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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

HQ FILE: 100-50869

SECTION 6



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.

Oct. 7 1952

b7c

Dear Sir:

I am writing to enquire whether you can supply the following information about the Federal Council of Churches.

1. Is it a worthy organization for our Church to be a member of.

2. Has it any Communist or other Ideals or Members?

3. What has been said to the Church.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/80 BY SP-124

RECORDED - 117
INDEXED - 16
EX-124

ack. 10-70-52
C. L. I

ORIGINAL 10-8
18

As a member of the
Council of Administration
in our church I feel
we should know this
information. I'll
thank you for all the
information that you
can supply.

Thank you

b7D

RECORDED - 117

INDEXED - 117

October 10, 1952

EX-130

100-50869-197

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of October 7, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. In addition, the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and is not authorized to draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do, or that we do not, have the information you requested.

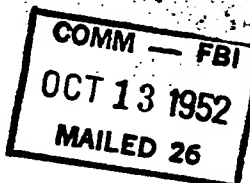
Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ehp/fj

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups, and investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

ELT:bjc



RECEIVED READING ROOM

FBI

OCT 10 5 25 PM '52

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy

OS 2/2

2 1952

WPN

may

ELV

b7c

[REDACTED]

October 7, 1952

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

(4)

Dear Sirs:

I would like to know if the information contained in this leaflet is the truth. If it is I intend to do something about it in my church. If it isn't I certainly do not want to injure an innocent organization. In as much as Mr Hoover is quoted here in I feel that your department will have the answer.

2 ENCL
I am deeply worried because on September 7th our minister arose in the pulpit and stated that the Bible contained many myths and one of them was one of them.

RECORDED INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EX-25 DATED 9/25/83 BY SP4/eh/ld

EXPEDITED PROCESSING
OCT 10 1952

b7C
[REDACTED]

First Christian, Disciples of Christ Church
and that is not its doctrine. We all
gasped but until this literature was
placed in my hand I didn't have any
idea what to do. I am the mother
of two children nine and ten years
old. This is very important to me
and I would appreciate ^{an} answer.

Yours truly
[REDACTED]

b7C

1

Federal Council of Churches?"

Bureau files fail to reflect any record identifiable
with the correspondent.

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

October 7, 1952

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

Dear Sirs:

I would like to know if the information contained in this leaflet is the truth. If it is, I intend to do something about it in my church. If it isn't, I certainly do not want to injure an innocent organization. Inasmuch as Mr. Hoover is quoted herein I feel that your department will have the answer.

I am deeply worried because on September 7th our minister arose in our pulpit and stated that the Bible contained many myths and the Virgin birth of Christ was one of them. Our church is the First Christian, Disciples of Christ Church and that is not its doctrine. We all gasped but until this literature was placed in my hand I didn't have any idea what to do. I am the mother of two children nine and ten years old. This is very important to me and I would appreciate an answer.

Yours truly

Attachment
Copy/arm

Federal Council of Churches

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4Hef/et

10-13-52
C.S.

How Red is the Federal Council of Churches - Phonograph

5-Phonograph

4/2/52

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4/4

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-198

100-50869-198

HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**

100-50869-198 Enc. 1



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

STATEMENT OF J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 3:45 P.M., MARCH 26, 1947, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The aims and responsibilities of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are the same—the protection of the internal security of this Nation. The methods whereby this goal may be accomplished differ, however.

I have always felt that the greatest contribution this Committee could make is the public disclosure of the forces that menace America—Communist and Fascist. That is why the venom of the American Communist and the now defunct German-American Bund has been directed at this Committee as it has also been directed at the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This Committee renders a distinct service when it publicly reveals the diabolic machinations of sinister figures engaged in un-American activities.

The Role of the FBI

The FBI has great responsibilities to the Nation. In addition to being charged "with the duty of investigating violations of the laws of the United States, collecting evidence in cases in which the United States is or may be a party in interest and performing other duties imposed...by law," the FBI has been charged by Presidential Directive dated September 6, 1939, "to take charge of investigative work in matters relating to espionage, sabotage..." In implementing this charge the President called upon all law enforcement officers to promptly "turn over to the nearest representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation any information obtained by them relating to espionage, counterespionage, sabotage, subversive activities..."

The FBI is essentially an investigative agency. It is our duty to get the facts. We do not establish policies—that is the responsibility of higher authority. We do not make decisions as to prosecutions—that is the responsibility of the Attorney General, his assistants and the various United States Attorneys.

