist inspired am I correct? is it possiable for you to give me this information

Will appreciate anything you can tell me

Respectfully yours


REC-62

100-12301

[REDACTED]
Oct. 19. 65-

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.

Dear Sir

I am very much concerned
about the situation of our
country. May I ask you just
one question? This is about
the National Council of Churches.
From the information that I
gathered I am led to believe that
the National Council of Churches
are Communist fronts or at
least Communist inspired and
controlled? Is it possible for you
to give me this information?

I will appreciate anything
you can tell me.
Respectfully yours

[REDACTED]

October 14, 1965

REC-66

Dear [REDACTED]

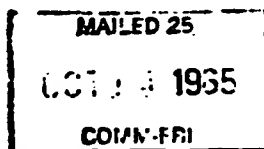
Your letter of October 8th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, there apparently is a misunderstanding. Neither Assistant Director William C. Sullivan nor any other representative of this Bureau has released a report on the National Council of Churches. Therefore, I am certain you will understand why I cannot be of help in this instance.

Enclosed is some literature it is hoped will be of interest to you. Material which this Bureau is privileged to disseminate is sent free of charge.

Sincerely yours,

W. F. Sullivan



Enclosures (2)

Faith in God --Our Answer To Communism
Our Heritage of Greatness, 12-12-64

1 - Minneapolis - Enclosure

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:pjf

(4)

10-8-65

F.B.I. Office

Dear Sir

where can I get the Sullivan
report on the Fed Council of Churches?

I would like 6 or ~~7~~ so copies if possible.
& if you have them would you forward them
to me?

If there are any charges for them will be
glad to mail you check or money order for
them.


will be very happy to hear from you
in regards to this report.

Yours truly

17C
10-13-65
ack 10-14-65
DTP/jm/pj
m

CORRECTION

TRUE COPY


10-8-65

F. B. I. Office

Dear Sirs

Where can I get the Sullivan report on the Fed Council
of Churches?

I would like 6 or so copies if Possible. & if you have
them would you forward them to me.

If there are any charges for them will be glad to mail
you check or money order for them.

Will be very happy to hear from you in regards to this
report.

Yours truly

/s/ 

REC-55

OCT 15 1965

October 11, 1965

REC-70

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 4th, with enclosure, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. Correspondent's self-addressed, stamped envelope is being utilized in reply.

JRP:mel (3)

OCT 11 1965
COMM-FBI

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

✓ D/a

TRUE COPY

10/4/65

Dear Sirs:-

I have heard many reports that the National Council of Cherches is listed as a subversive organization.

Can you tell me if they have been thoroughly investigated by your Dept, and what the report is? Are they infiltrated by communists communist oriented, or are there any card carrying communists among them.

Sincerely yours

/s/

P.S. Seft addressed envelope enclosed.


REC-4


pk
11
Dear Sir:

10/4/65

I have heard many reports that the National Council of Churches is listed as a subversive organization.

Can you tell me if they have been thoroughly investigated by your Dept, and what the report is? Are they infiltrated by communists, communist oriented, or are there any card carrying communists among them.

Sincerely yours


P.S. Self addressed envelope enclosed.


10-8-65
10-8-65

10-8-65 mel

10-8-65

EVIDENCE

October 7, 1965

EX-110

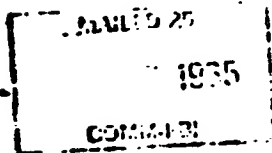
Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of October 2nd.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

The paragraph to which you referred is not attributed to me in the booklet you mentioned, and I can assure you that I have never made such a statement.

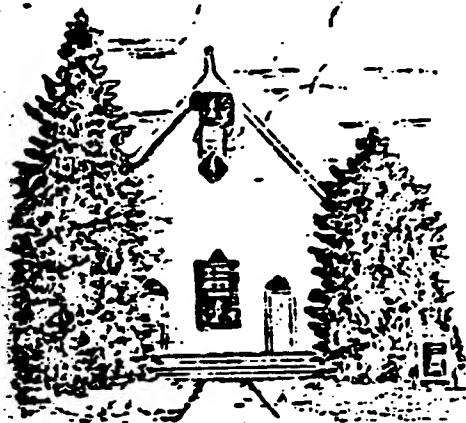
Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover



NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. An examination of this pamphlet in Bufiles reflects [REDACTED] as misconstrued the passage on page 14. One paragraph sets forth a comment by the Director on the film, "Operation Abolition," and the paragraph which follows is exactly as she quoted; however, it is not attributed to the Director. She has obviously misinterpreted this passage (77-3455-11), in view of the mention of the Director in the one immediately preceding.

JRP:kcf (3)

W/L ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



October 2, 1965

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

Dear Sir:

At a business meeting of our church I was appointed the chairman of a committee of three to study into the National Council of Churches. It is the wish of some in the church to withdraw from the American Baptist Convention in order to sever relations with the N.C.C. A vote will be taken in the near future. The main issue is the accusation of Communism in the N.C.C.

The booklet Has The Methodist Church Gone Mad?, by A. H. McGregor, attributes the following statement to you: "Protestants everywhere should demand that their churches get out of the National Council, thus shutting off their money supply."

My question is, did you make the above statement? If so, do you still at this time recommend withdrawal from the Council, and upon what do you base your stand?

As Christians and loyal Americans we wish to make the proper decision. We would greatly value your advice in the matter.

Sincerely,



30 OCT 5 1965

OCT 7 1965

REC-10

September 28, 1935

SEP 28 2 34 PM '35

READING ROOM
FBI

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 22nd, with enclosures, has been received.

The Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. The Party's efforts, however, 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.

Despite the above, the world communist conspiracy and its advocates in the United States continue to pose a basic threat to our country. It is important that our citizens educate themselves concerning the true nature of this insidious philosophy in order that they will be able to resist its eroding influence. At the same time opposition to communism must be careful and constructive and kept within the due process of law. It is not enough to be merely against communism. We should exhibit in positive ways the superiority of our form of government over any foreign ideology.

While I would like to be of further assistance to you, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

JRP:ejc

(3)

5 OCT 1935
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[REDACTED]
September 22, 1965

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

Dear Sir:

I need advice. I am just a housewife, but believe in God and go to church. The enclosed papers are last Sunday's lesson from the literature, the cover from the quarterly, the picture, and name of the man who wrote the lesson.

This is what I want to know, concerning the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. I have read many, many, articles concerning the infiltration of Communists in the N.C.C.C., in the United Nations and the Federal Government, such as this article in the light talks about. Many of these articles quote you, saying this is a fact.

Now here in this lesson, this man is telling us these things are written by hate mongers, and we are not to believe them. I would like the facts. I am getting to the place where I don't know who to believe. Who are our enemies? There can be, as uninformed people, find the answers? I would certainly appreciate any information you could send to me on the John Birch Society.

Any information you could send would be very much appreciated. Thank You,

25 SEP 29 1965
Yours truly,
[REDACTED]

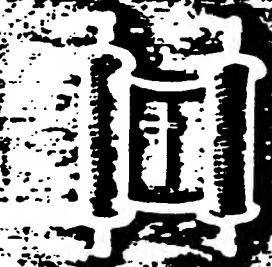
ENCLOSURE

BIBLE LESSONS

FOR CHURCHES WITH
ONE ADULT CLASS

FOR ADULTS

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER • NOVEMBER • 1965



The Case Against Gambling

By ALFRED A. KNOX

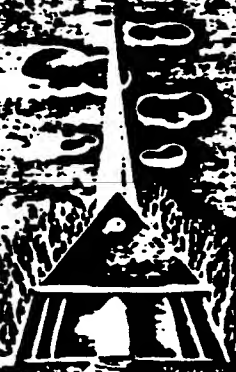
Page 2

Thanksgiving as Creative

Responsibility

By FRANK R. SNAVELY

Page 8



International Lesson Series

By ROY H. RYAN

By WALTER G. WILLIAMS

Page 13

BIBLE LESSONS FOR ADULTS

See BIBLE TEACHER FOR ADULTS for teaching plans

BIBLE LESSONS FOR ADULTS, designed especially for churches having only one adult class, can help you study the Bible. The lessons are based on the outlines of the International Lesson Series.

The September lessons conclude the unit on "Christian Growth." In October and November the study is based on nine Old Testament biographies.

On the twelve pages preceding the lessons are helpful articles.

Why not use "Recognition of Church School Workers" in a service in your church?

"The Case Against Gambling" should make readers aware of the serious nature of the gambling problem.

Do you look upon "Thanksgiving as Creative Responsibility"?

"Check for the Truth" is good advice for all of us.

A publication of The Methodist Church, prepared by the General Board of Education through the Editorial Division and published quarterly by Graded Press, the curriculum publishing department of The Methodist Publishing House, 251 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, Tennessee 37203. Second-class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Price: 25 cents a quarter in bulk; single subscriptions to individual address, \$1.00 a year. Copyright © 1963, by Graded Press. The King James Version is used; other Bible text from the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible, copyright, 1952, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches in the United States of America, is used by permission. The International Lesson Series outlines and the home daily Bible readings are copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches in the United States of America. All material in this magazine are copyrighted. Permission to reproduce will be given when possible.

VOL. 21 SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, 1963 No. 3

MAGAZINE SECTION

Recognition of Church School Workers	J. Smiley Collins	1
The Case Against Gambling	Alfred A. Knorr	2
Working for the Bachelor's Degree	Horace Greeley Smith	3
Thanksgiving as Creative Responsibility	Frank R. Sussely	8
World Communion		20
Check for Truth	Henry M. Bullock	21
A New Curriculum for Adults	Harold D. Minor	Cover III

INTERNATIONAL LESSON SERIES

UNIT IX: AREAS OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH (continued)

Roy H. Ryan

September 8: Growing in Faith	23
September 12: Growing in Self-Discipline	27
September 19: Growing in Understanding and Patience	21
September 26: (World Service Sunday) Growing in Christian Love	25

UNIT X: OLD TESTAMENT BIOGRAPHIES

Walter G. Williams

October 3: Joseph: Achieving Character	29
October 10: Jethro: Exerting Helpful Influence	33
October 17: Bezaleel: Dedicated Craftsman	37
October 24: (World Service Sunday) Caleb: Facing the Difficult	41
October 31: Samson: Misusing God's Gifts	45
November 7: Hannah: Self-Giving Mother	49
November 14: Jonathan: Selfless Loyalty	53
November 21: Naaman: Acting on Faith	57
November 28: (World Service Sunday) Amos: Champion of Justice	61

HENRY M. BULLOCK

SHIRAZ E. WEAVER

FREDDIE GENE SCHILLER

Editor of Church School Publications

Editor of Adult Publications

Editor of Bible Lessons for Adults

Growing in Understanding And Patience

AIM OF THE LESSON: To show how patience grows out of understanding.

MEMORY SELECTION: Let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
—Galatians 6:9

Revised Standard Version: Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart.

READ THE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE:
Galatians 6:1-10; Philippians 4;
Colossians 3:12-15. We print below
Philippians 4:1-7; Colossians 3:12-15 with interpretation and comment.

Roy H. Ryan is the writer of this lesson. See page 12.

The Need for Understanding

PAUL encouraged his friends in Philippi to settle their arguments peacefully, to be understanding, patient, and loving. People in our time would see a big difference in human relations if they took Paul's advice seriously.

The high divorce rate illustrates one crucial area in which communication between persons seems to have broken down. When marriage partners let little problems go unsolved, they finally become big problems.

Misunderstanding also results when there is lack of communication between parents and children. Husband and wife, parents and children have to work at this matter of understanding.

Self-understanding is also important. Many of the anxieties and frustrations which come to us could be avoided, or lessened, if we could understand ourselves. Every Christian must earnestly seek to understand himself, his motives, and his reason for being.

The Need for Harmony

Philippians 4:1-4

1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.

2 I beseech Eu-o'-di-as [you-O-dee-us], and beseech Syn'-ty-che [SIN-ti-kee], that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

3 And I entreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow-labourers, whose names are in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

THE CHRISTIANS at Philippi, under Nero's rule, faced a situation that was much like the German Christians faced under Hitler.

Only those who "stand fast in the Lord" can bear up under the pressure of such dictators. We are called to stand fast today. The church's witness is weakened when the people in the church fail to cooperate and work together. United effort is a source of strength.

One such cooperative opportunity comes to Christian people through the National Council of Churches of

Christ in America. Thirty-one denominations work together through the council to carry the Christian witness around the world.

The preamble to the constitution of the National Council of Churches states the need for harmonious cooperation: "In the Providence of God, the time has come when it seems fitting more fully to manifest oneness in Jesus Christ as Divine Lord and Savior, by the creation of an inclusive cooperative agency of the Christian Churches of the United States. . . ."

Christians in one church can cooperate more fully with Christians of other churches if they understand other Christian groups.

Many people are criticizing the church. Some of these critics are outside; others are inside the church. Let us examine some of their criticisms.

"You Christians sing, 'we are not divided, all one body we,' and yet there are over 250 denominations in America."

"I work for better social conditions in our community, but most of the opposition I face comes from church people."

"The churches in our town spend most of their time fighting each other. How can people say they worship the same God when they are not even willing to take communion together?"

Have you heard such criticisms? How can we bridge the gap that exists between what we profess to believe and what we do?

"Be of the same mind in the Lord" is the admonition that we find in Paul's Letter. What does this statement mean to you? Being "of the same mind in the Lord" means that we can disagree without being disagreeable, and we can have different ideas and still work together.

Do Not Be Anxious

Philippians 4:5-7

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

THE REVISED STANDARD Version translates the phrase, "Be careful for nothing" as "have no anxiety about anything."

Some persons try to live in the past, present, and future all at the same time; and in so doing they make a great mistake. The sins and failures of yesterday crowd in upon our lives unless we seek and accept God's forgiveness.

We cannot live tomorrow any more than we can relive yesterday. Today is the only day we have. Learn to live well each today, and you will take care of both the past and future.

Paul felt that "the Lord is at hand." The early Christians expected an

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

September 13: Christian Compassion (Matthew 14:13-21).

September 14: Why Did You Doubt? (Matthew 14:22-36).

September 15: Patience Promotes Cooperation (Philippians 4:1-7).

September 16: The Secret of Contentment (Philippians 4:8-30).

September 17: Love Promotes Harmony (Colossians 3:12-17).

September 18: A Soft Answer (Proverbs 15:1-8).

September 19: Love Is Patient (1 Corinthians 13:1-13).

early return of Jesus Christ. We may not hold the same view, but as Christians we need to be aware that today could be our last. We need to live each day in useful ways.

Anxiety should not be confused with fear. Anxiety results when we are threatened by conscious or unconscious factors that produce a situation which we cannot solve.

How can a person avoid anxiety? It is easy to say, "Don't worry," but it is not always easy to keep from worrying. Paul said, "In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). Why don't you substitute prayer for worry?

A Christian should not worry, but he should be concerned. Concern is a sign of love.

The anxious spirits of men could be healed if they would accept Paul's counsel, "Let your requests be made known unto God." We are to ask in the spirit and attitude of Jesus. He prayed, "Not my will but thine be done."

Christian Virtues

Colossians 3:12-14

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

The United Nations can help all nations grow in understanding and patience.



GOD HAS called us through the church to Christian witness and redemptive action in society. We are called to work at reconciliation.

Where there are wounds—we will seek to be the healing balm. We will try to bring understanding among persons. We do not build fences to separate men from men, and men from God. We are bridge builders, engaged in the task of bringing individuals and groups closer to each other in genuine understanding.

Mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, and longsuffering are important Christian virtues. The goodness of the Christian life is not reflected in those who are hard and unkind.

The love of God in our hearts places upon us the demand to do good and seek the well-being of others. Persons grow in forbearance and patience as they learn to live with those who do not think just as they think.

How do you respond when your ideas and viewpoints are in conflict with another's ideas and viewpoints? As long as there can be dialogue (two-way communication) between those who have differences of opinion, there is hope.

The disciples came to Jesus with a question. "Lord, how often shall we forgive those who sin against us? Shall we forgive them seven times?"

They thought they were being unusually generous, but Jesus saw what his disciples were thinking. He told them there was no limit to forgiveness.

Men and women who harbor ill will and hatred in their hearts can never be free to grasp the greater realities of God. Only he who forgives is capable of receiving God's forgiveness. We learn to forgive by forgiving.

The Peace of God

Colossians 3:15

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

PEACE COMES to those who love God. This is an inward peace which the world cannot give nor take away.

There are hate peddlers all over our nation today. Some of them even operate under the guise of religion. Dr. Tom Shipp, pastor of Lovers Lane Methodist Church in Dallas, tells of being in another part of the nation on a preaching mission. After the service, a man came by and invited him to dinner. The man said that he had made \$150,000 the previous year by producing and distributing pamphlets attacking the federal government, the United Nations, and the National Council of Churches.

Dr. Shipp felt that he had met the man before. Later he realized that it was in the Dallas jail that he had first seen the man.

Do not let yourself be taken in by those who peddle hate and suspicion. How much better it is to work for understanding.

Thinking Together

1. How may we improve understanding among the nations of the world?

2. What are some ways to strengthen the witness of the Christian church around the world?

3. Do you understand the organization and work of the National Council of Churches? Ask your pastor to help your class better understand this organization.