To the end that our responsibilities may be discharged it is necessary not to lose sight of the fact that our chief responsibility is the duty to obtain information and to protect confidence. Thus, when a citizen furnishes information on a confidential basis his confidence must be respected. In any intelligence operation, security of information is of primary concern. I recall in the pre-war years that the FBI was criticized on the ill-founded premise that nothing was being done to meet the Nazi-Fascist-Japanism threat to our internal security. The real facts are now a matter of record. What was being done, and done successfully, could not then be discussed and publicized. When the time came to

100-50869-198

100-50869-198 Enc. 2

October 13, 1952

100-50869-198

RECORDED - 124

EX-23
b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 7, 1952 with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]

NOTE: The quotation on page 5 of the enclosure attributed to the Director appears on page 12 of the Director's Statement of 3-28-47, before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America. However, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York office in 1950 reflects that no data was developed indicating any Communists or subversive activities or the names of any persons affiliated with this organization.

(100-50869)
OCT 14 1952
COMM-FBI

Class _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

68 NOV 3 1952

ELT:cmw
shaw

Kear [signature] [signature] [signature]

Oct. 16, 1952.
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.
Dear Sirs.

(U)
It has been reported that the former president of the Federal Council of Churches, the authors of the Revised New Bible, was known to have belonged to several subversive organizations.

As a teacher of one of the Ladies Bible Classes, in one of the Baptist Churches, in Charleston, I would like to know if any of the authors belong to any subversive organizations.

ad. D. H. Thank you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/2/82 BY b7c

EX-100-50769-197
RECORDED

OCT 17 1952

26 OCT 17 1952
Sincerely,
[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Block]

EXPEDITE PROCESSING
OCT 17 1952

October 16, 1952.

TRUE COPY

Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs,

It has been reported that the former president of the Federal Council of Churches, the authors of the Revised New Bible, was known to have belonged to several subversive organizations.

As a teacher of one of the Ladies Bible Classes in one of the Baptist Churches, in Charleston, I would like to know if any of the authors belong to any subversive organizations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/ 

b7c
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4/ab/f

INDEXED - 79

RECORDED - 79

100-50869-199 October 22, 1952

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 16, 1952, has been received.

Although I would like to be of assistance, the files of this Bureau are maintained as confidential and available for official use only. I am sure that you will understand the necessity for such a regulation and will not infer that our files do or do not contain the information you have requested.

If at any time information comes to your attention which you feel may be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Pittsburgh Office located at 450 Union Trust Building, Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

2 - cc Pittsburgh (with copies of incoming)

Bureau files contain no information concerning the correspondent.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SPK/inf

COMM - FBI

OCT 23 1952

27

79 OCT 30 1952

CT 22 5 10 PM '52
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Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

b7C [REDACTED]
October 13, 1952.

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

Dear Sir:

For some time I have been concerned about the undermining effects of Communism in Religion through Modernistic church leaders and church literature. I do believe the situation is very serious and want to do all I can to rid our Country of this subversive influence even though I am a member of the Church of the Brethren which is a part of the National Council of Churches.

I am interested in distributing the enclosed pamphlet, but before doing so, I wish to have substantiation from your group as to its authenticity.

Will you be so kind as to give me your opinion of the pamphlet "How Red is the National Council of Churches." I would also appreciate any additional information you may have, especially any information on E. Stanley Jones.

Very truly yours,
b7C [REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED]
1 ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

120 [REDACTED] 10-22-52
120 [REDACTED] 10-22-52
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY [REDACTED]
RECORDED - 120

100-50869-200

OCT 28 1952

10/16/52
18

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SPH/lu/f

ENCLOSURE

(R) - 50869-200

HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



100-50869-200
Encl.

**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**

October 22, 1952

RECORDED - 120

100-34867-200
EX-104

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 13, 1952, together with enclosure, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted your writing me.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the necessity for our policy in this regard and will not infer either that we do or do not have information on the organization and individual you mentioned.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me in the pamphlet you enclosed is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives. I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt quoted appears on page twelve.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Statement J. Edgar Hoover 3-26-47.

(See next page)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/23/83 BY SP-6/BJA

OCT 23 1952

COMM-FBI

DIC:jah

NOV 10 1952

RECEIVED
OCT 22 6 18 PM '52

NOTE: Enclosure to incoming was a pamphlet entitled "How Red Is the Federal Council of Churches?" issued by the American Council of Christian Laymen, Madison, Wisconsin.

The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning this pamphlet as well as the Federal Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contact with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of this organization. The pamphlet attempts to show that the Federal Council is Communistic and includes a statement of the Director which is accurate, although incomplete, and is taken from his statement before the Un-American Activities Committee. (100-50869)

b7c

[REDACTED]

have been made concerning Jones and "files confidential" replies have always been sent.

7. B. S. Headquarters
J. Edgar Hoover
Washington, D.C.

Oct 26, 1952

Dear Sir: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF Churches

I am seeking information about
men who are connected with the National
Council of Churches and those on
the Committee who translated the
New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.
There are reports, whether erroneous or true,
that these men are connected with
Communist activities or subversive
Churches and individuals are
very much interested in learning the
truth about these men. I'm naming
in particular these men: Dr. Luther Meigs,
Henry Emerson Fosdick, E. Stanley Jones,
Kirby Page, Dr. Ronald Bridges.
May I thank you in advance

Yours truly

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/9/83 BY SP-1/EL

EX - 108

RECORDED - 57

100-50869-201

NOV 5 1952

RECORDED - 57

INDEXED - 57

100-50869-201

November 4, 1952

EX - 108

b7C

[REDACTED]

AIR MAIL

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked October 27, 1952, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and it is not within the scope of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ELT:mbk:in

(See Note next page)

RECEIVED READING ROOM
NOV 4 2 38 PM '52
FBI
S. O'NEILL
RECEIVED

from 8

major

EL

- Tolson
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- Harbo
- Moore
- Tracy
- Laughlin
- Rohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/17/83 BY 99fale/ok

NOV 4 1952
MAILED 24

79 NOV 14 1952

NOTE: Correspondent enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope which is being utilized in reply.

Bufiles reflect that an investigation confined to contacts with informants with the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any person affiliated with the National Council of Churches. (100-50869).

Oct 25, 1952

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am very much concerned. I've been reading where the National Council of Churches especially prominent leaders of the Council, are guilty of subversive and near communist activities. Being a member of a church affiliate with the National Council I am most anxious to know if there is any cause to be alarmed?

b7c
[redacted] a wonderful minister. I know he is a true ambassador of our Lord and country. I know also the Communists are very, very clever.

Is there any reason to doubt the loyalty of this organization National Council of Churches to be Federal Council of Churches? I would appreciate any consideration given this request. A

I am very much concerned. I've been reading where the National Council of Churches especially prominent leaders of the Council, are guilty of subversive and near communist activities. Being a member of a church affiliate with the National Council I am most anxious to know if there is any cause to be alarmed?

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/3/83 BY SPK/...

NOV 17 1952

CRIME 10-31

118

How about the American Council of

Council of Christian Churches; I know nothing about this last mentioned organization.

I remain eternally grateful for any help given me.

Sincerely

b7c

P.S. I find I can't send the pamphlet. It was of a Russian woman who married a SS, I in Japan and had been detained from entering the U.S. for one and a half years. The line I remember word for word was, "2) Russia held an American we'd say plenty." The policy seems to be to get us (Church members) to put pressure on our representatives. I don't like it.

November 4, 1952

RECORDED-12

INDEXED-12

EX-105

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked October 27, 1952, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to communicate with me.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you request.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/2/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

National Council of Churches

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, most of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation conducted to contacts of informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any person affiliated with this organization.

NOV 14 1952

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: November 10, 1952

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO

SUBJECT: INFILTRATION INTO THE NATIONAL
(FEDERAL) COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

By letter dated November 2, 1952, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] furnished this office with the enclosed literature stating that an organization under the name of the National Council of Churches is assisting in a movement for the establishment of what is to be called a Community Church in [REDACTED]

He advised that he had recently received from the American Council of Christian Laymen, 122 West Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin, a brochure (enclosed) entitled "How Red is the National Council of Churches."

[REDACTED] requested advice as to the nature of either of the above bodies and has been advised of the confidential nature of our files.

[REDACTED] enclosures are, however, being furnished to the Bureau for your information.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

Enclosures

G. I. R. - 8

INDEXED-50

RECORDED-50

NOV 14 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/MLP

51 DEC 8 1952

79 NOV 20 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4clm/af

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-203



American Council of Christian Laymen

122 West Washington Avenue
Madison 1, Wisconsin

October 23, 1952

b7c
[REDACTED]
Dear [REDACTED]

We are indeed interested in the situation you outline in your letter of October 16; press of other matters has made it impossible to write sooner.

As it is set up at present, we do not feel that National Council of Churches is a suitable organization to sponsor the founding of Christian churches. It is controlled by apostates who are apologists for Communism and openly preach socialism under the pretense that it is the doctrine of "the Kingdom of God."