4. What is the difference between fear and anxiety?

5. What is worry? How can you avoid it?

—END

Check for the Truth

By HENRY M. BULLOCK

*All that glitters is not gold.
All that you hear is not so.
All that you read is not truth.
Don't be afraid to check.*

I HAVE in my library a nicely printed, bound volume published years ago and purporting to set the date for the end of the world shortly after its publication. The writer quoted the Bible copiously and claimed that certain acts of Congress, the president, and the Roman Catholic Church proved we were in the last days.

It may have sounded plausible to some readers twenty years ago when it was written—especially if one was against the political party and candidate the writer was identifying with anti-Christ. But fortunately the world did not accommodate the writer by coming to an abrupt end.

And the book today shows what it really was—the work of either a misguided zealot or a political charlatan. He was willing to smear a church, a president, and Congress to justify his prejudice and advance his candidate, party, and church. Unfortunately there have been many such mistaken zealots throughout history.

We are now witnessing attacks on great American leaders, on the government, on churches, and councils of churches. These attacks come in

radio programs, magazines, and other printed material.

Sincere Christians have special need today to study their own Bibles—seeking the help and guidance of their church and pastor so they may know for themselves what the Bible, especially the New Testament, really teaches and what the gospel really is.

Methodist Christians should never claim that their church is infallible truth and that Christians are beyond the pale! But they need to keep their eyes open and search for the truth amid all the propaganda of our day.

Here's a Check List to Help:

All that glitters is not gold. All that you hear is not so. All that you read is not truth. In these days of cross fire between propaganda on the radical left and the radical right, don't be afraid to ask the following questions:

1. Who said it? Did he actually say it? Who published it? Missing name, address, or clear identification may mean the author is hiding. Ask yourself why.

2. Where is the proof? If a sensational charge is NOT documented by a known and respected authority, insist on seeing the evidence for yourself. (The printing of an item in the Congressional Record is NOT

Dr. HENRY M. BULLOCK is Editor of Church School Publications, General Board of Education of The Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.

79N-69E 05-001

proof of its truth. Much that is in the Congressional Record is personal opinion, as anyone can see by examining a few issues.

3. Read "the fine print"; don't depend on headlines. Headlines are designed to get the attention of the reader, but they may also convey a totally misleading understanding of what happened.

4. Note the date of a statement. Don't base your opinion on an out-of-date quotation. Great Americans have been maligned as communist dupes because during World War II they, along with President Roosevelt and General Eisenhower, supported cooperation with Russia, with whom we were allied against Germany.

5. Does it mean what it seems to

say? A key word or phrase left out at the beginning or end of a sentence or paragraph can reverse the whole meaning. By itself a single sentence or even an entire paragraph is often misleading. A quotation out of context can make anyone seem to say what he doesn't mean.

6. Watch for trick photography and misleading captions which can make a picture seem to be what it is not.

7. Watch the organizations that you join, sign petitions for, or accept opinions from. Some organizations and publications are as phony as a three-dollar bill. The name may sound respectable and reputable; but it may cloak misguided zeal, malicious slander, or propaganda for subversion of the left or the right.



Roy H. Ryan, who has written the four September lessons, is associate minister responsible for adult education at Levers Lane Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas. He is a graduate student at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. Formerly Mr. Ryan was the conference director of adult work and pastor in the North Mississippi Conference.

Walter G. Williams, writer of the October and November lessons, is professor of Old Testament Literature and religion at Iliff School of Theology, Denver, Colorado. Dr. Williams is a member of the Rocky Mountain Conference where he takes an active part in conference affairs. He has preached in many parts of the world and is the author of a recent book, "Archaeology in Biblical Research."



12. j. 1

EX 102

25

September 27, 1965

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter was received on September 23rd.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

JRO:pjf
(3)

[Handwritten signature]



"THE END OF YOUR SEARCH FOR A FRIENDLY CHURCH"

October 20, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Perhaps someone on your staff will be kind enough to send me some information.

As an active member of a Sunday School Class and Church we have had discussions on the merits or faults of the National Council of Churches.


Our Church is a member of the Council but it is our free choice whether we support it or not.

In seeking information we are not trying to discredit anyone or prove anyone right-- we are seeking to find as nearly as possible the truth.

The question: "is the NCC Communist-infiltrated?"

We are a small group but we would like to uphold the NCC if it is what the organization says it is-- on the other hand if it is what others say it is we would not want to support it. It is so confusing, I decided to ask someone I thought would really know.

Any information on this would be appreciated.

Yours truly,


EX 102

REC-26

SEP 23 1965

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/20/65

FROM : SAC, Indianapolis [REDACTED] (RUC)

SUBJECT: CHANGED

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE
AND TOURS)
Buded 9/20/65

ReBuairtel to IP dated 9/8/65, captioned [REDACTED]
Title has been changed to include first name
of [REDACTED] B. APPROX 1895

was contacted by SA [REDACTED] 9/16/65, and his
letter to the Bureau dated 8/31/65, was orally acknowledged.
[REDACTED] age 70, now retired, stated he was formerly
a Minister in the United Brethren Church and later in the
Methodist Church.

Since his retirement he spends much of his time
reading and writing. He is concerned with the gains made
by the Communists in the United States and stated he
believes from the articles he has read that the National
Council of Churches is at least sympathetic with the
Communist Party.

[REDACTED] stated he feels that J. EDGAR HOOVER
and the FBI stand as the last bulwark against Communism in
the United States and he has the highest regard for Mr.
HOOVER and his organization.

- ② - Bureau
① - Indianapolis

GHA-dah
(3)

100-50869-1414

23
SEP 22 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

3 SEP 30 1965

U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

IP 94-332

[redacted] stated he was told by The Reverend [redacted] a Methodist Minister, several weeks ago, date not recalled, that [redacted] had a photostatic copy of a letter of apology written by J. EDGAR HOOVER to the National Council of Churches. He was also told by The Reverend [redacted] a Methodist Minister now at [redacted] that he had a copy of a similar letter. [redacted] who was transferred from [redacted] to [redacted] told him the letter was packed among his belongings so that he could not make it available at that time.

[redacted] stated he and his wife had been advised on two occasions by the Reverend [redacted] the Pastor of [redacted] Methodist Church, [redacted] that he has a photostatic copy of a letter from J. EDGAR HOOVER praising the National Council of Churches (not the Methodist Church) for the good work it, The National Council of Churches is doing. [redacted] assured him he would locate this letter and let [redacted] read it.

[redacted] stated a few days after [redacted] wrote to Mr. HOOVER, [redacted] told him he looked through his files and could not locate the copy of the letter from Mr. HOOVER. [redacted] stated [redacted] did not look him in the eye when he told him he could not find it, so that he had a feeling [redacted] was lying to him. [redacted] stated he feels sure that the above individuals do not have photostatic copies of any communications from Mr. HOOVER pertaining to the National Council of Churches, or if they do, that the photostatic copies of such letters are forged. He stated he could not understand why these individuals should hesitate to show their copies, if in fact they ever had copies of such a communication.

[redacted] the Methodist Ministers listed above are not being contacted and requested to make letters allegedly in their files available, and they are not being contacted at this time for an explanation.

September 22, 1965

REC-64

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 14th has been received.

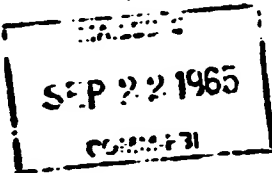
In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover


NOTE: There is no record of correspondent or her husband in Bufiles.

JRP:cai

(5)





TRUE COPY


Sept. 14, 1965

Director U. S. Dept of Justice
F. B. I.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir,

I am the chairman of the Commission on Social
Concerns at  Methodist Church in  We are composing
a report for our church concerning the truthful facts about the
National Council of Churches.

Do you have any available information that would
clear up the distorted views that so many people have about this
council.

I, along with the commission would appreciate
any words of assurance you can give to our report.

Yours very truly,


REC-64

EX-10

SEP 20 1965

[REDACTED]
Sept 14, 1965

Director U.S. Dept of Justice
L. B. L.
Washington 25, DC.

Dear Sir,

I am the Chairman of the
Commission on Social Concerns at
[REDACTED] Methodist Church in [REDACTED]
We are composing a report for our
Church concerning the truthfulness
about the National Council of Churches.

Do you have any available
information that would clear up
the distorted views that so many
people have about the Council?

I, along with the Commission
would appreciate any word of
assurance you can give to our
report.

Yours very truly
[REDACTED]

September 15, 1965

*St. Peter's Church
1700 Broadway*

SEP 15 4 25 PM '65
FBI
READING ROOM

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 8th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. Therefore, I am certain you will understand why I am not in a position to comment specifically as you have indicated, and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the church groups you named.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 5
SEP 15 1965
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2)

1 - Denver - Enclosure

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. In view of his statement of linking these church groups with the Communist Party, a straight confidential reply is deemed appropriate.

DTP:cal

(4) *Chu*

SEP 27 1965

ORIGINAL TYPED IN

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

September 8, 1965

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

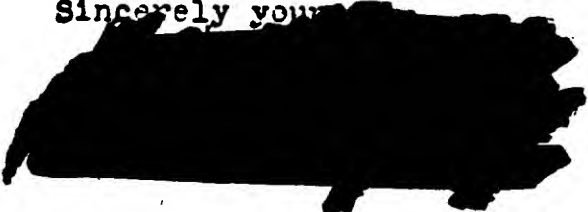
Dear Sir:

I have heard and have been shown a supposed "document" that the FBI is currently investigating the International Convention of Christian Churches Disciples of Christ and the National Council and World Council of Churches for linkage with the Communist Party. I, and several of my members who have been given the same information, would greatly appreciate it if you could give us any insight as to the validity of this information.

If these groups have been or are being investigated and if the information is not confidential we would be interested in any findings you might be able to relay to us, and if there has never been such an investigation we would of course like to know that.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I remain

Sincerely yours



25 SEP 21 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

9-15-65

September 13, 1965

REC- 69

SEP 13 2 08 PM '65

B I
MAIL ROOM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 6th has been received, and I want to thank you for the kind sentiments you expressed regarding my work. I will strive to merit your continued approval.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

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

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)
The Faith of Our Fathers
Law And Order, Essential To Freedom

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

JRP:cms
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SEP 13 1965

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	

Sept 6, 1965

John Edgar Hoover,
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Our church, The Lutheran Church in America, recently joined the National Council of Churches. Some of us in our local church are quite concerned. We have heard reports that just do not seem to fit in with Christian teaching.

We have heard that they published a list of books which they recommend for reading that were written by Communists. They also put out a phamphlet "Called to Resposible Freedom" which as far as we can find out recommends free love. I called our local Council of Churches and asked about this list of books and asked for the phamphlet. They said they would get in touch with me but I have heard nothing. We have also heard there are numerous Communists in the National Council of Churches.

If these things are true we feel that our church should get out of the NCC. However we do want to be sure before we bring them up at our annual meeting.

We feel that you are the one who can set us straight in these matters and would be ever so grateful for whatever help you can give us.

I personally want to tell you what a great man I think you are. I believe that you and Billie Graham are the two greatest men in our country, in the world for that matter. May God bless you and give you a long and blessed life to continue your fine work. I shudder to think of the day when you will not be the head of the F.B.I.

I am a Sunday School teacher and I used excerpts from two of your speeches, loaned me by a neighbor, for our Sunday morning lesson period. We had a very good discussion period as a result. I have eighth graders in my class and I am very concerned for all young people. I am sixty-one and it is not for myself that I worry about world conditions.

Respectfully yours,

EXP-PROC

100-50869-14

9-13-65
P/m

REC'D DE ROYCH

EX-103

[Redacted signature area]

September 1, 1965

SEP 1 2 57 PM '65

FBI
READING ROOM

REC 1
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of August 24th.

In response to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches. I would like to point out that we do not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles, and likewise [REDACTED] is not identifiable in Bufiles.

JTF:rsp (4)

August 24, 1965.

Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Attention: J. Edgar Hoover, Director

Dear Sir:

My pastor, [REDACTED] of First Methodist Church of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] is an officer of the National Council of Churches.
To my protest that N.C.C. is Red-infiltrated to the point of
domination of its policies and actions, he has stated flatly
to me that your agency has given N.C.C. complete clearance
as a loyal American institution?

Can this be true?

REC 1

Yours truly,

2 SEP 2 1965

ECK/mm

CONFIDENTIAL

September 9, 1955

REC-31

[REDACTED]

SEP 9 11 36 AM '55
FBI

Your letter of September 8th has been received.

While I would like to be of service to you, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. Therefore, I am sorry you will understand why I am not in a position to comment as you have indicated. It is noted you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

I enclosed is some literature which may be of interest to you. Material which this Bureau is privileged to disseminate is sent free of charge.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (2)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Faith in God - Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:cms
(3)

SEP 10 1955


MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Office of Information,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sirs,

I wonder if it would be possible for an ordinary citizen like me to have access to reports that the F. B. I. has made regarding the National Council Churches? If they are available, how do I go about securing them and how much do they cost?

Thank you very much,



20 MAR 1965

REC-31

100-50869-1400

EX 105

16 SEP 10 1965

9-9-65
OTP/cma

CORRESPONDENCE

9/8/65

Airtel

To: SAC, Indianapolis

From: Director, FBI

REC 45

100-50869-1399

RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)
BUDED 9/20/65

Enclosed are 2 copies of self-explanatory communication received from captioned individual who was not identifiable in Bufiles when written by me on 6/9/65. Also enclosed are 2 copies of my letter of June 9th, together with 2 copies of my communication to [redacted] which may be the source of the alleged misunderstanding in this matter.

You should instruct a Special Agent to contact [redacted] and orally acknowledge the receipt of his communication. It should be explained that my letter to him dated 6/9/65 set forth the FBI's position in this matter. However, there is always a possibility that someone may have taken out of context a portion of a letter of mine to another individual. Therefore, [redacted] should be queried about the alleged letters bearing my signature and alleged statements. No effort should be made to embarrass the individual or individuals in possession of such an alleged communication and you should take steps to forward a copy of same, if any are in existence, to the Bureau for review and appropriate action.

Submit the results of your action, under the above caption, to reach the Bureau no later than 9/20/65.

Enclosures (3)

NOTE: Outgoing 6/9/65 to [redacted] denied any alleged letter or statement on the part of Mr. Hoover. However, he has introduced the issue of forged letters over Mr. Hoover's signature and it is felt the above procedure is necessary to thwart this matter from expanding beyond all reasonable means.

DTP:dls (7)

Keiled Sa 3/ let 9-20-65
Follow up made for 9/20/65

MAILED 9 1965
S
Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____

Aug. 31, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On June 3, 1965 I wrote to you asking if you
had written a letter of apology to the National
Council of Churches for some
statements you had made about some
of their literature. I received a letter from
you dated June 10, 1965 - stating very
emphatically that you had never written
such a letter.

Now, just last week a minister who recently
moved to [redacted] told me that he received
a photostatic copy of a letter written by you
raising the National Council of Churches for
the good work they were doing. Judging
from your flat denial of the first letter, it

REC 45 - 2400 - 50869 - 1349

EX-113

18 SEP 15 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

letter.

Since you did not write the first letter or make any statement, the only conclusion that can come to is that this letter over your signature was forgery.

This second letter that was mentioned to me, in my opinion could be forgery also.

So I am asking you the straight question, did you write a letter to the National Council of Churches praising them for the ^{work} good they were doing?

The Council branded the book written by John Stomer, "None Were Called It Treason" as deliberate misrepresentation; and Bishop Mueller president of the Council accused the Indianapolis Star of misrepresentation in an editorial, Thursday, April 22, 1965 "Tax Exemption For Lobbyist" which really placed the Council of Churches on the side of the C.

(3)
same things the Communist and Daily
worker stand for. The Star never made
any retraction and stated that the Bishop
had left several questions unanswered
and given additional information
about the Council.

If you care to check in to this nefarious
scheme of sending out forged letters
over your forged signature I will
give you the names of the three ministers
who gave me the information.

I have no reason to question the Word of
these ministers, but I certainly question
the National Council of Churches and their
methods.

Will be looking for your reply. Thank you.

Very Sincerely yours


TRUE COPY

Aug 31 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On June 3, 1965 I wrote to you asking if you had written a letter of apology to the National Council of Churches for some statements you had made about some of their literature. I received a letter from you dated June 10, 1965 stating very emphatically that you had never written such a letter.

Now, just last week a minister who recently moved to [redacted] told me that he received a photostatic copy of a letter written by you praising the National Council of Churches for the good work they were doing. Judging from your flat denial of the first letter, I certainly question your writing this second letter.

Since you did not write the first letter or make any statement, the only conclusion I can come to is that this letter over your signature was forgery.

This second letter that was mentioned to me, in my opinion could be forgery also. So I am asking you the straight question, did you write a letter to the National Council of Churches praising them for the good work they were doing?

The Council branded the book written by John Stormer, "None Dare Call It Treason" as deliberate misrepresentation; and Bishop Mueller president of the Council accused the ~~Ind~~ Indianapolis Star of misrepresentation in an editorial, Thursday, April 22, 1965 "Tax Exemption For Lobbyist" which really placed the Council of Churches on the side of the Communist and pushing for the same things the Communist and Daily worker stand for. The Star never made any retraction and stated that the Bishop had left several questions unanswered and given additional information about the Council.

If you care to check in to this nefarious scheme of sending out forged letters over your forged signature I will give you the names of the three ministers who gave me the information.

I have no reason to question the Word of these ministers, but I certainly question the National Council of Churches and their methods.

Will be looking for your reply. Thank you.

Very Sincerely Yours

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature.