Presbyterian Church USA is in the same position; it must bear a major portion of the responsibility for what goes on in the National Council. Samuel McCrea Cavert, a Presbyterian, was the principal executive officer of the old Federal Council, and has the same position with the National Council. Two of the four divisional vice presidents of NCC and the chairman of the new General Department of United Church Men are among the many Presbyterians in positions of policy-making.

It is a hard thing to say, and of course huge vials of wrath have been poured upon my head for saying such things, but to my mind, a "church" under such sponsorship as is proposed for the Riverside Church is something worse than no church at all.

What, no Sunday School for children? Some will exclaim like this. But I ask, is it any better to have children taught apostate doctrines than to get no religious training? I think not.

If a group of you are of this mind, and are willing to stand on your own feet, not accepting "home mission funds" in aid of the project, you can go ahead and organize an independent church, or accept the help (which probably would not include financial aid) from fundamentalist organizations such as Independent Fundamental Churches of America or General Association of Regular Baptists.

We could put you in touch with either or both of these organizations, but think it would be best if at least an informal group should be formed to consider and make themselves really certain about the undesirability of acting along the proposed lines.

100-50869-203
2nd. 1

b7c

[REDACTED] -- 2.

October 23, 1952

100-50869-203

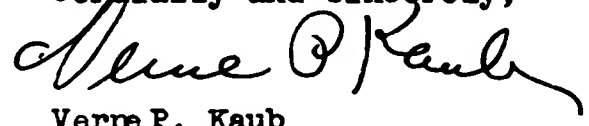
If such a group exists, or can be organized, I would be willing to meet with it and discuss these matters, if it so pleased the group.

For your immediate information and guidance I send you herewith a pamphlet prepared by an Oklahoma layman which describes the kind of teaching which both adults and children would receive in a Presbyterian Church.

We will be happy to hear further from you about this situation.

With all best wishes,

Cordially and sincerely,



Verne P. Kaub
President ACCL

VPK:ehb

October 16, 1952

American Council of Christian Laymen
122 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin

Gentlemen:

About two weeks ago I received from you some literature entitled: "HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?"

I read this pamphlet as well as the accompanying literature with considerable interest. Almost simultaneously, though a bit prior to my having received this literature a movement had been started in my community for the establishment of a church. I, as well as many of my good neighbors were invited to help organize this project.

The parent organization backing the movement, as I was given to understand, is "THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES". A Presbyterian church from a nearby suburb will assume responsibility of sponsorship.

But for the receipt of your literature, I would have given this project my whole hearted cooperation--now I am hesitant.

Would you be sufficiently interested in this situation to make some comment? I would appreciate it and it might be helpful.