September 7, 1965

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 1st has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment as you desire, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to the organization or subject you mentioned.

Enclosed is a copy of the list of organizations which have been cited as subversive by the Department of Justice of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450, in addition to some other material on the topic of communism which I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
List of Subversive organizations
"Our Heritage of Greatness"
"Faith in God-- Our Answer to Communism"

NOTE: There is no derogatory information in Bufiles concerning [REDACTED] we corresponded with him last on 3-22-56.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐ KLS:des (3)

September 1, 1965


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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I know you have had many inquiries concerning subversive personalities; especially related to communism. May I make another inquiry? Have you ever issued an opinion or a statement concerning the National Council of Churches; the minister in general; as related to communism, or front organizations? If so would you please supply me with a copy of the statement? If possible I would also appreciate having from you the current list of prominent individuals or organizations that are classified as subversive.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention.

Sincerely yours,


JFF:cj


REC-3

EX 105

5 SEP 19 1965

August 27, 1965

REC-71 /

EX-101

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 23rd has been received.

In response to your request, information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am not in a position to comment as you desire.

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


Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)
Our Heritage of Greatness
Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles.

KLS:ejc
(3)


August 23, 1965

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, District of Columbia 20535

Dear Sirs:

I have recently heard that the National Council of Churches is to a great extent Communist controlled and that some of their literature is Red slanted. I have also heard the same about the AFL-CIO, CORE, and NAACP. I would certainly appreciate it if you could clarify this and inform me if this is so.

Sincerely yours,


REC-75

EX-101

ENCE

August 25, 1965

REC-34

EX-100

Aug 25 10 09 AM '65
FBI
READING ROOM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 19th, with enclosure, has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I trust you understand the necessary reasons for this policy and why I cannot comment as you suggested. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope is being utilized in reply.

DFC:cvb (3)

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

25
[REDACTED]
Dear Sirs:

On August 18, in Beaumont Texas, Mr. W. Cleon Skousen, a former F.B.I. agent, spoke on the L.A. riots and their connection with communism. I consider myself fortunate to have heard him.

During the question and answer period that followed the National Council of Churches was brought up. Would it be possible for your organization to tell me if this group has been infiltrated by the communist, or if it is influenced by the communist party.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Yours truly,
[REDACTED]

AUG 21
PM
1965
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-32

EX-100

111-50617-1396

35 AUG 26 1965

act 1-25-65 DFC:ck

CORRESPONDENT

August 25, 1965

REC- 61

AUG 25 10 15 AM '65
FBI
READING ROOM

[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of August 19th, with enclosure, has been received, and I want to thank you for your comment about this Bureau.

In connection with your inquiry regarding the National Council of Churches, I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding this group.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bureau files. Self-addressed, stamped envelope forwarded by correspondent utilized in reply.

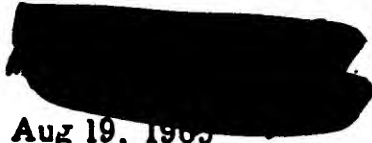
SAW:cms
(3)

[Handwritten signature]

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. Holmes
Miss Gandy

1404E

TRUE COPY


Aug 19, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Our church (Methodist) contributes to the National Council of Churches. But we hear it has communists within it's organization.

If this is true we do not want our money to aid them..

Can you tell us whether or not these reports are true.

We respect your group as being absolutely reliable and fair.

Thank you sincerely,


REC- 61

12 AUG 23 1965

May 14, 1965

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I. Director
Washington D. C.
Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing to you regarding the
National Security Council. But we know
it has a committee within its jurisdiction.
If this is true we are not at all sure of
it.

I am sure that you are not the
only one who is.

I am sure that you are not the
only one who is.

August 11, 1935

EC-57
100
101

Dear 

Your letter of August 5th has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

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

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)
Our Heritage of Greatness
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

JRP:des (3)

Q/A

REC 11 2 57 PM '35
FBI
READING ROOM

[REDACTED]
Aug. 11, 1955
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I am chairman of our [REDACTED] Methodist Church. I side on social concerns, and we have a problem. Several of the more "right" members of our church have threatened to withdraw if we continue to support the National Council of Churches. They believe this organization to be Communist-controlled.

Do you have any information which substantially indicates that there might be some untoward affiliation of the Council and the Communists?

From what I have read about the Council, the whole thing seems to be a rather good idea. I am personally in favor of continuing our support, in the hopes that it may someday achieve a certain degree of unification and communicity in our churches' missionary efforts.

We will certainly be grateful for any information you may be able to provide, or a referral to some other organization which might have this information.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

REC- 52

EX-101

8. AUG 12 1955

EC-110

August 11, 1965

Aug 11 1 46 PM '65

81

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter was received on August 6th, and I want to thank you for bringing the information furnished to my attention. It was good of you to furnish me your observations.

In response to your inquiry concerning the menace of communism, 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.

I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy. I hope you will not infer that we either do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten signature]

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles. The majority of the individuals named by her are religious leaders in this country. She appears to be distressed because the Presbyterian Church in this country is an affiliate of the National Council of Churches, and she apparently deplors a religious body involving itself in civil rights matters.

JPP:cms (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

April - 1965 -

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

Dear Sir:-

I have been wanting to write this long while, and after much thought took this time to do so.

First of all the National Council of Churches. They blame them for being Communist inspired and I beleive it. As one of our Minister's said, -- "They are the James' brothers in disguise".

My husband and I are very sincere Christians. We read our Bible, live a prayer-ful life, and no one can fool us about Christianity. The reason I tell you this is that I belonged to a United Presbyterian Church, (old denomination that merged with the Presbyterians--, now called Presbyterian U. S. A.) for 17 years and my husband about 25 years. We noticed their leniency in letting members join. A good Christian Church has a stiff list of Bible questions to ask and Answer before joining Church. First of all, all the leaders should be Christians, and not everyone is a Christian, - then they can tell who they are taking in as members.

REC-33
Most of the older denominations have become apostate, and liberal (gone to the world instead of spiritual), and individuals can come to their Church, one Sunday, and join the next Sunday, and don't tell me that news of this looseness don't get around. One of our ministers said it it is his belief that Communists have infiltrated many of our Nation's Churches, Seminaries and Divinity schools. In fact he told of a Communist defector's testimony before a Congressional Committee that the party felt the best way to destroy religion in America is to infiltrate religion itself.

AUG 12 1965

Has this not happened? Did they not get one thing accomplished by getting Bible reading and prayer out of Government schools? The National Council of Churches endorsed this - and why would you think they would? Churches who profess Christianity? What's back of this? Well - back of it all, the leniency of allowing people to join their Churches. Anyone can join. They don't know really who they take in as members. All they boast of is how many members they have - not that they are Christians. Getting anyone in as members entitles the members to vote at their Congregational meetings. That way these people get at the head of the Church and if they are intelligent enough they can go to Presbyteries (their district meeting) get voted in, then to Synods, the National organization. This way they get to send recommendations to Congress, vote on all issues etc.

You can tell the trend of voting especially of the Presbyterian Church U. S. A. The voting these days is everything, but Christian. Who gets at the head of these Churches? My husband and I as well as over 100 members left the U. P. Church. Good Christians, Mr. Hoover, are slowly going out.

Dr. Charles S. Poling, a strong bulwark of the United Presbyterian Church wrote a letter to the State clerk, Presbytry of Phoenix, and said, "I'm instructing you to erase my name from the roster of the Ministers of the Presbytry of Phoenix, of the United Presbyterian Church of U. S. A.

"I cannot be said give loyal support to a church that, through official action and pronouncements unites with the forces of evil and goes on record as opposing historic beliefs and doctrines that made us great and lent dignity and meaning to our preaching. I refer to the General Assembly's action relating to "public prayers, religious observances, religious holidays, Christian scenes, Bible reading in schools, and on school property; opposition to Sunday Closing laws." and other deliverances one would expect Atheistic groups to take, but never such action from a Church bearing the name and banner of our Lord and Saviour. I cannot longer find fellowship in a Church that blindly submits to the rule of Dr Eugene Carson Blake who seems dominated by an omnipotent complex, associates with listed known Communists, deliberately breaks the laws of a sovereign state, and leads marches that can inspire hate, and provoke violence. And I yield to no man in desire to see minority groups enjoying full and restricted blessings and opportunities my own race enjoys. When my Church becomes the captive to the ultra liberal and Apostate National Council of Churches, and the World Council and yields obedience to socialistic, political hierarchy, my Church' can no longer

claim my support and respect. I will not sin by remaining silent while my Presbytery considers becoming a member of the NAACP, a militant political organization. Our denomination's new media, all papers and magazines have been captured by the ultra liberals, and serve notice that there is no place in the U. P. Church U. S. A. for Conservatives.

Mr. Hoover you can tell now what the National Council of Churches is, but yet they can get anywhere in the Government under the guise of Christianity. A cloak - Wolves in sheeps clothing.

This good Christian man, Dr. Poling served that denomination nearly fifty years. He said that all those years they were "giants in the land, proud of their Church because they were accredited Ministers. They thundered God's truths. Today when we need the church at it's best, it is lost. He said that today there is a crushing hand of shame for his beloved Church, and great sadness in his heart.

Dr. Poling comes from a long line of Ministers.

What then, is in back of these Churches? And they are using the good Christians still in their denominations, who haven't left yet, for a front to do their dirty work.

A good Christian would never be for that Civil Rights Legislation. Our Saviour said, "Thou shalt love the Lord with all thy heart, and with all they soul etc." Love is something from the heart of man that expresses itself in deeds and words. The Civil Rights bili doesn't produce love, but hate, and bitterness. The idea that everyone in this Nation is a child of God, and there should be brotherhood of men is completely in error. It's not found in the Holy scriptures. A person has to accept Jesus Christ, and be born again to be a child of God, and if everyone in our Nation was, there wouldn't have to be Civil Rights Legislation. Everyone would treat others right. I can't see private property that God gives us, and that we are responsible for should be subject to federal regulation and intervention, giving the Government a responsibility over private property. The law of God as set forth by the Ten Commandments says we must seek to protect the individual and his encroachment attack, and destruction by Federal authority.

The true Church cannot help to restrict the liberty of all our people.

A spirit of lawlessness and even riot was stimulated in order to obtain Civil rights legislation, and true Christians waited in vain for President Johnson to discourage and denounce this fundamental assault upon Civil order itself. It should have merited his

stern repudiation. When lawlessness and mob action are used to induce legislation and intimidate legislators, the integrity of this Republic is under assault. Such acts of law violation are sin before God. As Christians we should respect the laws of the land. The Civil rights activity has not done this. And then he calls on the National Council of Churches for help. The President of the United States should have no authority inside the religious life of the Churches of this Nation.

We do not need federal legislation. What we all need is to be brought face to face with Almighty God.

Just recently columnist Doris O. Sanders of the Newberry S. C. Sun, reported on March 4, 1965, a controversy in which her Column has become involved with the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

The column she said brought reactions pro and con, but happily most of them "pro" the Column, not the NCC. People, she said is wakening up; and are beginning to ask their Ministers about this organization which claims to represent 40,000,000 Protestants.

"They can't explain the NCC study group, with the approval of the NCC president, urging recognition by this Country of Red China." The President is Bishop Reuben H Mueller.

"They can't explain the NCC issuing a document approving premarital sexual relations."

Mr. Hoover I have read pamphlets you have written to warn our young people, and just to think a church promotes this kind of thing. Don't Communist's try to break down moral?

"They can't explain the NCC's demand that Bible reading and prayer be out - lawed in schools."

"They can't explain top NCC officials' active participation in trying to Repeal the McCarran Act, which requires Communists in the Country to register with the justice Department.

"They can't explain the NCC^s leaders' support the Communist Party in trying to abolish the House Un - American Activities Committee.

"They can't explain the NCC's role in the March on Washington.

"They can't explain the NCC involvement in the Mississippi mess.

"They can't explain what business the NCC has lobbying for federal aid to education.

This Country is going down hill because of this organization who give their votes to outlaw anything that's good, and vote for anything that degrades.

Yours Truly,



X Edgar Hoover,

April - 1965 -

F. B. I.
Washington D. C.
Dear Sir: -

I have been wanting to write this long while, and after much thought took this time to do so.

First of all the National Council of Churches. They blame them for being Communist inspired and I believe it. As one of our Minister's said, — "They are the James' brothers in disguise".

My husband and I are very sincere Christians. We read our Bible, live a prayer-ful life, and no one can fool us about Christianity.

The reason I tell you this is that I belonged to a United Presbyterian Church (all denominations that merged with the Presbyterians —, now called Presbyterians U. S. A.) for 17 years and my husband about 25 years. We noticed their leniency in letting members join. A good Christian Church I am. I list a list of Bible questions to ask and

if everyone is a Christian - then they can tell who they are taking in as members.

Most of the older denominations have become apostate and liberal (gone to the work instead of spiritual) and individuals can come to their Church one Sunday and join the next Sunday and don't tell me that news of this looseness don't get around. One of our ministers said it is his belief that Communists have infiltrated many of our Nation's Churches, Seminaries and Divinity schools. In fact he told of a Communist defector's testimony before a Congressional Committee that the party felt the best way to destroy religion in America is to infiltrate religion itself.

Has this not happened? Did they not get one thing accomplished by getting Bible reading and prayer out of Communist schools? The National Council of the Churches endorsed this and why would you think they would? Churches who

Well back of it all, the ~~bo~~ many following
people to join their Churches. Anyone
can join. They don't know really
who they take in as members. All
they boast of is how many members
they have - not that they are Christians.
Getting anyone in as members en-
titles the members to vote at their
Congregational meetings. That way
these people get at the head of the
Church and if they are intelligent
enough they can go to Presbyteries
(their district meetings) get voted in;
then to Synods, the National organization.
This way they get to send recommendations
to Congress, vote on all issues etc.

You can tell the trend of voting especially
of the Presbyterian Church U. S. A. They
voting there says is everything but Christ.
Who gets at the head of these Churches. My
husband and I as well as over 100 members
left the U. P. Church. Good Christians,
Mr. Hoover, are slowly going out.

*If the United Presbyterian Church wrote a letter to the State Clerk, Presbytery of Phoenix, and said, "I am instructing you to erase my name from the roster of the Minutes of the Presbytery of Phoenix, of the United Presbyterian Church of U. S. A."

I cannot ^{be said} give loyal support to a Church that, through official action and pronouncements unites with the forces of evil and goes on record as opposing historic beliefs and doctrines that made us great and lent dignity and meaning to our preaching. I refer to the General Assembly's action relating to "public prayers, religious observances, religious holidays, Christian scenes, Bible reading in schools, and on school property; opposition to Sunday Closing laws and other deliverances one would expect Atheistic groups to take, but never such action from a Church bearing the name and banner of our Lord and Saviour. I cannot longer find fellowship in a Church that blindly submits to the rule of Dr Eugene Carson Blake

with listed known Communists,
deliberately breaks the laws of a sovereign
state, and leads marches that can only
spire hate, and provoke violence.
And I yield to no man in desire to
see minority groups enjoying full and
restricted blessings and opportunities
my own race enjoys. When my Church
becomes the captive to the ultra
liberal and Apostate National Council
of Churches, and the World Council and
yields obedience to socialistic, political
hierarchy, my Church can no longer claim
my support and respect. I will not sin
by remaining silent while my Presbytery
considers becoming a member of the
NAACP, a militant political organization.
Our denomination's new media, all
papers and magazines have been
captured by the ultra liberals,
and serve notice that there is no

Mr. Hoover you can tell now what the National Council of Churches is but yet they can get anywhere with Government under the guise of Christianity. A cloak. Wolves in sheep's clothing.

This good Christian man, Dr. Poling served that denomination nearly fifty years. He said that all those years they were "giants in the land, proud of their Church because they were accredited ministers. They thought God's truths. Today when we meet the Church at its best, it is lost. He said that today there is a crushing hand of shame for his beloved Church, and great sadness in his heart.

Dr. Poling comes from a long line of Ministers.

What then, is in back of these Churches? And they are using the good Christians still in their denominations, who haven't left yet, for a front to do their dirty work.

Our Lord said, "Thou shalt love the Lord with all thy heart, and with all Thy soul etc." Love is something from the heart of man that expresses itself in deeds and words. The Civil Rights bill doesn't produce love, but hate, and bitterness. The idea that everyone in this Nation is a Child of God, and there should be brotherhood of men is completely in error. It's not found in the Holy scriptures. A person has to accept Jesus Christ, and be born again to be a Child of God, and if everyone in our Nation was, there wouldn't have to be Civil Rights Legislation. Everyone would treat others right. I can't see private property that God gives us and that we are responsible for should be subject to federal regulation and interference, giving the Government a responsibility over private property. The law of God as set forth by the Ten Commandments says we must seek to protect the individual and his encroachment attack and destruction by Federal authority. The true Church cannot help to restrict the liberty of all our people.

A spirit of lawlessness and even riot was stimulated in order to obtain Civil rights legislation, and true Christians waited in vain for President Johnson to discourage and denounce this fundamental assault upon Civil order itself. It should have merited his stern repudiation. When lawlessness and mob action are used to induce legislation and intimidate legislators, the integrity of this Republic is under assault. Such acts of law violation are sin before God. As Christians we should respect the laws of the land. The Civil rights activity has not done this. And then he calls on the National Council of Churches for help. The President of the United States should have no authority inside the religious life of the Churches of this Nation.