Sincerely,

b7c


100-50869-203
Encl. 2

100-50869-203

See Pages 2 and 3

CHALLENGE

Publication of
American Council of
Christian Laymen
Madison 1, Wisconsin

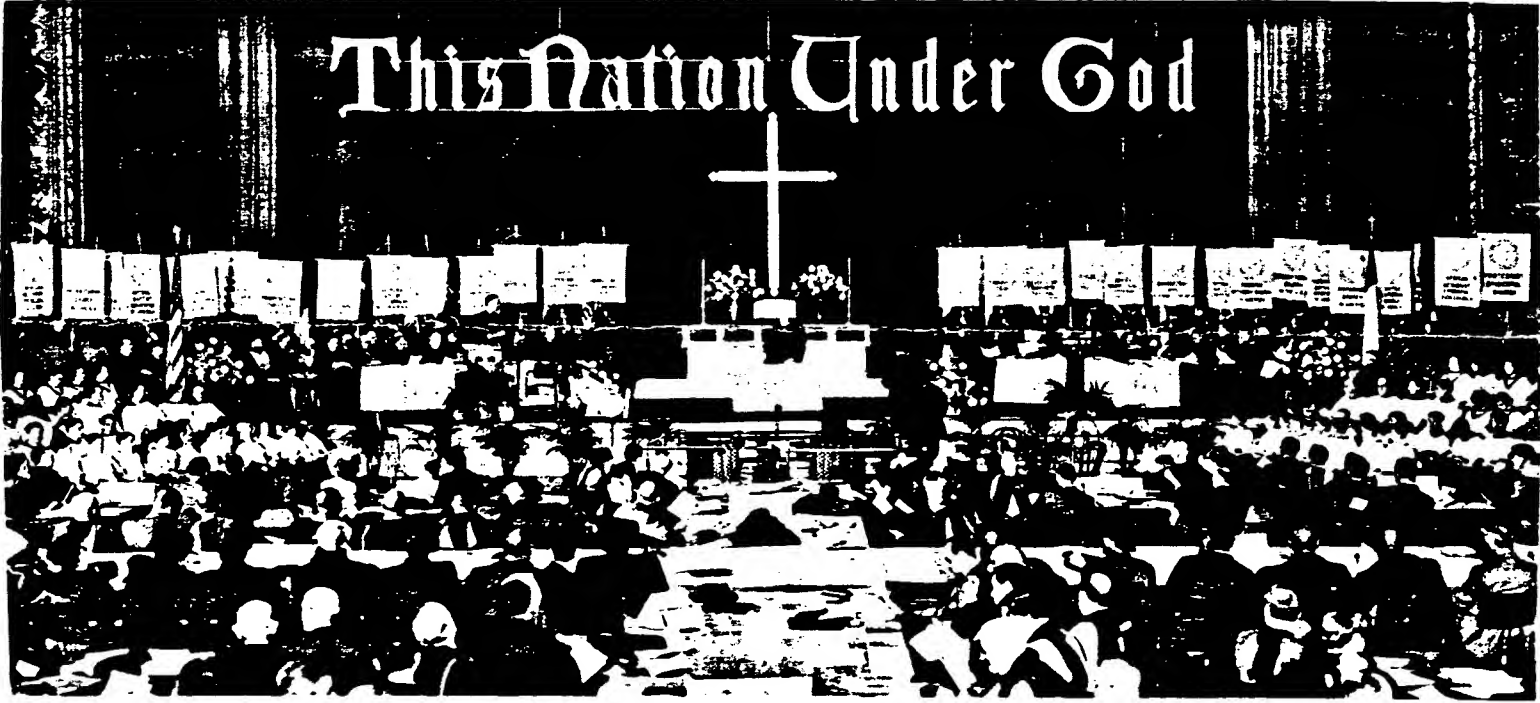
Shall We Follow
Our Lord Jesus Christ
or Leaders of
Atheistic Communism?

Vol. 1, No. 2

February, 1951

Price Five Cents

Photographically Reproduced From **United Evangelical Action**



A Layman's View of the NCC's Constitutional Convention

VERNE P. KAUB *

THE MEETING was a great occasion, the exciting spectacle of the annual gathering of the American Council of Christian Laymen, the largest of its kind in the world. The meeting was held in the large hall of the Shaker Heights, Cleveland, Ohio, and was attended by over 1000 people. The meeting was a great success, and the American Council of Christian Laymen is now a permanent organization.

When the meeting began, the singing of the hymn "This Nation Under God" was heard. The hymn was sung by the choir of Christ Church of Shaker Heights, wearing robes of blue and white. Two altar boys carried the American and Christian flags; they were followed by the woman's choir of Schaeffler College, Cleveland, gown-

Romish Pageantry

Heading the procession was a robed cross-bearer, and next in line were members of the choir of Christ Church of Shaker Heights, wearing robes of blue and white. Two altar boys carried the American and Christian flags; they were followed by the woman's choir of Schaeffler College, Cleveland, gown-

ed in maroon. A man designated only as a seminarian carried an open Bible.

Then came a long double line of marchers, mostly men, but with a few women. They were dressed in the robes of the American Council of Christian Laymen, and carried a large white cross and an open Bible. The marchers were followed by a group of seminarians, and then by a group of laymen. The marchers were followed by a group of seminarians, and then by a group of laymen.

The brilliantly-garbed choir, arriving at the apron of the stage, moved to the sides and stood in close formation. Then the leaders of the more somberly-robed formation "made the Sign of the Cross" by seating themselves around a great table, front and center on the Arena floor, shaped like a great cross and covered with white cloths.

When all these choicest seats were occupied, later arrivals of the marchers seated themselves at tables at sides and rear of the cross, those at the sides covered with red, those in the rear with blue cloths. The side tables were filled by marchers who arrived in

groups of varying numbers, from a half-dozen to fifty or more, each of these groups was led by a marcher carrying a banner.

In the procession there was no form, but the march was in celebration of the "birth" and the opening of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

The birth of these agencies was a strange event. Obviously, the parents were not a united pair, but eight cooperating agencies, which with four lesser groups, were amalgamated into one body. Was it perhaps something like the "birth" of Athena, who sprang full-grown from the brow of her father, the mighty Zeus? If this analogy has point, then the role of Zeus might well be assigned to the Federal Council of Churches, at once the most publicized of the agencies, and the agency most aggressive in promoting and publicizing the merger.

To play no favorites, the publicity

always lists the "parents" in alphabetical order, as follows:

- Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America;
- Evangelical Missionary Conference of North America;
- Home Mission Council of North America;
- International Council of Religious Education;
- Ministry Education Movement of the U.S. and Canada;
- National Protestant Council on Higher Education;
- United Council of Church Women, and
- United Stewardship Council.