We do not need federal legislation. What we all need is to be brought face to face with Almighty God.

Just recently Columnist Doris O. Sanders of the New York N. Y. Times

her Column," as become involved with the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

The Column she said brought reactions pro and con, but happily most of them "pro" the Column, not the NCC. People, she said is waking up, and are beginning to ask their ministers about this organization which claims to represent 40,000,000 Protestants.

"They can't explain the NCC study group, with the approval of the NCC president, urging recognition by this Country of Red China." The President is Bishop Ruben H. Miller.

"They can't explain the NCC issuing a document approving premarital sexual relations."

(Mr. Hoover I have read pamphlets you have written to warn our young people, and just to think a church promotes this kind of thing. Don't Communists try to break down moral?)

"They can't explain the NCC's demand that Bible reading and prayer be outlawed in schools."

"They can't explain top NCC officials' active participation in trying to

requires Communists in the Country to register with the Justice Department.

"They Can't explain the NCC leaders' support the Communist Party in trying to abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee.

"They Can't explain the NCC role in the March on Washington.

"They Can't explain the NCC involvement in the Mississippi mess.

"They Can't explain what business the NCC has lobbying for Federal aid to education.

This Country is going down hill because of this organization who give their votes to outlaw anything that's good, and vote for anything that degrades.

Yours Truly,

REC 36

August 2, 1965

Aug 2 10 30 AM '65
IN
COMM-FBI

[REDACTED]

Your letter of July 28th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have entries in our files concerning the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.

JRP:cms
(3)

1965
AUG 2 10 30 AM '65

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]
July 28, 1965

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

Dear Sir:

We have been hearing a lot of controversy lately concerning the National Council of Churches and accusations that they favor Communism, and that there are Communists in their group. We know if this is so, that you have investigated it. Would you send us your findings on these accusations, we would like to know the truth of the matter rather than hear-say.

Thank you kindly,

Sincerely
[REDACTED]

July 27, 1965

F. B. I.

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have been hearing a lot of controversy lately concerning the National Council of Churches and accusations that they favor Communism, and that there are Communists in their group. We know if this is so, that you have investigated it. Would you send us your findings on these accusations, we would like to know the truth of the matter rather than hear-say.

Thank you kindly,

Sincerely,
[Redacted Signature]

July 26, 1965

EX 105

Reverend Jon L. Regier
Associate General Secretary
Division of Christian Life and Mission
National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the U. S. A.
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10027

Dear Mr. Regier:

Your letter of July 26th was received during Mr. Hoover's absence. You may be certain your communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

I know he would want me to advise you that the pressure of his official schedule is such as to preclude additional commitments in the foreseeable future.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

1 - New York - Enclosure

NOTE: The House Committee on Un-American Activities on 2-25-60 furnished a list of names of 160 individuals in leadership capacity of the National Council of the Churches of Christ allegedly with communist-front records or records of service to communist causes. Correspondent's name was included among the list; however, there is no other identifiable data of a subversive nature concerning him in Bufiles.

DFC:ems
(4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MISSIONS

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10027

TELEPHONE: 870-2450

BISHOP REUBEN H. MUELLER, PRESIDENT

R. H. EDWIN ESPY, GENERAL SECRETARY

Rev. NORMAN J. BAUGHEN
CHAIRMAN

Rev. JON L. REGIER
GENERAL SECRETARY

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	_____

July 26, 1965

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
F.B.I.
Justice Building
Ninth and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The new leisure and its implications challenges all thoughtful people in America. It is developing so fast it is difficult to assess the total impact on our life and culture even in specialized fields of interest and concern. In 1961 the National Council of Churches began a series of studies on the implications of leisure and the church. The first phase of this study produced the book entitled Religion and Leisure in America by Robert Lee, Director of the Center for Christian Social Ethics at San Francisco Theological Seminary.

One of the important conclusions of this study was the need for a task force to guide the churches in their response to the challenge of the new leisure. In this rapid social change there has been little interdisciplinary exchange on the nature of the situation in this new leisure in which man finds himself. There is need for a free interchange between laymen in several secular disciplines with church leaders who are also concerned with this opportunity. There has been almost no sharing of effective approaches to the new leisure. The church can serve a reconciling function as she brings together in conversation and action the leisure creators, leisure users and those who provide leisure services.

To assist the churches in this process the National Council of Churches has decided to create a Task Force on Leisure. This task force will be a small group of representatives from the secular community and the church to help the church plan a strategy for policy and action to meet the new challenge. Professor Paul Douglass, Director of the Center for Practical Politics at Rollins College and former President of American University in Washington, D.C., will be the chairman for this task force. Will you be a member of this special Task Force on Leisure?

ACK 7-29-65
D.F.C.

REC-234

100-5969-1391

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

- 2 -

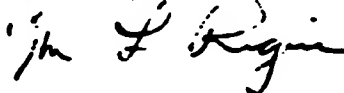
July 26, 1965

The first meeting of the task force will be at the Center for Continuing Education at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey to begin at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 24th and continue through the evening of Monday, October 25th. Prior to the meeting you will receive study materials produced thus far by the National Council of Churches and a brief survey of the present programs of the churches dealing with leisure.

Among the tasks within the broad concern of leisure the task force will guide the present program of the National Council of Churches and direct the 15 regional conferences on leisure now in process in the United States and Canada. It will consider the possibility of a national consultation on the church and leisure early in 1967. This task force will also give considerable impetus to an international consultation on leisure under the World Council of Churches in the fall of 1967 or early 1968.

Will you let me know if you will serve on this task force? The churches need to hear strong voices like yours to assess and plan their effective ministry and action in the new world of leisure.

Sincerely yours,



Jon L. Regier

JLR:prn

July 26, 1965

REC 8

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of July 20th has been received, and I can understand the concern which prompted your communication. I am enclosing some material which I hope you will find of interest.

While I would like to be of service to you, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files concerning the National Council of Churches.

I can tell you that Howard D. Smoot was employed by the FBI as a Special Agent from March 23, 1942, until June 15, 1951, when he voluntarily resigned. His personal ventures as well as his opinions and comments since he left this Bureau are strictly his own, and it is not possible for me to comment on these in any way whatsoever.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)

Excerpt from FBI Appropriations Testimony, 3-4-65, on Communist Party, USA

FBI Jurisdiction Does not Cover Making Evaluations

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles.

JRP:pjp (3)

JUL 30 1965
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

July 20, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a member of the Session of the [REDACTED] Presbyterian Church, I am deeply interested in the alleged subversive or communistic activities of the National Council of Churches.

I will appreciate any and all material, pro and con, that you can furnish me concerning the activities of this organization, as a group, and as individual council members.

You are, no doubt, familiar with the material that has been presented in "The Don Smoot Report". In your opinion, can this be accepted as authentic?

I have talked at some length with our minister and others, concerning the membership of our church in the Council, and the sad word always is that there is nothing that we can do about it. We were not asked to join, and there is no way to get out.

We lost our only son in Korea, after 51 night-fighter missions up to the Yalu, and my wife's only nephew lost his life in World War II.

It is pretty difficult for me to subscribe to what I hear about the N. C. C., and I'll greatly appreciate some really authenticated material concerning its activities, which I am sure you can furnish.

Sincerely yours,

REC 8

JUL 21 1965

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

REC 8

July 14, 1965

JUL 14 10 33 AM '65

FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of July 8th.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files pertaining to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: [REDACTED] is on our mailing list to receive the Uniform Crime Reports bulletin. We last corresponded with him on 8-26-65 when he was furnished printed material concerning communism. Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding this minister.

JRP:rep (3)

July 8, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Last week a man in Atlanta made the statement "The National Council of Churches has been infiltrated by the communists and the Federal Bureau of Investigation has proved it." If this is true I think that all of us in America need to know the facts. Has such a report been published by your bureau? Do you have any information which would help me meet the charge that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has proved the communist infiltration of the National Council of Churches? *

Sincerely,



REC 81

100-50869-1389

JUL 15 1965

CONFIDENTIAL

ack 7-14-65.2

Y
Gnp:mg
OML

REC-10

July 9, 1933

JUL 9 4 43 PM '33

RECEIVED-READING ROOM
F B I

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of July 1st has been received and your kind comments concerning my administration of the FBI are appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that this Bureau 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. Therefore, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment as you desire.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

CJH:plr
(3)

1. 1965

My concern is that two of the books on this list are
written by Harry + Bonaro Courtant
"Strange Justice of Estemini"
"What We Must Know About Communism"

If this is true, I feel that their book should be
a recommended reading list for church women.

Another thing that is bothering me is the increasing number of people who are becoming interested in the John Birch Society. Sometimes their views make sense, but others are just silly nonsense.

³ Feb I am becoming discouraged with some of the ^{8 27 1911} price of fuel
M.D. L. MDDCCCXII

Government officials — she was pressing problems in
"How can we believe and trust?"

I am writing to you because I feel you are one of
the minority who is a dedicated public official, a true
American and one who believes what our forefathers stood for
and died for — true Americans.

I would be grateful for any information you could
supply.

Cordially yours

[Redacted signature]

APR 10 1963

FBI

REC'D-COM & TOURS

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]
July 1, 1965
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoover :

I could begin this letter by asking, "whom can we believe."

I am connected with the United Presbyterian Women's work in the U. S. I am serving in the capacity of [REDACTED] which means I pass on to [REDACTED] a list of books recommended by the National Council of Churches and the Presbytery.

My concern is that two of the books on this list are written by Harry & Bonaro Overstreet

"Strange Tactics of Extremism"

"What We Must Know About Communism"

According to Carl McIntyre, who I understand is a minister and broadcasts over a network of 546 radio stations a 30 minute program each day called the "Twentieth Century Reformation Hour. He claims the Overstreets have belonged to communistic groups and implies that they are subversive.

If this is true, I feel that their books shouldn't be on a recommended reading list for church women.

Another thing that is bothering me is the increasing number of people who are becoming interested in the John Birch Society. Sometimes their views make sence, but others are very anti-American.

REC-10

I am becoming discouraged with some of the views of our Government Officials — the most pressing problem for me is "Whom can we believe and trust?"

I am writing to you because I feel you are one of the minority who is a dedicated public official and a true American and one who believes what our forefathers stood for and died for — true Americanism

I would be grateful for any information you can supply.

Concernedly yours



CC-15

July 8, 1965

[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

JUL 8 5 24 PM '65
FBI
RECEIVED

Your letter of June 29th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. I trust you understand the necessary reasons for this policy and why I cannot comment as you suggested. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:jdm
(3)

JUL 21 1965

June 21, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As a minister of the gospel and a concerned American citizen, I am disturbed by the many charges and inquiries with regard to the infiltration of Communists and communistic influences in the National Council of Churches and other church bodies. Do you have any evidence of communistic infiltration or influence in the National Council of Churches or other church bodies?

Please send me any documentary or factual material that will help answer my question. Your earliest answer will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature and name of the sender.

CPS:hp

100-10

CONFIDENTIAL

REC-47

July 6, 1965

JUL 6 10 12 AM '65
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

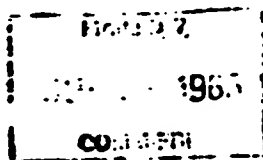
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 29th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment as you desire, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
CJ J/bjj



MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]
June 29, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have read many articles about the National Council
of Churches and I believe this organization is trying to undermine
religion.

I have tried to get my church out of the National
Council of Churches, but I have been told that the NCC doesn't
speak for us even though we are helping to support it with our money.

I would appreciate any information you can send me
concerning the National Council of Churches. Thank you.


Sincerely yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]

1TC ulp 7-2-65

REC-47

JUL 6 1965


January 4, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have read many articles about the
National Council of Churches and I believe
this organization is trying to undermine
religion.

I have tried to get my church out of
the National Council of Churches, but I have
been told that the FCC doesn't speak for me
even though we are helping to support it
with our money.

I would appreciate any information
you can send me concerning the National
Council of Churches. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


RESPONDENCE

REC 8

July 1, 1965

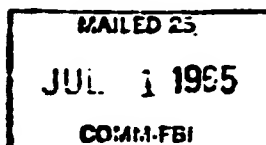
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 25th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, this Bureau has not released reports along the lines you have mentioned. Information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I am certain you will understand why this Bureau has not released data as you have suggested and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files concerning the National Council of Churches.

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

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosures (2)

1 - Charlotte - Enclosure
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sincerely

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:plr (4)

JUL 1 2 43 PM '65
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

June 25, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am a Methodist Minister serving a church in [REDACTED]. There is in our community a faction of individuals who want to be a disruptive influence within our church community. The point of contention appears to be centered about the National Council of Churches. Supported by what they claim is documentary evidence, these individuals go about publicly claiming that it is a fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that the National Council of Churches is predominantly composed of communists, and thereby have as their intent to disrupt the American way of life. It has also been stated that the F. B. I. has found some of the Bishops of the Methodist Church to be communists. It is further reported that you have personally stated that the National Council of Churches is a communist organization.

The members of our church are concerned because it is not our desire as Christians to support any organization that is for the promotion of communism. It is out of grave concern that we turn to you for some statement as to whether or not there is any validity in the above claims. We would further like to know whether or not any investigation has been undertaken by your agency with regard to communism within the National Council of Churches, and if investigation has been undertaken, then what conclusions have been drawn with regard to it being communist, or communist dominated, or communist related. I appreciate the fact that you are the head of a fact finding agency of our government, and it is to you that I appeal for the facts in this matter.

I realize that you are extremely busy, and I apologize that I have presumed upon your time to this degree, but I feel that the nature of the situation warrants this letter. I would very much appreciate an answer at your convenience.

REC 8

Sincerely,

6 JUN 24

ST-116

June 29, 1965

JUL 29 3 58 PM '65
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

Bd

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 24th has been received, and I want to thank you for your generous comments. It is hoped that any future endeavors continue to meet with your approval.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment as you desire, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files regarding the National Council of Churches.

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

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)

Let's Fight Communism Sincerely
Faith in God - Our Answer to Communism
1 - Savannah - Enclosure
1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles.

HL:spj

(5)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

June 27, 1965.

Mr. J. Lee Brown,
P.O. 1.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Brown:

It is with a great deal of urgency and importance that I write to you. As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, I am serving on the Church Council, 1962-1967, and as a member of the Church Council, I am also a member of the Church Council. The Church Council is the body of the Church which is responsible for the Gospel of Christ.

The matter of being a participating member of the National Council of Churches of Christ is before us at this time. A group of our select laymen is to meet with our Church Council within the next 10 days to discuss our withdrawal from the National Council of Churches. One of their concerns is Communist infiltration in this body. Do you have any information concerning this matter? Are any of the leaders of the National Council of Churches Communist inspired, or do they belong to any Communist front organizations?

I am neither "for" nor "against" the National Council of Churches, but we all feel within our Church that we must resolve this matter before us at this time. This is why I seek the above information.

There is not a member of our congregation who does not seek divine guidance in the proper direction in this matter. The Stewardship of time, talent, and money of this Church has been felt around the world many times in new world missions, and we want to continue to serve as there have been and left us this great heritage. But first this problem that is with us must be resolved.

Mr. Brown, we have to turn to a man of your stature in national respect for a positive or negative answer. Please help us in any way you can.

Thanking you for your assistance and wishing you continued success.

Sincerely,

ST-116

REC 5

3 JUL 1 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

JUN 25 1965

[REDACTED]

Your letter of June 21st, with enclosure, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand why I cannot furnish you as you desire, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to the subjects you mentioned. I can assure you, however, that I have made no such statement as that to which you referred.

I am enclosing some material which I trust you will find of interest along with the self-addressed envelope you so thoughtfully enclosed.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2) & Note next page.

- 1 - Atlanta - Enclosure
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

KLS:mc (6)

[REDACTED]

Enclosures
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sane!y!
Envelope

NOTE: [REDACTED] and be identified in Bufiles nor can [REDACTED] whose name was obtained from the [REDACTED] phone directory. There is no record of the statement attributed to the Director.

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

Dear Sir;

Our minister stated in his sermon yesterday that while you were in Atlanta early sixties you told him flatly that there were no known communists in the National Council of Churches.


This is hard to believe from all the evidence or at least all the indications from many sources.

Will you verify this statement? and if true then would you say that the same thing is true today?

If not true will you kindly advise me where such information can be obtained?

I would like to know the names of the personnel of the NCC, and their backgrounds.

We have had several meetings on this matter, but so far to no avail, as our fears have been called ridiculous, nevertheless the membership of our church is very upset about the matter, and we will greatly appreciate any information you may be able to supply regarding this matter.

Very truly,


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	✓

EXP. PROC.
30 JUN 23 1965

3 JUN 23 1955

RESPONDENCE

June 23, 1965

4-113

Dear [REDACTED]

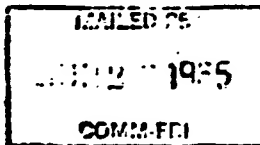
I read your letter of June 18th addressed to Mr. Tolson and want to thank you for your interest in writing.

Mr. Tolson regrets that he was not in his office at the time you called.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. It is hoped you understand the necessary reasons for this policy and why I cannot comment as you requested. Please do not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Mr. Tolson's Office advises that correspondent did call in an attempt to speak to Mr. Tolson.

DFC:jms (3)

June 18, 1965

Mr. Clyde Tolson, Assistant Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Clyde:

For two days I have attempted to call you but was informed that you were out of town. I would like to have discussed the following matter with you over the telephone.

I am an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church of [REDACTED] and in our recent Elder's meetings, there has developed some rather bitter controversy over the possibility of our withdrawing our financial support of the National Council of Churches.

If the majority of the Elders take the attitude that this support should be withdrawn, because of some of the activities of the National Council of Churches are not approved of by the majority of the Elders, and since it is only a slight majority, there is going to be left among us some rather bitter feelings. This is very unfortunate in a religious organization.

It has been noted in our Elder's meetings that Mr. Hoover has stated that there is some Communistic filtration into the National Council of Churches, and this is something we would like to know. That is, what are the facts of your findings in regard to the National Council of Churches, and any statements you might have from Mr. Hoover relative to same which might help us solve our local controversy among the Elders.

Would you please inform me?

Kind personal regards.

Sincerely,

SD:ma

REC-12

EX-113

3 JUN 29 1965

June 23, 1965

JUN 23 5 17 PM '65
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

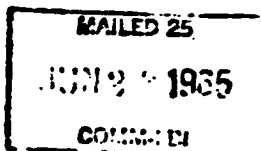
Your letter of June 17th has been received.

In response to your request regarding the National Council of Churches, information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am not in a position to comment as you desire. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

I am enclosing a copy of our June 9th release which contains data on crime statistics I hope you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosure
Preliminary Release, 6-9-65

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

WAM:lch (3)

JUL 7 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

June 17, 1965

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

Dear Sir:

As church school superintendent of First Methodist Church,
[REDACTED] I am interested in obtaining
information and statistics relating to the current moral
and criminal situation in the United States. I want to
be able to show these to our church school members, both
youth and adults.

I would also be interested in knowing the facts as to
the communist influence, if any, in the National Council of
Churches. This organization is taking a great deal of
criticism along this line and I'd like to know if any of
it is true.

If you can send me any of this information, I would be
much obliged.

Yours very truly,

PCD:mj

JUL 24 1965

[Handwritten signature]

June 21, 1965

REC-40

Honorable George Murphy
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

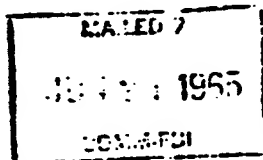
My dear Senator:

I received your communication of June 17th enclosing the letter sent to you by [REDACTED] of Fresno, California.

As I indicated to [REDACTED] in a letter dated June 25, 1964, information contained in the files of this Bureau must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. Therefore, as you know, this Bureau is not in a position to furnish your constituent specific information along the lines she has mentioned. For your ready reference, I am enclosing a copy of my letter to her. Also I am returning her letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosures (2)

NOTE: In accordance with our procedures, [REDACTED] was called in our communication to her dated 6-25-64. At that time, she was not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:djc
(5)

JUN 21 3 22 PM '65
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

United States Senate

June 17, 1965

Respectfully referred to
FBI

for such consideration as the communication
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of
inclosure.

By direction of

George Murphy, U. S. S.

REC-40

13 JUN 21 1965

ENCLOSURE

EXP. PROC.

30 JUN 18 1965

CONFIDENTIAL

Senator George Mur
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator,

As a loyal American Citizen & a Christian, I am concerned about Nation Council of Churches. I wrote to Mr. Hoover head of the F.B.I. And this is what he said.

(In regards to your letter about the National Council of Churches, information in accordance with regulations of the department of justice is available for official use only. I trust you will understand why we can not answer my request.) I am not satisfied with that answer, as I am a member of a church that I am not sure of.

I have been told the Senate or Congress can get this information. If the council of Churches are communist inspired I want to know. If so, I think they should be exposed.

It seem like these minister in the Selma Ala. march leave a trail of death & unhappyness & dissatisfied people, Negros & white.

Please find out what information you can & if you cant find out let me know who to write to & at what address.


It has been some ago since I wrote Mr. Hoover Maybe more information is available now.

Sincerely



P. S. The United Nations is not good & we should get out.

ENCLOSURE


May 17 - 1965

Senator George Murphy,
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Senator,

As a loyal American Citizen
& a Christian, I am concerned about
National Council of Churches. I wrote
to Mr. Hoover head of the F.B.I. And
this is what he said.

(In regards to your letter about the
National Council of Churches, information
in accordance with regulations of the
department of justice is available
for official use only. I trust you
will understand why we can not
answer my request.) I am not
satisfied with that answer, as
I am a member of a church
that I am not sure of.

I have been told the Senate
7C-6-11-K&K

or Congress can get this information. If the Council of Churches are communist inspired I want to know. If so, I think they should be exposed.

It seem like these minister in the Selma Ala. march leave a trail of death & unhappiness & dissatisfied people, Negroes & white.

Please find out what information you can & if you cant find out let me know who to write to & at what address.

It has been some ago since I wrote Mr. Hoover Maybe more information is available now.

Sincerely



P.S. The United Nations is not good
& we should get out

June 18, 1935

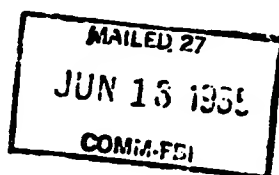
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 9th, with enclosure, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment as you desire, and I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to either of the organizations you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



JUN 18 4 23 PM '35
FBI READING ROOM

NCTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Correspondent's envelope being utilized in reply. The United Church Women is a general department of the National Council of Churches which is well known to the Bureau.

(3)

[REDACTED]
June 7, 1955

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For the past ten years or so I have been very active and interested in United Church Women. It has been brought to my attention that this group is backed by the National Council of Churches and that this latter organization is Communist.

It doesn't seem possible that the above could be true. What I am more inclined to believe is that, running true to form, the Communists only pick the more influential groups as fronts for their subversive activities. This would be their reason for working through the National Council of Churches and ultimately, the United Church Women.

While living in [REDACTED] for twenty-two years, we constantly heard rumors of the above and now in [REDACTED] the church women of the city refuse to affiliate themselves with the United Church Women for the reasons given above. For my personal satisfaction and I should think for the benefit of many other sincerely-interested women, would you please give us the true picture of the situation stated. Is the above true? If not, women in general must be given the straight of the conditions existing. Only when we know we know, can we feel that we are doing the best thing for our country.


CORRESPONDENCE

-2-

You will find a stamped, addressed envelope
for your reply.

Thank you so much for any help or light you
are able to cast on our problem.

Very truly yours,



REC-3

-107

June 16, 1965

JUN 16 4 48 PM '65
FBI
READING ROOM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 10th has been received.

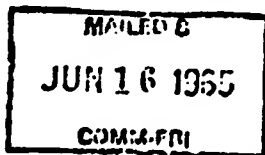
In response to your request, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the National Council of Churches and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have material in our files relating to this organization.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

WAM:ems
(3)



JUN 25 1965
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

June 10, 1965

J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I read several months ago in my daily newspaper that the National Council of Churches according to the F. B. I. was known to be a subversive organization. However, today I read in my daily newspaper that several Methodist who had been appointed to look into this matter had found that it was a useful organization for strengthening our Christain witness. Mr. Hoover I prefer to believe the findings of the F. B. I. Since I do not wish to rely on hearsay I would appreciate any authoritative information from you that is possible for you to send me concerning the National Coucil of Churches. I would appreciate this be cause I as a Christain am concerned with the Christain witness America is giving to the world.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

REC-3

ST-107

4

3/16

[REDACTED]

June 10, 1965

J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I read several months ago
in my daily newspaper that
the National Council of Churches
according to The F. B. I. was
known to be a subversive
organization. However, today
I read in my daily newspaper
that several Methodist who
had been appointed to look
into this matter must

[Signature]
CORRESPONDENCE

1-TC 6-15-65
ACK 6-16-65

that it was a useful organization for strengthening our Christian witness. Mr. Hoover I prefer to believe the findings of the F.B.I. Since I do not wish to rely on hearsay I would appreciate any authoritative information from you that is possible for you to send me concerning the National Council of Churches. I would appreciate this because I and other Christians are concerned with the Christian witness America is giving to the world.

Sincerely,


1-TC 6-15-65

ACK 6-16-65

June 16, 1955

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 10th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to be of help in this instance and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

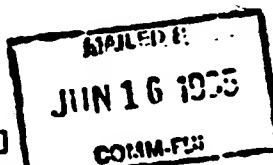
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
Our Heritage of Greatness
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sincerely!
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:asf (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



JUN 16 4 40 PM '55
FBI
READING ROOM


June 10, 1963.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of FBI
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have been concerned for sometime about statements made by various writers concerning the number of Communist and Communist sympathizers either associated or in responsible positions with our National Council of Churches. I have always had the highest regard and respect for your leadership and the job you are doing. Things have arrived to the point that one can hardly believe a lot of what he reads and hears. We have a controversy here in North Carolina in regard to our Speaker Law. Your remarks favoring this law was inserted in our local News & Observer in the inside column on the second page. This was on Monday following a full page item against the law by Paul Green of Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

If you could send me information concerning the known Communist or sympathizers that are associated with the National Council, I would be most appreciative.

Very truly yours,



ART:jaw

100-55217

JUN 17 1963

100-55217

REC-40 -1

June 10, 1965

JUN 10 10 32 AM '65
FBI
READING ROOM

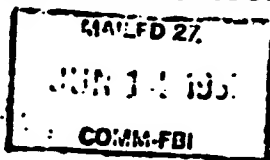
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 3rd has been received.

I have never made any statements concerning publication of the National Council of Churches or about anyone associated with this organization being sympathetic with the communist movement and therefore, I have not written a letter of apology to anyone.

Information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this I am sure you will see why I cannot make any statements whatever concerning the National Council of Churches.

I have said on another occasion that "It is very encouraging to me to learn of the increasing amount of literature exposing communism emanating from the Methodist Church and its related organizations. Your great Church, with its far-flung educational and social institutions, is in a position to make a substantial and lasting contribution to the defeat of communism. I feel confident that this will be done. This global struggle is essentially spiritual in nature. Therefore, no clergymen or Christian laymen can avoid it. On the contrary, there is the need for all of us to engage ourselves rationally and constructively in this struggle, persevering until communism is overcome by vastly superior thinking and living."



Sincerely yours,

1 - Sullivan - Enclosure

WAM:kcl (4)

See Note on Next Page

[REDACTED]

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent and there is no telephone directory for [REDACTED]

We have had questions arise from time to time concerning alleged statements made concerning the National Council of Churches.

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	

HON. J. Edgar Hoover,
 Director of F.B.I.,
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

He has been told by a minister that
 some time ago that you wrote a letter
 of apology to the National Council of
 Churches for some statements you had
 made about some of their publications.

He said copies of your letter of apology
 had been circulated and he received a
 copy about two weeks ago.

Will you please give some statement of
 verification of this letter of apology?
 A contradiction?

Since numerous publications have pointed
 out the C.C.C. has been thoroughly infiltrated

REC-40

3 JUL 7 1965

by Communists and people who have
records of opposition with known Communists
and Communist fronts and the Council of C.E.
vehemently denies it, being a bit old
fashioned, I still believe in the old adage,
"When there is so much smoke, there must
be some fire".

Therefore I would appreciate a clarification
from you on the letter of apology.

I have read several of your books on Communism
including "Masters Of Deceit".


Keep up your excellent work and exposure
of the Communist threat.

The fact that many people ignore your
warnings and editorial disturbances is no
excuse. Thank you.

Very Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]

TRUE COPY

June 3, 1965


**Hon J. Edgar Hoover,
Director of F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.**

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been told to me by a minister that some time ago that you wrote a letter of appology to the National Council of Churches for some statements you had made about some of their publications. He said copies of your letter of appology had been circulated and he received a copy about two months ago.

Will you please give me a statement of verification of this letter of appology or a contradiction?

since numerous publications have pointed out the C.C.C. has been thoroughly infiltrated by communist and people who have records of affiliations with known communist and communist fronts and the Council of C.C. Vehemetly denies it, being a bit old fashioned, I still beleive in the old addage, "Where there is so much smoke, there must be some fire."

Therefore I would appreciate a clarification from you on the letter of appology.

I have read severl of your book on communism including "Masters of Deceit"

Keep up your excelent work and exposure of the Communist threat.

The fact that many people ignore your warnings and statements disturb me no end. Thank you.

Very sincerely yours,


C-40
F-113
June 3, 1965

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of May 31st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested. The FBI has not investigated the National Council of Churches.

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

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sanelly!
Our Heritage of Greatness
4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
The Communist Menace

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DTP:pji

(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JUN 8 4 23 PM '65
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

[REDACTED]

May 31, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Our Minister uses the pulpit often to attack the National Council of Churches. Now, I don't see "eye to eye" with many actions of the National Council but I do believe in giving even the "devil his dues". I think his accusations should be truthful. He goes to great length to accuse them of communist infiltration and cooperation.

It was my understanding (from our church leaders on the national level) that the National Council of Churches had been investigated and that those investigating reported back that they did not find any communist involvement. Would you please tell me what is the truth in this matter. Did the F.B.I. investigate and if so what did they find.

Very truly,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-40

ST-112

100-444444

RECEIVED

June 8, 1965

REC-2

EX-101

Dear [REDACTED]

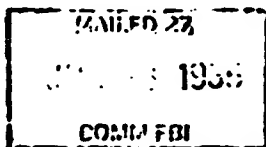
Your letter of June 1st has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy.

I am enclosing some material which I hope you will find of interest. Perhaps you will wish to read my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." These were written to help readers gain an insight into the true nature of communist activities, both in this country and abroad. They may be available at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



RECEIVED
FBI
JUN 10 3 53 PM '65

Enclosures (5)

America's Ideals - Its Mark of Greatness
The FBI's Role in the Field of Civil Rights
Our Heritage of Greatness, 12-12-64
An Army of Free Men
Communism--The Incredible Swindle

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

JRP:kcf (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

6-1-65

J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Sir:

I wished there were more like you.

My reason for writing this letter is I need information on two subjects.

#1. The National Council of Church of Christ.

#2. Martin Luther King, Dr.

Both subjects have been discussed pro and con so much recently that I need true and honest information on both. The best place for me to get that is from you the Director of the F. B. I.

So I would apperciate any and all information you could send me.

Could you send me a list of good Books to read

Sincerely

/s/

Address per Envelope:

REC-3

JUN 9 1965

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

J. Edgar Hoover 6-1-63

Dear Sir:

I wished there were more like you.

My reason for writing this letter is I need information on two subjects.

1. The National Council of Church of Christ.

2. Martin Luther King Jr.

Both subjects have been ~~discussed~~ discussed pro and con so much recently

that I need true and honest information on both.

The best place for me to get that

is from you the Director

CORRESPONDENCE

of the F.B.I.

So I would appreciate
any and all information
you could send me.

Could you send me
a list of good Books to
read.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

21/p

17C b1
6-9-68

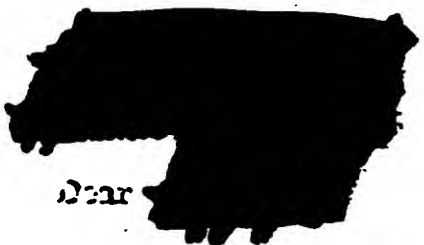
ack 6-8-68
JRP/bif

June 7, 1935

REC-3

100-55661-

4-101



Dear

Your letter of May 25th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry concerning the National Council of Churches, I would like to point out that the FBI does not issue clearances or nonclearances of any type and that our files are confidential and available for official use only, pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. A representative of the FBI did talk to the group mentioned in the article you named; however, they were not given any information from our files to substantiate their conclusion. Any conclusions drawn by them are strictly their own and it should be clearly understood that our inability to furnish information to this group should not be the basis for inferring either that we have or have not "cleared" this organization.

JUN 7 4 00 PM '35
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

MAILED 27

JUN 7 1935

COMM-FBI

In connection with the John Birch Society, it has not been investigated by the FBI.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Enclosures (5).
- Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
- Let's Fight Communism Saneily!
- Our Heritage of Greatness
- 4/17/62 Internal Security Statement
- The Communist Menace
- NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
- OTP:plr

(3) MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

May 28, 1965

J. Edgar Hoover
FBI Office
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A magazine The Christian, May 9, 1965 has an article called "Factual Answers to the Charges". The author is John Rodgers who is, according to the magazine, a well known Tulsa attorney.

In his article he states that " Reporting on a comprehensive study of the NCC, a 21-member commission of the Protestant Episcopal Church told the church's 1964 General Convention:

"We recognize that some of the criticism of the NCC comes from political extremists who, in their desire to discredit the NCC, do not weigh their charges carefully. Nevertheless, we have tried honestly to investigate their accusations to the effect that the NCC is Communist conspiracy or that it harbors Communist sympathizers and allies. In their examination therefore, the members of our study committee met with personnel of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but were not able to discover any fact or record that would support such charges. We conclude that they are false."

Is it possible to secure a copy of this particular meeting?

May I have any information which you have on the National Council of Churches?

I have also heard much criticism of the John Birch Society. Has it been investigated and if so, are the results of the investigation available?

I would appreciate any information on any of these or other pertinent matters.

Sincerely,

EX-101

JUN 9 1965

100-50869-1373
CORRESPONDENCE

ack 6/7/65
DTP:plu

100-50869

EX 110
REC 2

June 7, 1965

[REDACTED]

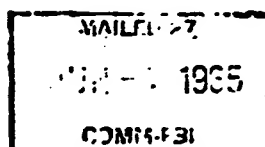
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of May 31st has been received. It was good of you to write, and your concern about the subject of communism is both understandable and reassuring.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am unable to comment as you desire. Enclosed is material, some of which contains suggestions all of us can consider in fighting this menace.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



Enclosures (5)

Communism - The Incredible Swindle
The FBI's Role in the Field of Civil Rights
America -- Soviet Espionage Target #1
Let's Fight Communism Sincerely!
The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles.