Appended to this list of the principal agencies or originators of the merger movement, are additional names, with the notation, "Other agencies which subsequently decided to merge their efforts:"

- Church World Service;
- Inter-Seminary Committee;
- Protestant Film Commission, and

When the above picture was taken, the denominational church banners had been carried to the stage, and obscure the flags of all nations in the rear. A representative of one of the denominations is at the desk directly in front of the large white cross and the open Bible. He is signing the official commitment of the denomination to the new Council. The vested choirs which headed the procession are seated at left and right in front of the stage.

* Mr. Kaub was UEA's press representative at Cleveland. He is president of the American Council of Christian Laymen and author of *Collectivism Challenges Christianity*.

Protestant Radio Commission.

Proceeding with the formalities natural to such an occasion, representatives of the merging agencies were called upon to place in the hands of the chairman documents officially approving the move. Then the denominational delegations gave verbal assent to the merger, and one by one, a representative of each denomination moved to a desk just in front of a tall white cross on the stage. There each signed the official documents. At the signing, the denominational banners, brought into the Arena by the marching groups, were assigned places on the stage.

Now the formal pronouncement could be made—the National Council had come into being. Again the trumpets blared and the organ pealed; the joyful assemblage broke into song, "God of Grace and God of Glory."

This colorful event took place on Wednesday morning, Nov. 29. The following morning, principal business was adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws, and Friday morning, Dec. 1, last day of the Convention, officers were elected.

It had "leaked out" on the first day of the convention that the chosen nominee for the president, sure to be elected, was Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill of Greenwich, Conn., presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church. And so it was. Every committee nominee for every office—and there were scores and scores of nominations—either was elected outright by the convention, or in the case of the "smaller fry," recommended to the General Board for later election or appointment by that board.

The Council Framework

The General Board will consist of representatives of the constituent denominations specifically designated for the position by the respective denominations. An appointing agency (denomination or affiliated Council) may name one-seventh of its representatives to the General Board, which will have the powers of an executive committee. All the representatives of the denominations (or other affiliates) will make up the General Assembly, the governing body of the Council.

Never had there been any speculation as to who would be selected to be general secretary, and in effect, general manager of the National Council. Nobody doubted for a minute that "Generalissimo" Samuel McCrea Cavert, general secretary of the Federal Council, would get that "plum" without opposition of any kind from any source. He has been on the Federal Council staff since 1919, served for nearly a decade as one of two general secretaries, and since 1930 has been the Council's chief executive officer.

Dr. Roy G. Ross, for fifteen years general secretary of the international Council of Religious Education, was elected associate general secretary. Another secretary of equal ranking, a woman, is to be selected later by the general board.

Administrative secretaries named are Rev. Earl F. Adams, chairman of the field department of the Federal Council; Rev. Philip C. Landers, associate general secretary of ICRE; Rev. J.

Quinter, associate general secretary of the Federal Council, and Wilbur C. Parry, Chicago. Aenid A. Sanborn, editorial secretary of the Federal Council, was named assistant to the general secretary.

Four general vice presidents were elected. They are Mrs. Douglas Horton, former president of Wellesley College and former commander of the WAVES, Congregational; Mrs. Abbie Clement Jackson, Louisville, Ky., executive secretary of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church; Dr. M. E. Sadler, Fort Worth, Texas, president of Texas Christian University and former president of the International Convention of Disciples of Christ, and Harold E. Stassen, Philadelphia, president of the University of Pennsylvania, American Baptist.

Federal Council Echoes

Four vice presidents to represent and serve as chairmen of the four principal divisions were elected by the divisions. They are Dr. Paul Calvin Payne, Philadelphia, general secretary of the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church, USA, Division of Christian Education; Dr. Herman N. Norse, New York City, general secretary of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, USA, Division of Home Missions; Dr. C. C. Adams, Philadelphia, corresponding secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., Division of Foreign Missions, and Dr. Arthur S. Fleming, Delaware, O., president of Ohio Wesleyan University, Division of Christian Life and Work.

It is the Division of Christian Life and Work which will carry on the work done by the Federal Council in the social-economic field through its Department of the Church and Economic Life; Dr. Fleming has been serving as chairman of this department in the FCC.