JEP:asf (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

JUN 7 3 29 PM '65
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

TRUE COPY

31 May 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Recently, I have had an increasingly amount of concern with Communist activities in the United States. Of greatest concern is the part they may be playing in our church activities. Even though I have always respected our clergy, I cease to be amazed at their views concerning foreign policy and their approach to domestic policies. Inasmuch as they are applying pressure on our government, I think its up to the laymen to find out if their feelings are based on moral issues alone or are being influence by outsiders and are being used for a cause. I resent the National Council of Churches saying they represent 40,000 000 Americans when they dont - the main reason being is of their views. I have read their resolutions and have studied their approach to the civil rights cause and their beliefs concerning our foreign policy. I detest the part they are making it a virtue to go to jail, avocate breaking laws when there is a lawful way of obtaining their goals. This is not of the true tradition of the church in bygone years. Is it not conceivable that someone is using our rich religious heritage as a cover to cause riots, discontent and resentment? Is it not possible that they are playing on the feelings of the average American to create bitterness and to cause a breakdown in the American spirit. Young ministers are obsessed with the civil rights movement and nothing more - strange as it may seem, they have very little to offer.

Is it possible for you to advise me on the "status" of the National Council of Church, the old Federal Council of churches and their activities today. Your efforts would be highly appreciated. I have written to the National Council of Churches to obtain more information concerning their views; however, your office may have more detailed and unbiased information.

Sincerely,

EX 116

MAY 31 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Recently, I have had an increasingly amount of concern with Communist activities in the United States. Of greater concern is the fact they may be playing in our church activities. Even though I have always respected our clergy, I came to be amazed at their views concerning foreign policy and their approach to domestic policies. Inasmuch as they are applying pressure on our government, I think it up to the laymen to find out if their feelings are based on moral issues alone or are being influenced by outsiders and are being used for a cause. I resent the National Council of Churches saying they represent 40,000,000 Americans when they don't - the main reason being is of their views. I have read their resolutions and have studied their approach to the civil rights cause and their beliefs concerning our foreign policy. I detest the fact they are making it a virtue to go to jail, advocate breaking laws when there is a lawful way of obtaining their goals. This is not of the true tradition of the Church in bygone years. Is it not conceivable that someone is using our rich religious heritage as a cover to cause riots, dissensions and resentments? Is it not possible that they are playing on the feelings of the average American to create bitterness and to cause a breakdown in the American spirit. Young ministers are obsessed with the civil rights movement and nothing else - strange as it may seem, they have very little to offer.

Is it possible for you to advise me on the "status" of the National Council of Churches, the old Federal Council of Churches and their actions today. Your efforts would be highly appreciated.

CORRESPONDENCE

I have written to the National Council of Canada to obtain more information concerning their views; however, you may have some details and unbiased information.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature and address block]

REC'D - CONG. & ILLINOIS
FBI
JUN 3 10 27 AM '73
JUN 3 1973

May 26, 1965

REC 23

EX 101

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of May 22nd and want to thank you for your complimentary comments concerning my work. You may be sure I will strive to merit your continued approval.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I trust you understand the reason for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

I am enclosing the material you requested and some additional literature which I hope you will find of interest. There is no charge for publications which this Bureau distributes.

You may also wish to refer to my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." They were written to acquaint readers with the strategy and tactics of communists both in this country and abroad. These books may be available at your local library.


Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

See enclosures and note next page.

DFC:djg
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐


The Communist Menace
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-1-31 LEB Introduction
4-17-52 Internal Security Statement
Faith in God -- our Answer to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

May 22, 1965

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

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	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Dear Sir:

Too long have I neglected to thank and congratulate you on the wonderful work you are doing for our country. A person as dedicated as you have proved yourself to us does not expect expressions of appreciation, but no doubt it is heartening to you to know that there are those who are at least conscious of some of your activity.

My principle concern has been the role of the National Council of Churches. It has been frightening to me to think of the impact of its cloak of respectability and how its pronouncements could influence all social, political and economic aspects of our lives. I'm beginning to wonder which came first, the National Council of Churches or the United Nations.

I am a Presbyterian and fortunate enough to be a member of a church which does not include an appropriation in its budget to the National Council of Churches. I have friends in Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal and Catholic churches in Atlanta who want authentic material to present to their sessions, etc. I thought your booklets, "Soviet Rule or Christian Renewal" and "Communist Propaganda in the Christian Pulpit," would be helpful.

Please send me these booklets. Reimbursement will be forthcoming.

Respectfully yours,



109

May 20, 1965

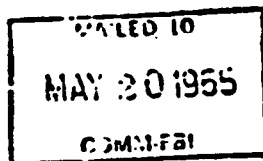
REC-41

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of May 18th and want to thank you for your support of my administration of the FEL. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your approval.

With respect to your inquiry, in addition to the confidential nature of data appearing in our files pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice, 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. Therefore, I am certain you will understand why I cannot recommend sources such as you have mentioned and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

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



Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

- "Our Heritage of Greatness," 12-12-34.
- "Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
- "Let's Fight Communism Sane'y!"
- Internal Security Statement, 4-17-62.
- LEB Introduction, 4/61.

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
DTP:des (3)

May 16, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As an active member of the Methodist Church, I am very concerned about the growing criticism of the National Council of Churches.

I believe that the Church is the foundation of this country. If people lose faith in the Church for want of factual, authoritative information concerning such organizations as the National Council of Churches in which the Church is so heavily involved, then this country has had its foundation destroyed.

Could you please tell me where I might find reliable, documented information concerning the background and character of the Council and the persons holding influential positions in the Council? Has communism successfully and significantly infiltrated the National Council of Churches?

Mr. Hoover, Americans need to be told the truth regarding the National Council of Churches. I know the position of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in not being allowed to divulge any of its information. Yet, it seems ridiculous that the world's most educated country should die because its people were denied the facts concerning the erosion of its foundation. Surely there is some way the American people can have this matter accurately resolved.

Thank you very much for your help to me, and most of all thank you for your untiring efforts as Director of the Bureau in spite of the unwarranted, untrue attacks and criticism of you and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Very respectfully yours,

MAY 18 1965

May 20, 1965

100-32861-

REC-108

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of May 10th has been received.

In response to your request, information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this policy and why I am not in a position to comment as you desire nor can I suggest a source where you could obtain this information.

MAILED 10
MAY 20 1965
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

WAM:rsp (3)


Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RECEIVED
FBI
MAY 20 1965

TRUE COPY



May 16, 1965


Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Because I have heard and read some items concerning the pro-Communist leanings and activities of the National Council of Churches, I wonder if you could furnish me information, either 'pro-or con', also the background of the officers and decision making bodys' of this organization.

If you are unable to do this, can you tell me where this information can be obtained?

Thank you,

/s/ 

REC-103

MAY 21 1965

May 16, 1965

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Because I have heard and read some items concerning the pro-Communist leanings and activities of the National Council of Churches, I wonder if you could furnish me information, either pro or con, also the background of the officers and decision making bodies of this organization.

If you are unable to do this, can you tell me where this information can be obtained?

Thank you

David
TC 5-19-65 rap
ACK 5-20-65
WAM:rap

CORRESPONDENCE

May 13, 1965

Bishop Rubin W. Muller
1401 Castle Ave.
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Bishop Muller:

I am writing to you as head of the National Council of Churches in America since your name was given to me by the Inter-Church Office in New York.

I have read, with great dismay in the papers that Protestant clergymen are participating in a protest against our efforts in Vietnam. This grieves me greatly, although being a Lutheran I was relieved to see that no Lutherans were participating, according to the papers. I am a Sunday School teacher and the daughter-in-law of a man who in his lifetime was a Lutheran Minister in Pennsylvania.

Having read "None Dare Call It Treason", I was upset by the remarks about Communist infiltration, especially in the Methodist Church. Unfortunately, I now wonder if this isn't true.

Now anyone can feel that business can be done with the Communists is beyond me and, while I realize that there are a great many well-meaning people involved, they are doing great harm to our country's image.

I would appreciate the National Council of Churches disavowing these people or I am afraid I can only believe that the author of "None Dare Call It Treason" speaks with authority.

Respectfully yours,

cc: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

MAY 14 5 25 AM '65 REC-3

ERI
REC'D-C263 & 11
MGT-22

100-50869-1367

MAY 17 1965

60 MAY 20 1965

EX-101

72-16

May 5, 1965

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

The letter of April 23th from you and your husband has been received, and I was pleased to learn that I have your support.

I would like to point out that information in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment along the lines of your inquiry and that I have made no such statement as that to which you referred.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent.

CJJ:mlk (5)

RECEIVED
FBI
MAY 11 1965
4 35 PM

RECEIVED
FBI
MAY 11 1965
5 00 PM

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. Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
MAY 11 1965
FBI - NEW YORK

TRUE COPY

J. Edgar Hoover
Director F. B. I.
Wash. D. C.

Dear Mr Hoover,

We have the utmost confidence in you, and if the request we are about to make is irregular, it is due to frustrations beyond our control.

We love our Church, and for the past two years have made contributions to the Building Fund only, as we do not wish to aid and abet the National Council of Churches.

In December they published an article in The Presbyterian Survey quoting you, as saying there were no communists in The National Council of Churches, at the same time they said they did not give financial aid, to the element that went to Mississippi last summer, but we know they spent \$640,000 on this project, and sent another \$30,000 to bail those, out of jail that got into trouble.

If it does not violate the rules of your office, will you please tell use whether or not there are communist in the National Council of Churches.

Most Respectfully,

A large black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature and name of the sender.

April 28, 1965

REC-16

MAY 17 1965

J. Edgar Hoover
Director F.B.I.

March 10, 1960

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am sure the utmost confidence
in your list of the requests we are asked
to make is irregular, it is due to
frustrations beyond our control.

The same was shared and for
the past two years have made con-
tributions to the Building Fund only.
As one also not wish to aid and abet
The National Council of Churches.

In December they published an
article in the Washington Evening Star
quoting you as saying there were no com-
munists in the National Council
of Churches. At the same time they
said they did not give fin-
ancial aid, to ^{the} element that went
to Minneapolis each year. ^{CORRESPONDENCE}
We know they spent \$40,000 on
their program and such and other

— 121

Be sure to bail those, each of jail
that got into trouble.

If it does not violate the rules of
your office, will you please tell me
whether or not there are communists
in the National Council of Churches.

Thank Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

April 28, 1965

REC- 26

၁၂၊ ၁၉၆၆

505

Your letter of April 20th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy, and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bullies.

DFC:plz
(3)

37
FBI

מחבר: ד"ר יצחק

4-28-65

Dear Sir,

I am making a study of The National Council Churches. In studying I have found many statements pro and con on the Communists influence in this organization.

My Minister states that the F.B.I. or F.U.A.C. have made an investigation, and found no Communists infiltration in the National Council of Churches.

I would like a copy of this document, or any information you would be kind enough to send me.

Thank You,

REC-26 100-57869-165

3 MAY 7 1965

FOR BETTER LISTENING, THINKING & SPEAKING

April 29, 1965

REC-52

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 26th has been received, and the thought which prompted you to write me is appreciated. I was pleased to learn of your interest in my book, "Masters of Deceit," and perhaps you may wish to refer to my latest book, "A Study of Communism," which is a comprehensive study of the development and expansion of communism throughout the world. A copy may be available at your local library.

Although I would like to be of service, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret that I am unable to help you in this matter but trust you will understand the reasons for this policy. Please do not infer 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 trust you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (5)

(See Note and Enclosures page 2)

KID:jos (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

[REDACTED]

Enclosures (5)

Communism The Incredible Swindle

Deadly Duel

Let's Fight Communism Sincerely!

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

"Our Heritage of Greatness," 12-12-64.

NOTE: [REDACTED] cannot be identified in Bureau files. There is no derogatory information in Bufiles concerning the "Sword of the Lord" [REDACTED]

89
April 26, 1965

Dear Sir:

In "The Sword of the Lord" [redacted]
I have been reading accusations against the National
Council of Churches and the heads of this organization, —
Bishop Pike, Eugene Carson Blake, Bishop Oxnard, Henry
Knox Sherrill, and many other leaders.

Since I am a Sunday School teacher for the adults in the
[redacted] Methodist Church, and our church belongs to the
NCC, I would appreciate any information you can give me,
or if you can tell me where I can receive this information.
I have just finished "Masters of Deceit" and am genuinely
concerned for our country.

Sincerely,
[redacted]

EX-112

REC-50

100-50869-1364

30
4-29-65
KLS:nap:dea

16 MAY 8 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

April 26, 1963

REC-1

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 20th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy, and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Mr. Smeeth was employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a Special Agent from March 22, 1942, until June 13, 1951, when he voluntarily resigned. Inasmuch as his recent activities are personal ventures of his own, I am unable to comment on them in any manner whatsoever.

I am enclosing some literature which I trust you will find informative.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)

LEE Intro - 4/61

Internal Security Statement - 4/17/62

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

Faith in God -- Our Answer to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DEC:cs (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

April 20, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am distressed by the persistent rumors that are abroad these days concerning the possibility of communist infiltration and activity within the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, its leaders and staff. While I find it difficult to accept personally I do realize that communists will and do endeavor to infiltrate where they can to achieve whatever advantage may be possible for the realization of their vicious objectives. The difficult thing is that some people accept rumors and accusations by innuendoes as fact and are swayed in their thinking to the point where fearful and suspicious of very honest clergy and churches on the local level as well as those in official categories on the national level of organization. I have one such man in this little congregation I am serving, who, because he listens to, and evidently believes what Dan Smoot has said about the Council, now refuses to come to church because our national body, the Lutheran Church in America, holds membership in the Council and utilizes some of its services. He follows Smoot's advice.

I should like to know whether there is any evidence of communist infiltration of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. If there are, they should be exposed and removed. If there are communists in any position in the Council, why have they not been exposed by the F.B.I.?

Mr. Smoot's publications indicate that he was at one time connected with the F.B.I., which by implication would indicate that he is reliably informed about those claims on which he dares to speak. But I would like to question just how reliable is Mr. Smoot's information? And also, I cannot but wonder why he is no longer with the F.B.I.

I love my country and all it stands for, and my appreciation for this heritage grows with my years. I also love my Church and realize how greatly its Gospel has contributed to our national heritage. But I cannot stand to see either our nation or the Church sabotaged by false accusers whatever their color.

I shall appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: April 22, 1965

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: REVEREND JAMES C. MOORE.
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ACTION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE
CHURCHES OF CHRIST
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The above-captioned clergyman has been known to me for a few years. He is a very serious young man, formerly with the United States Marines, and I have found him to be quite reliable. While in Washington, he dropped by to tell me that five times within the past few months, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King has tried to persuade the National Council of the Churches to sponsor some of his activities. Each time Reverend Moore told me the National Council refused absolutely to give sponsorship to Dr. King. He said this would continue to be the policy of the Council.

I asked Reverend Moore about some of the press accounts referring to a resolution on Vietnam adopted by the National Council of Churches recommending that warfare cease in Vietnam. Reverend Moore said that he had a copy with him and would pass it on to me. He added that the extreme right-wing critics of the National Council had been making false charges concerning this resolution saying that the National Council was opposed to war against the communists and were advocating giving in to communist demands in Vietnam. Reverend Moore said this is completely false and pointed to the resolution given to me wherein it stated "the concern of the United States for the freedom and independence of all peoples." He also pointed to a key paragraph which reads to the effect that the National Council urged the United States Government "to negotiate a cease fire and a settlement of the war which will attempt to achieve the independence, freedom and self-determination of the people of South Vietnam."

TCS:cd
(6)

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sizoo
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner

CONTINUED - OVER

Enclosure

Memo Mr. Sullivan to Mr. Belmont
RE: REVEREND JAMES C. MOORE
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ACTION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE
CHURCHES OF CHRIST
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Mr. Moore pointed out that this whole position taken by the National Council was in accord with President Johnson's "unconditional negotiation" concept; that nowhere would the Council take a position that the United States should not defend itself even by war, if necessary, against the communist world. The resolution is enclosed.

ACTION:

For your information.

✓

[Handwritten initials and signature]

RESOLUTION ON VIETNAM

Adopted by the General Board
February 25, 1965

Recognizing the concern of the United States for the freedom and independence of all peoples;

Acknowledging our responsibility to the people of South Vietnam who have been depending upon our aid;

Expressing our distress at the continued violence, war, and loss of life of all the peoples involved;

Believing that mankind must learn to settle its disputes around the conference table rather than on the battlefield;

Welcoming the initiative taken by the Secretary General of the United Nations in the present crisis and sharing his conviction that, "only political and diplomatic methods of negotiation and discussion may find a peaceful solution" to the problem;

Conscious that there are many difficulties and dilemmas facing our country in negotiations for political settlement, but mindful also of the seriousness of prolonged military conflict, the danger of escalation of hostilities, and the possibility of a third World War.

The General Board of the National Council of Churches urges the United States Government:

To engage in persistent efforts to negotiate a cease fire and a settlement of the war which will attempt to achieve the independence, freedom and self-determination of the people of South Vietnam;

To utilize United Nations assistance in achieving a solution and in seeking to reduce the area of conflict by effective border control and internal policing; and

To give bold and creative leadership to a broad international development program for the MEKONG Region and to continue full scale U. S. economic and technical assistance where necessary.

The General Board pledges support and cooperation in the urgent tasks of reconciliation and reconstruction in Vietnam.

April 14, 1965

REC-24

[REDACTED]

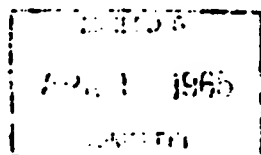
Dear [REDACTED]:

I received your letter of April 7th and want to thank you for your expression of confidence in my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I am not in a position to comment along the lines you have suggested or I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches or the Circuit Riders, Inc.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,



J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

"Our Heritage of Greatness"

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

4-1-61 LEB Introduction

NOTE: There is no data in Bufiles to preclude this letter.

DTP:rls (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We (the members of the Official Board of the [redacted] Church) need your help. Several of us have read and/or heard that the National Council of Churches has a large number of Communists, fellow travelers etc. in it. It is said that a book published by the Circuit Riders, Inc., 110 Government Place, Cincinnati 2, Ohio states that at least 658 officials of the N. C. C. have Communist-front records.

We have read other articles that indicate the lack of Christian motives by the N. C. C.

If the N. C. C. is going the wrong way we wish to bring the Methodists and as many others out of it if we can.

Our next meeting of the Official Board will be held on May 2, 1965 and we will need our evidence to present at this meeting that will be held just prior to our annual Methodist Conference.

Your help will be deeply appreciated.

Yours very truly

P/S.

I have a great personal admiration for both you and your work.

*personal admiration
of your work*

OFFICE

UNIT

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

100-477-12-1000

April 14, 1965

REC-29

[REDACTED]

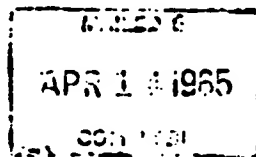
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 8th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that information contained in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In view of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the organization you named. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding this subject.

I am enclosing some general information on the subject of communism which I trust will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,



J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Our Heritage of Greatness
The CP, USA (S...)
Communism--The Incredible Swindle
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
The CP Line

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The [REDACTED] telephone directory has been searched for possible variant listings of [REDACTED] although none has been located. Correspondent is apparently not listed in this directory.


JRH:alb (4)

76 APR 14 1965

TYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D - RECORDING ROOM
FBI
APR 14 1965

TRUE COPY


April 8, 1965

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

Derar Mr. Hoover:


Will you please send any pamphlets on Communist methods, brain washing, activities in churches, schools, etc. We feel information from you is reliable and that people will believe it when they won't believe anything else.

Especially would I like statements from you about Communist domination of the National Council of Churches.

I will appreciate anything you see fit to send me so that I can get it to ministers and teachers, etc.

Very sincerely.


REC-24


April 8, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:


Will you please send any pamphlets
on Communist methods, brain washing,
activities in churches, schools, etc.

The full information from your indication
and that people will believe it when
they want to believe anything else.

Especially would I like statement
from you about Communist domination
of the National Council of Churches.

I will appreciate anything you
see fit to send me so that I can
get it to ministerial teachers.

Very sincerely,


APR 15 1965

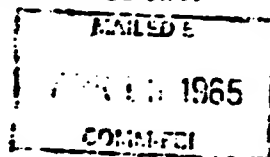
April 13, 1965

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 7th has been received and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your very complimentary remarks. Your support of this Bureau is certainly appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, information contained in the files of the FBI 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 along the lines of your inquiry.

I am enclosing some material which I hope you will find of interest.



Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in files.

Time for Decision

Our Heritage of Greatness

Time of Testing

Let's Fight Communism Sane


Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

WAM:med

(3)

RECEIVED
APR 13 1965
FBI

TRUE COPY

April 7, 1965


Mr J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington D. C.

My Dear Mr. Hoover

I first want you to know that in the opinion and that of my friends you are the most respected and loyal American alive today. It is of this great respect that I seek your advice for I know that you have taken much in your effort to stay honest.

I am concerned about the activities of the national & World Council of Churches and I seek your advice in forming an opinion as to wheather I should ask that our Church withdraw from these organizations. I beleive these folks to be communistic in their policy but have no proof. I think they engage in politics to much.

Will you help me?

Sincerely


7/13

Q

April 7, 1955



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

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the F.B.I.
Washington D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover

I just want you to know that in the opinion of all of my friends you are the most respected and loyal American citizen today. It is of this great respect that I see your advice for a time that you have taken much in your effort to stay true.

I am concerned about the activities of the National & World Council of Churches and I need your advice in forming an opinion as to whether or not they are doing anything which is unethical or is in violation of the principles of the Constitution. I believe they are doing this and I think they are doing it in a way which is not in the public interest. I think they are doing it in a way which is not in the public interest. I think they are doing it in a way which is not in the public interest. I think they are doing it in a way which is not in the public interest.

16 APR 7 1955

April 7, 1965

RECEIVED
FBI

Apr 7 3 39 PM

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 31st has been received, and I want to thank you very much for your kind sentiments and expressions of confidence in this Bureau.

While I would certainly like to be of service to you, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, I trust you will understand why I cannot furnish specific data along the lines you have mentioned. However, you might be interested in the estimates made by the communists themselves. In February, 1962, Party leader Gus Hall made a public statement to the effect that the "state-of-mind" membership of the Party might run as high as 100,000. During a press interview at St. Louis, Missouri, in early 1964, he stated that the frequently published figure of 10,000 for total Communist Party membership in the United States was "quite accurate." According to Hall, there are in addition to this total number another 20,000 or 30,000 people who believe in communist leadership in certain areas of the political struggle. It is our estimate that for every hard-core communist, there are at least 10 sympathizers ready and willing to do the Party's work.

The Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. Its 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 this respect I am enclosing some material outlining the Federal Government's action. Additional proceedings have taken place against the Communist Party under the Internal Security Act of 1950. On February 21, 1964, the Government's petition was denied by the U. S. Court of Appeals and the Department of Justice then petitioned the Supreme Court to review the lower court's prior decision. On June 8, 1964, the Supreme Court denied the Government's

KLS:mlk (3)

SEE NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE.

MAIL ROOM

COMM-FBI

[REDACTED]

petition. At the present time a new indictment has been returned and the motion to consolidate presented. Trial is scheduled for the week of October 11, 1955, in the U. S. District Court, Washington, D. C.

Concerning John Noble, I can assure you he is not affiliated with the FBI in any manner, and his personal ventures, comments and opinions are strictly his own and do not represent this Bureau in any respect whatsoever.

I have repeatedly emphasized it is imperative for Americans to study the objectives and operations of the communist conspiracy if we are to effectively resist its growing influence. Perhaps you may wish to read my books, "Testers of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism." These were written in order to help readers gain an insight into the strategy and tactics of communists both in this country and abroad. Copies may be available at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

Domestic Intelligence
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Communism--The Incredible Swindle
4/17/52 Internal Security Statement
4/1/61 LEB Introduction

March 31, 1965

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

Dear Sir:

Will you kindly send reply to several questions:

1. Has there ever been an investigation of Communist infiltration in the National Council of Churches?
2. If there has, is there a figure available as to the number who may be members of this party, or of their fellow travelers?
3. Why have we not been able to enforce the Internal Security Act of 1950, which was to register Communists, their finances, etc., as other political organizations of this nation do?
4. A statement in the Pittsburgh Press, Saturday, March 27, mentioned the latter statement in regard to the future investigation of the KKK.
5. Where can we secure information concerning the Reuther Memoranda to Mr. Kennedy, and has this ever been denied by Mr. Reuther of his affiliation with the Communist party, as has been publicized by some anti-Communist broadcasters?

I write this letter today following discussion with my pastor, who firmly defends the National Council of Churches. We had John Noble speak at our church last Tuesday, the 23rd, and this man's message, and seminar the following day have left some points to be cleared. Mr. Noble did not mention the NCC, but questions were asked, and he tactfully answered each of them.

It was a real privilege to have him with us. He spoke to more than 1500 high school students that day, in addition to about 450 at night.

Will you also tell me what his (Noble's) affiliation is with the FBI? He mentioned some committee, but I have forgotten. I firmly believe all he related, and yet it is difficult to convince others. Education is the answer!

8 APR 18 1965

Bless you for your dedication to this nation's safety. We need men and women of courage and determination that this nation will remain a free one. Bless you always, may God keep you in His care.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sincerely yours,

all
4/16/65
KLS/mee

REC- 24

April 9, 1965

ST-116

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of April 5th, with enclosure, and I want to thank you for your expression of confidence and generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

With respect to your inquiries, this Bureau does not have a list of sources such as you mentioned available for distribution. Further, individuals from time to time have made inquiries concerning the National Council of Churches. However, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. Therefore, this Bureau is not in a position to furnish any data and the hope is expressed that the correspondent will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to this group. Any conclusion drawn from our position is that of the correspondent and not of this Bureau.

With regard to the other matters you have mentioned, the confidential nature of data in our files precludes my answering you. In addition, it has been my long-standing policy not to comment on material not prepared by me or personnel of this Bureau.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

APR 12 1965

(See note and enclosures next page)



Enclosures

"Our Heritage of Greatness"

Let's Fight Communism Saneely!

4-1-61 LEB Introduction

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

NOTE: Correspondent and the individuals named in her enclosure are not identifiable in Bufiles.

April 5, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a member of a recently organized study group, I have chosen Communism in the National Council of Churches as my subject to study, collect information, and report on same. I have written for the Dan Smoot report on this subject. Do you have any other sources of information to suggest?

Enclosed is an article which appeared in the March 1965 issue of the Indiana Christian. Your name is mentioned without any actual statements from your communications. Could you please supply me with further information on this article?

Also, our Sunday School Department is undergoing a study of and making changes in the literature taught to our young people. Much of it is now coming from the Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis, Mo., called the "Bethany Uniform Lessons." This is a non-profit organization supplying the churches of the "Disciples of Christ." Do you have information on possible infiltration of this organization?

This is aside from the subject just mentioned, but of increasing deep concern. The HCUA is planning to investigate the Klu Klux Klan - all well and good; but, why not the NAACP also? I have read an article stating that Martin Luther King, Jr. belongs to sixty (60) Communist front organizations. Is there fact to support this?

I will appreciate whatever information you can furnish on the above subjects and want you to know that you and your men are doing a fine job. Don't back down from these Commies!

REC-24 100-50869-135

ST-116

Yours truly,

APR 12 1965

ENCLOSURE

Encl. - 1

out - 4-9-65
DIPM/40

1-271

the National Council and the World Council of Churches. They accomplished this by circulating factual statements, writing letters to editors of local papers, and by personal witness. Their efforts brought communications from J. Edgar Hoover and J. Irwin Miller, former president of the National Council, whose home and place of business is in Columbus. Mr. Miller wrote to Bill Herod as follows:

"Let me begin this letter by stating that I am a layman of a native Hoosier family which has lived in Bartholomew County for the past 140 years. I am a registered Republican, have been a Rotarian for the past 30 years, and a former president of the local Chamber of Commerce. I have been the active head of a business for 30 years, and during that time have been before tax courts, bargained with labor unions, experienced strikes, dealt with customers, bankers, and had all the standard experiences of business managers. In addition, I am a veteran of World War II and served in the Pacific on an aircraft carrier. I have also been an active church member all my life, and each of my grandfathers was a minister in the Christian Church.

"Out of this background, I can state to you without any qualification whatsoever that the leadership of the National Council of Churches understands in a very profound manner the fundamental conflict between Christianity and communism, and is one of the strongest constructive forces at work in this country against communism. If I thought that this statement was not in all respect true, I would certainly never have consented to serve as its president or be active in its work. I feel that the National Council of Churches is offering one of the most significant and constructive witnesses for Christianity in our society, and I am delighted to devote my time to its work, for I know of no better place to make my own Christian contribution."

Editor's Note—We believe that this is a good illustration of this kind of witness that all informed Christians should make when the responsible agencies or the leadership of our churches come under attack by irresponsible persons and groups. The current attacks on the National Council of the Churches of Christ

Youth Support NCC

Four young men of Greenfield, two of whom are sons of ministers, led by William D. Herod, son of Cyrus T. Herod, minister of First



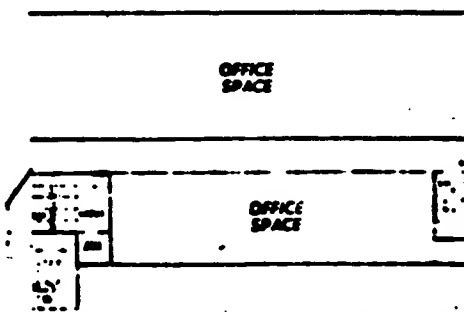
church, conducted a counter-attack against misinformed people who were attacking the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

W. D. HEROD Bill was at that time president of the Indiana Seventh District Christian Youth Fellowship (Christian Churches-Disciples). He is now in his first year of training at Phillips University, Enid, Oklahoma, and on his way to the mission field if the opportunity comes.

His colleagues were two Presbyterians and a Methodist: David W. (Dave) Wilton, then a senior in Greenfield High School, who plans to be a teacher; David R. (Dave) Lynche, then a senior in high school, who expects to be an architect; and Lawrence L. (Larry) Smith, whose father was the minister of the Trinity Park Methodist Church in Greenfield.

They went into action in March, 1963, when some people in Greenfield circulated misstatements about

—Lower level tentative plan



April 8, 1963

REC-18

APR 9 4 29 PM '63
REC'D - READING ROOM
FBI

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 3rd has been received.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I cannot be of help in this instance but trust you understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to your inquiry.

Enclosed is literature which I trust you will find informative.

Sincerely yours,
[Signature]

Enclosures (3)
LEB Introduction, 4/61
Internal Security Statement
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
Let's Fight Communism Sincerely!
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not traceable to Bufiles.

DFC:ap (3)

APR 19 1963
MAIL ROOM ☐

37
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
April 3, 1965

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. ✓

Gentlemen:

Will you kindly send me the answers to the following questions:

1. Is the National Council of Churches infiltrated with communists?
2. Are the activities of the National Council of Churches, in any way, influenced by members of the Communist Party?
3. It is my understanding that Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, former President of the National Council of Churches, was and is a member of the Communist Party. Is this correct?

Thank you for any information that you may be able to give me.

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

REC-14

3 APR 9 1965

EC-167

April 7, 1965

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 31st has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I cannot be of help in this instance but trust you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped that you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is literature which I trust you will find informative.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED
APR 10 1965
COMM-FBI

Enclosure? (5)

Enclosures & note on page 2.

DFC:deh (3)

APR 10 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

APR 7 5 00 PM '65
REC'D - READING ROOM
FBI

Handwritten marks and signatures.



LEB Intro 4-1-61
Internal Security - 4-17-62
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

c 7



March 31, 1965

28-1

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen;

Have you any information which leads you to believe that the National Council of Churches is infiltrated by communists? Are there communists in the clergy in the United States?

Please forward to us any information you may have. Thank you.

Yours very truly, *d*


Minister

RBF/nh
REC-109

100 50869 1355

16 APR 8 1965

ack 4-7-65
DFC:dlh

may

CORRESPONDENCE

FBI

Date: 3-30-65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

National Council (Priority) of Charles [unclear]

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (94-349)

RE: [REDACTED]

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	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Re Buairtel, 3-16-65, and Springfield airtel 3-19-65

[REDACTED] was con-
tacted on March 29, 1965, upon his return to [REDACTED].
He was furnished the material sent from the Bureau and
expressed his appreciation for it.

He explained that originally several problems had
come to his desk because of letters which quoted in part
statements made by Mr. HOOVER AND because of their quotations
out of context they seemed to lend emphasis to the subscribers'
letters. It was his point, that in order to have an accurate
summation, that the entire context of items be known.

He advised he has a great respect for the FBI
and Mr. HOOVER as the Director of the FBI. He was cordially
invited to contact the Bureau or representatives there of
at any time he feels Bureau sources may have been misquoted
or when we may be of general assistance to him.

3 - Bureau
1 - Springfield
CRW:YLS
(4)

REC-1 100-50869-1353

MAR 31 1965

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

Per

March 31, 1965

REC-107



Your letter of March 26th has been received, and I certainly appreciate the generous comments concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped that our future endeavors continue to meet with your approval.

Although I would like to be of service, information contained in the files of this Bureau must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret that I am unable to be of assistance in this instance and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization about which you asked.

Enclosed is some material which I trust you will find of interest. Perhaps you may also wish to refer to my books, "Masters of Deceit" and "A Study of Communism," which were written to help readers gain an insight into the strategy and tactics of communists, both in this country and abroad. Copies may be available at your local library.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Deadly Duel
Domestic Intelligence
Let's Fight Communism Manely!
"Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism"
Communism--The Incredible Swindle

NOTE: [REDACTED] cannot be identified in Bureau files.

KLS:lch

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

[REDACTED]

March 26, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I wish to take this opportunity to say I have nothing but
 praise for your fine work and devotion to duty through the
 years.