And meet other familiar Federal Council figures—Roswell P. Barnes, who had been associate general secretary of the FCC, will manage the Division of Christian Life and Work as executive secretary. The following executive secretaries of FCC departments now become executive directors of Division departments of the same name: Walter W. Van Kirk and Richard M. Fagely (co-secretaries), Department of International Justice and Goodwill; Cameron P. Hall, Department of the Church and Economic Life; Thomas C. Allen, and J. Oscar Lee (co-secretaries), Department of Race Relations; Dean Edwards, Commission on worship. Elma Greenwood, who had been associate executive secretary becomes assistant executive director of the Division, and Beverly M. Boyd, who had been executive secretary of the Department of Christian Social Relations becomes executive director of the Department of Social Welfare.

Apparently the choice of Roswell P. Barnes as executive secretary of the Division of Christian Life and Work assures that leftist thinking (and acting) in the Division will not be discouraged. Barnes, an ordained Presbyterian minister, has nine listings of

affiliations with un-American organizations in *How Red Is Federal Council of Churches?*, a publication of American Council of Christian Laymen, Madison 1, Wis., and the Laymen's Council has additional listings for him which bring his total to an even dozen.

For treasurer the convention named Charles E. Wilson, New York City, president of General Electric Company, and for associate, James L. Kraft, chairman of the board of the Kraft-Phoenix Cheese Company. Rev. Reuben H. Mueller, Dayton, Ohio, will be recording secretary.

Rubber-Stamp Action

As it was with election of officers, so it was with adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws. Although the Planning Committee had rather freely amended the original drafts after they had been approved by the constituent bodies, the revised drafts were adopted with only minor changes suggested by the committee, and none more important than the correction of typographical errors.

Voting delegates, consultants, and even the alternates, were seated at tables at this convention, perhaps to give it the appearance of a deliberative assemblage, but it never was this in any sense; rather it was a "rubber stamp" convention from start to finish.

There was some apparently independent discussion of the matter of location of headquarters for the National Council, but in the end the matter was left with the General Board without specific recommendation.

And when all was said and done, that which had been accomplished was no more than this: a name was changed. All the inter-church policies of the old Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America were retained and approved. The old leadership of the Federal Council remains in complete control of the "machinery" for making leftist pronouncements and guiding the policies of the entire organization in the direction of liberalism and national Socialism. In the opinion of many, the grip of the Federal Council leaders has been tightened by the reins of inter-church authority.

Nobody can know, and probably it never can be discovered, how much of the "drive" for completing the long-planned merger at this time arose from a desire to discard the name "Federal Council of Churches," so greatly in disrepute, but most certainly this was an impelling factor.

The Federal Council, and probably others of the merging agencies, will not surrender their charters or articles of incorporation, in fact, could not do so as they have assets to conserve and obligations to meet.

What it amounts to is: the Federal Council has "gone underground." This is by no means the first time that the Council has used the Communist technique.

"On the record," as it is written by the Federal Council, the FCC wound up its affairs at a two-day meeting which almost overlapped the Constituting Convention. The FCC meeting, scheduled for Nov. 27 and 28, continued through an afternoon ses-

sion on the second day, and the first convention session was held in the evening of this same day.

Critics Get Lashing

Significant or not, the Federal Council retired from the scene (under this name) and the National Council began its Constituting Convention in notes of recrimination and "alibis."

Speakers at the closing session of the Federal Council "wind-up" and the opening session of the Constituting Convention lashed out vigorously at critics of the Federal Council and its policies. They made the usual general denials of pro-Communist activities and pronouncements and of "unsavory" affiliations of FCC leaders.

Surely it is significant that the principal speaker at the first convention session was Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, minister of Christ Church (Methodist) of New York City. Dr. Sockman ("named names" in his address (designated as a "sermon" in the program), getting a bit mixed up on some of them. But the real significance of his selection to make the "kick off" address lies in the fact that he is a "liberal of the liberals" in matters of theology, and politically he is aligned with the extremely leftist Methodist Federation of Social Action, of which he is (an elected) member-at-large, No. 43 on the official list of nominees.

Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, another "liberal of the liberals" both in theology and politics, whose activities in the Federal Council did not slacken at the conclusion of his term as president, was active in arranging the "birth" of the "new" Council. He presided at the Thursday morning session when the Constitution and By-Laws were adopted.

Choice of other speakers for the Constituting Convention was equally significant in showing the true aims and purposes—almost completely political—of the Planning Committee.

Political Figures Speak

Scheduled for the Thursday evening session was Sir Oliver S. Franks, Great Britain's Ambassador to the United States; Thursday afternoon the message was from the other side of the globe—the speaker was Toyohiko Kagawa of Japan. Friday morning the Convention heard a political address by Harold E. Stassen, best known for his continuing presidential "itch"; earlier he had been elected a vice president of the National Council. Thursday evening the principal speaker was Francis B. Sayre, delegate of the U.S. to the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations. Messages of mutual admiration were exchanged by the National Council and Trygve Lie, secretary general of the United Nations.