I am a Methodist layman and interested in the welfare of
 my church and my country. I would appreciate any information
 your office could give me regarding the National Council
 of Churches, such as the infiltration of subversives into
 this group.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

JTG/sm

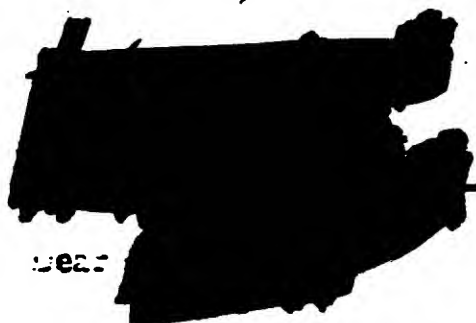
156-10

MAR 29 1965

MAR 29 1965

REC-1

March 31, 1965



Dear

Your letter of March 26th, with enclosures, has been received, and I want to thank you for your complimentary comments concerning my work. I can assure you I will strive to merit your continued approval.

With respect to your inquiries, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I cannot be of help in this instance but trust you understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature which I hope you will find of interest. I am returning your stamps with this communication.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (7)

4-1-61 LEE Introduction

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

Our Heritage of Greatness

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Files.

DFC:djg (3)


MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D - READING ROOM

Mar 31 2 28 PM '65
FBI

TRUE COPY


March 26, 1965

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

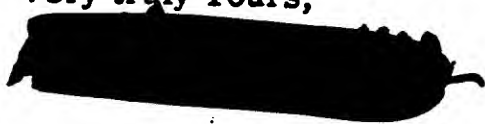
Dear Mr. Hoover:

The Council of Churches has become a controversial organization, due to some of its decisions and activities. I would appreciate information on these questions:

1. Is there communistic influence in the Council of Churches?
2. Did the Council of Churches influence ministers to join in the recent Freedom Marches?

Thanking you in advance for any material you may have on this subject, I am,

Very truly Yours,


P. S. I believe that every true American is grateful to you for your devotion and the wonderful service you have given to our country


REC-1

March 26, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The Council of Churches has become a controversial organization, due to some of its decisions and activities. I would appreciate information on these questions:

1. Is there Communist influence in the Council of Churches?
2. Did the Council of Churches influence ministers to join in the recent Freedom Marches?

Thanking you in advance for any material you may have on this subject, I am,

Very truly yours,

ENCLOSURE
(2-54 stamps)

CORRESPONDENCE

P.S. I believe that every true American is grateful to you for your devotion and the service you have rendered.

March 30, 1963

REC 20

REC'D - READING ROOM
FBI

100-41 3 32 PM '63

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of March 28rd and want to thank you for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. It is hoped our future endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

While I certainly would like to be of service to you, there is no indication from your communication as to whom I allegedly wrote. Therefore, I regret I am unable to comment specifically along the lines you have mentioned. Frequently, individuals have made inquiries concerning the National and World Council of Churches; however, information appearing in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. As a result, this Bureau is not in a position to furnish any information concerning these groups and it is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to them.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

1 - Indianapolis - Enclosure

Enclosures & note page 2. [initials]

DTP:deh (4)

56 APR 3 1963

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



Faith in God
LEE Intro - 4-1-61
Internal Security - 4-17-62
Let's Fight Communism Sanely
Our Heritage of Greatness

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

March 23, 1965

Dear Mr. Hoover, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

In a recent report on page 22, in the March, 1965 issue of The Indiana Christian I read of an episode which occurred in Greenfield, Indiana.

The report concerns four or five young men who "went into action" in March, 1963, when some people in Greenfield circulated misstatements about the National Council of the World Council of Churches. According to the article these men circulated factual statements to counter the misstatements. Quoting again, "Their efforts brought communications from J. Edgar Hoover and J. Edwin Miller, former president of the National Council, whose home and place of business is in Columbus, (Ind.)."

It later is printed concerning Mr. Miller's view but nothing concerning what your communication was represented.

I would like to know what your communication said. I really feel

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. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

40 MAR 26 1965

EXP. PROC.

27c 110

7:44 PM

L

1-7C
3-24-65

act: 3-30-65
DTP: dlc

100-50169131

1965

W. RESPONSE

that it is none of my business but
there is the possibility that your
prestige and honourable name
has been "dropped" to cover for
some propaganda.

I am just a bit curious about
what your communication
contained. The fact that your
name was mentioned and absolutely
nothing was presented as to your
commitments makes me wonder.

A great amount has been shown
to indicate that the National Council
of Churches needs to at least become
aware of quagging its membership. The
reports that the U.C. is involved
in front organizations is bothersome
to me. I certainly could not support
any organization of such a nature.

I want to ask if you are
at least by letter, for the dedication and
service you have rendered to our great
country.

MR. JONES

MAR 26 6 54 PM '65

RECEIVED

RECEIVED
MAR 26 1965

RECEIVED
MAR 26 1965

DIRECTOR

TRUE COPY

March 23, 1965

Dear Mr. Hoover,

In a recent report on page 22, in the March, 1965 issue of The Indiana Christian I read of an episode which occurred in Greenfield, Indiana.

The report concerns four or five young men who "went into action in March, 1963, when some people in Greenfield circulated misstatements about the National Council and the World Council of Churches." According to the article these men circulated factual statements to counter the misstatements. Quoting again; "Their efforts brought communications from J. Edgar Hoover and J. Irwin Miller, former president of the National Council, whose home and place of business is in Columbus." (Ind.).

A letter is printed concerning Mr. Miller's views but nothing concerning what your communication said was presented.

I would like to know what your communication said. I really feel that it is none of my business but there is the possibility that your prestige and honourable name has been "dropped" to cover for some propaganda.

I am just a bit curious about what your communication contained. The fact that your name was mentioned and absolutely nothing was presented as to your comments makes me wonder.

A great amount has been shown to indicate that the National Council of Churches needs to at least become aware of its association, if not more aware of gauging its membership. The reports that the N.C.C. is involved in "front organizations is bothersome to me. I certainly could not support any organization of such leanings knowingly.

I want to thank you personally, or at least by letter, for the dedication and service you have rendered to our great country.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8-577

REC 5

March 28, 1965

EX-101

Dear [REDACTED]

I received your letter of March 23rd and want to thank you for your interest in writing as well as your very kind sentiments concerning my work. You may wish to know that President Johnson has waived mandatory retirement regarding me by an Executive Order, and it is my desire to remain in my present capacity as long as I can be of service to our Nation.

With respect to your inquiry, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. I regret I cannot be of help in this instance but trust you understand the necessary reasons for this policy. It is hoped you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust you will find informative.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)

LEB Introduction, 4/61

Internal Security Statement

"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

Let's Fight Communism Sincerely!

One Nation's Response to Communism


NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DFC:des (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

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



Dear Mr. Hoover

I am a member of a church committee which is assigned the task of gathering information concerning communist infiltration and influence in the governing bodies of our churches.

We will be particularly concerned with activities of the National Council of Churches in these fields.

1. N. C. C. cooperation with the World Council of Churches which has appointed Communists to it's boards as voting members and officers.

2. N. C. C. activities in the civil rights marches and possible collaborations with communist organizations

3. Efforts of the N. C. C. to dilute the influence of the Bible and the N. C. C. approval of banning the Bible from our public schools.

Any information you can furnish will be very greatly appreciated. Thank you for your devoted efforts along these lines.

I hope you never retire.



100-50869-1348

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

Dear Mr. Hoover

I am a member of a church committee which is assigned the task of gathering information concerning Communist infiltration and influence in the governing bodies of our churches.

We will be particularly concerned with activities of the National Council of Churches in these fields

1. N.C.C. cooperation with the World Council of Churches which has appointed Communists to its boards as voting members and officers.
2. N.C.C. activities in the civil rights marches and possible collaboration with Communist organization.
3. Efforts of the N.C.C. to dilute the influence of the Bible and the N.C.C. approval of banning the Bible from our public schools.

Any information you can furnish will be very
greatly appreciated. Thank you for your devoted
efforts along these lines.

March 24, 1965

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 18th has been received.

With respect to your inquiry, the statement to which you have referred has been taken partially from one of my statements made previously. You may be interested in knowing information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. In addition, the FBI, being an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions concerning the character or reputation of any organization, publication or individual, nor does this Bureau give "license" to any individuals or societies to publicly praise or condemn any organization or person.

For the reasons I have set forth, I can assure you that the FBI has not made any public statement praising or condemning the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches. Therefore, I trust you will understand our position in these matters.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,


(See Enclosures and NOTE on next page.)

Enclosure (5)

DTP: lsg

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐


"Our Heritage of Greatness"
Internal Security Statement, 4-17-52
"Faith in God-Our Answer to Communism."
LEP Intro, 4-1-51
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Several church groups have continued to use the Bureau's position of not being able to furnish data as a basis for inferring an implied clearance. These matters have come to our attention previously and it has been considered the best policy to ignore straightening out the source unless the issues become pointed and widespread. It is obvious the article in question failed to include in the quotation from Mr. Hoover the contrasting word "praising."

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
Miss Gandy

March 18, 1965

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

Dear Mr. Hoover;

I have just read a pamphlet entitled "The Truth About the National Council of Churches". This paper is taken from Presbyterian Survey of December, 1964.

The following passage, supposedly taken from a letter written by you, is included in the paper:- "that neither on this occasion nor at any other time, have I made any statement criticizing the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches."

I would very much like to know if you ever wrote the above passage, and, if so, if you hold the same opinion of the National Council of Churches at this time.

I am a member of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Since this church takes an active part in the activities of the NCC, your opinion of this organization is of great importance to me and to others of the congregation who have doubts about the motives of the NCC.

Your reply will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

EX-103

EXP. PROC.
MAR 22 1965

APR 15 11 18 AM '65

REC-17

100-50369-1347

10 MAR 22 1965

CORRESPONDENCE

11/26/68
1 X not copy to
HO for info by a 7.
simon

3-24-65
DT 12:20

March 22, 1965

Dear

FILE : TRAINING ROOM

While I would like to be of assistance, information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of this, I cannot make any comment concerning the subjects of your inquiry.

I am enclosing some material I hope you will find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (3)

U. S. News & World Report articles 12-7-64 & 12-21-64

St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 11-25-64

Our Heritage of Greatness, 12-12-34

Time of Testing

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles, and United Church Women is a department of the National Council of Churches. We have had a number of inquiries regarding it from citizens.

WAM:scf (3)

NAME ☐ TELEPHONE ☐

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	

March 10, 1965

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
 Director of the F. B. I.
 4936 30th Place
 Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Hoover.

I am an American patriot, the mother of two college students, the wife of a college professor, a former teacher of twelve years, next door to [redacted] and a member of the United Church Women in the [redacted] area.

Presently, I am deeply concerned with the patriotism of the people of our great United States. There seems to be no love of country as I knew it when I taught flag respect and civics. In this I refer directly to the politician of our country and now even the church. Before I work further for the United Church Women I feel that I honestly wish to know exactly what it is I am sponsoring.

Since presently, it appears to me that the Church is sponsoring the Communists, I feel that I need your advice.

Will you please advise me as to whether Martin L. King is or is not a communist? Does he associate with known communists? Is there any known association of the communists with the Council of Churches' program?

I have noted in recent meetings of the United Church Women that several women seem to be very doubtful as to the so called "good intent" of Martin L. King. I simply cannot appreciate or sanction such childish, rioting type of behavior, no matter what the intent!

100-56769-1346

In the sincere interest of our country I would deeply appreciate any advice which you will give to me and I shall use it in the name of our country and for the betterment of the church.

Thank you, most sincerely, for all you have done and for the good for which you stand. Please expose these vote getting dishonest politicians.

Very sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

100-56769-1346

MAR 15 1965

ack 3 22 65
 WAA/bf
 COPY:nm

REC 12
 5-102

March 10, 1963

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director of the F. B. I.,
4936 - 30th Place,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am an American patriot,
the mother of two college students,
the wife of a college professor,
a former teacher of twelve
years next door to [redacted]
and a
member of the United Church
Women in the [redacted]
area.

Presently, I am deeply concerned
with the patriotism of the
people of our great United States.
There seems to be no love of
country as I knew it, which
taught flag respect and civic.
In this I refer directly to the
politician of our country and
now even the church. Before
I work further for the United
Church Women, I feel that I
honestly wish to know exactly
what it is. I am sponsoring
since presently, it appears
to me that the Church is
appearing the Communists,
I feel that I need your advice.

Will you please
ask - whether Martin L.
King is or is not a
Communist? Does he associate
with known Communists?
Is there any known association
of the Communists with the
Council of Churches program.

I have listed in recent
meetings of the United Church
Women that several women
seem to be very doubtful
as to the so called "good
intent" of Martin L. King. I
simply cannot appreciate or
sanction such childish,
rioting type of behavior, no
matter what the intent!

In the sincere interest of
our Country I would deeply
appreciate any advice which
you will give to me, and I
shall use it in the name
of our Country and for the
betterment of the Church.

Thank you, most sincerely, for
all you have done and for
the good for which you stand.
Please expose these vote getting
dishonest politicians.
Very sincerely,

REC'D - HEALTH INS. DIV.
FBI

[REDACTED]

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

1. Subject:

NOTE: [REDACTED] cannot be identified in Bufiles.
KLS:cal (3)

TRUE COPY

March 16, 1965

F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I would like information on the leaders of the National Council of Churches. Who are they and what subversive organizations do they belong to.

I am trying to convince a few people that the N. C. C. is Communists infiltrated, and they want proof.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

March 16, 1965

F.B.I.

WASHINGTON, DC.

Dear Sirs:

I would like information on the leaders of the National Council of Churches. Who are they and what subversive organizations do they belong to.

I am trying to convince a few people that the N.C.C. is Communist infiltrated, and they want proof.

Thank you,

ack
3-29-65
KLS/cal

1 cc
3-29-65
cal

CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1965

REC-131

Honorable John B. Anderson
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

101

My dear Congressman:

I received your letter of March 22nd
enclosing a communication from [REDACTED]

While I certainly would like to be of service
to your constituent, information contained in the files of the
FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with
regulations of the Department of Justice. Therefore,
I trust [REDACTED] will understand why this Bureau is
not in a position to comment along the lines he has suggested.

In response to your request, I am returning
his letter to you, along with some literature I trust will be
of interest to [REDACTED]

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (6)

Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism

4-1-61 LEB Intro

4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

Our heritage of Greatness

NOTE: We have enjoyed limited cordial relations with Congressman Anderson
[REDACTED] not identifiable in Bufiles.

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

DTP:leh (5)

APR 5 1965

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

JOHN B. ANDERSON
10TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

MEMBER
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
ATOMIC ENERGY
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE
RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1430 LINCOLN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DISTRICT OFFICE:
FARM BUREAU BUILDING
401 W. STATE STREET
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62761

March 22, 1965

(b c on encl)

Exp
7.11.65

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I received the enclosed letter from the Pastor of the [redacted] in [redacted] Illinois and I would call your attention to the last paragraph on page one, continuing over to page two wherein he asks my help in obtaining a statement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation on Dr. Martin Luther King and Dr. Edwin Dahlberg.

I would point out that [redacted] is very much hopeful that we might supply him with this information in time for their ministerial meeting that has been set for [redacted]

I would also kindly ask that you return the enclosure with your reply.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Very truly yours,

John B. Anderson
JOHN B. ANDERSON
Member of Congress

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

ack 3-24-65
B.P. [unclear]

REC-131

EX-101

16 MAR 25 1965

100-2569-1344

CORRESPONDENCE

March 19, 1965

The Hon. John B. Anderson
The House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Anderson:

At the suggestion of our mutual friend, [redacted] I am writing you and sharing a problem which has developed in [redacted] It concerns accusations made against leading clergymen involved in the present racial conflict and also in the National Council of Churches. The question is partly, of course, a matter of the clergy's participation in current national issues but, more specifically, in the quick application of the label communist. One of the involvements which makes this particularly acute for me is my being elected to the chairmanship of the [redacted] for the coming year.

Next week [redacted] the [redacted] plans to take a stand on the racial issue, particularly, as it involves [redacted] I agree with others that many of the clergy have been too silent too long. Our negro ministers have been very effective in keeping the peace in our city, and they need our support.

At a small luncheon yesterday, which both [redacted] and I attended, a Chicago businessman, who seems to have considerable influence in some of the local circles, stated that there is documentary evidence that Dr. Martin Luther King is a communist. This is difficult for us to believe. It seems incredible that he would have so much bi-partisan support as emphasized by the recent legislative events. Even more difficult to understand was the statement that the former President of the National Council of Churches, Dr. Edwin Dahlberg, Baptist pastor of St. Louis, was also fronting for sixteen different communist associated organizations. As you undoubtedly know, Dr. Dahlberg is from a humble Swedish-American background and has been blessed in his ministry both as a pastor and an evangelist. It is difficult to know exactly how to answer these accusations. We are appealing to you for a statement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation

ENCLOSURE UNIT

100-50569-34

which would clear the names of these two men. On the other hand, if they are avowed communists, we should know this as these men are of national reputation and leadership.

If it is at all possible to hear from you before our ministerial meeting, I would appreciate this immensely. Should this be impossible, we would be thankful for any reply in the near future.

I apologize for placing this burden on you, but I feel that these accusations cannot go without some answer which has solid and responsible origin. I wish to add that [redacted] was most commendatory of you in stating that he knew you would give us a fair and forthright answer. We are not asking for any statements other than just a simple positive or negative reply to our question. It would be unfair to involve you in all kinds of debate relative to the local churches' position with the National Council of Churches, who should go to Selma, Alabama, and a host of other current issues.

We look forward to sharing the morning of April 4 with you as well as the hope of being your chauffeur to [redacted]

Sincerely,

fs