President Truman was the Planning Committee's first choice as "top bill-

• In a letter to this writer under date of Jan. 12, 1951, Dr. Sockman wrote in part: "I was embarrassed to see that the Methodist Federation for Social Action was carrying me as a member at large. I had this matter cleared up as soon as I heard of it. . . How my name came to be carried in it, I do not know." V. P. K.

LAYMEN AND THE NCC

EXACT status of the General Department of United Church Men of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (UEA, January 1) is not too clear, even to persons who were on the scene when it was organized.

This much is clear: the Planning Committee setting up the organization for the "new" National Council conceived the idea of a department of laymen to correspond to the United Council of Church Women, an interdenominational agency which was one of the units merged with the Federal Council of Churches.

Mr. J. Howard Pew, Philadelphia industrialist, chairman of the board of the Sun Oil Company, organized a lay committee of 100 prominent persons, with men greatly in the majority. From Mr. Pew's remarks to the convention, it appeared that he thought that the committee he had organized was to be the nucleus of the proposed new department. But *The National Council News*, a four-page news sheet issued three times during the Constituting Convention, announced in the first issue, available when the delegates arrived, that this lay committee was set up to "sponsor" the convention.

Mr. Pew was scheduled to address the afternoon group meeting at which the new department was organized, but was unable to appear. He addressed the plenary session the following morning. His place on the afternoon program was filled by Mr. Lem. T. Jones, who was shortly to be elected chairman of the department. Other speakers on this program were Mr. Chilton G. Bennett, Chicago, executive secretary of the Methodist Board of Lay Activities, and Dr. Luther Wesley Smith, Philadelphia, executive secretary of the Baptist Board of Education and Publication. Harold E. Stassen, president of the University of Pennsylvania, former governor of Minnesota, presided.

ing" and when he declined to appear, the committee invited Dean Acheson, Secretary of State, who accepted. Messages of mutual admiration were exchanged by the Convention and President Truman.

Whatever we may think of President Truman and Dean Acheson, we must agree that they are two of the most controversial figures in national and world politics today. Introducing Secretary of State Acheson to the Convention, Dr. Edward H. Pruden, Washington, president of the American Baptist Convention said:

"Though separated by many miles, it is a genuine privilege to present to this audience a distinguished statesman and an unselfish public servant who is a son of the parsonage. Occupying one of the most difficult positions in the world at one of the most critical hours in history, the speaker of the evening is performing his duties with marked

When it came time to elect officers, it was easy to find, among the membership of the "Pew committee" and "reserves" standing by, plenty of candidates well-schooled in denominational and inter-church activities under the tutelage of the old Federal Council of Churches. The "slate" elected was as follows:

Lem. T. Jones, Kansas City, Mo., president of the National Council of Presbyterian Men in the USA, chairman of the new department. The five vice chairmen: Ray H. Nichols, Vernon, Texas, president of the Methodist Board of Lay Activities; Charles H. Thompson, Washington, D.C., dean of Howard University graduate school; Gilbert B. Brink, Los Angeles, California, president of the National Council of American Baptist Men; Nat K. Reiney, Lewisburg, Tenn., president of the Presbyterian Assembly Men's Council, Presbyterian Church in the USA, and John Merrifield, Portland, Oregon, member of the Presiding Bishops' Committee on Laymen's Work for the Protestant Episcopal Church. L. J. Fletcher, Peoria, Illinois, was named secretary of the department, and Charles E. Wilson, New York City, was named treasurer.

Mr. Pew's address to the Constituting Convention was a masterful presentation of the basic principles of Protestantism, showing how these principles are basic in the American concept of the free, important and dignified individual. It was the only address to the convention, so far as this observer could learn, which made any attempt to state the principles of Protestantism or to outline a program of Christian work in support of these principles.

In his address Mr. Pew declared that the Planning Committee had made representations to the effect that in the National Council the laity would play important roles in both operation and policy making. Members of the lay committee are to have half the places on the Council's Committee on Busi-

ness and Finance, and generous representation on the boards of directors of both divisions and departments. Laymen also are to have a share in preparation of pronouncements and statements of policy, Mr. Pew declared.

As indicated by Dr. Pruden in his remarks, the Secretary of State was not present in person. He spoke from Washington by telephone. The public relations and radio departments had arranged to have one broadcasting system (Mutual) put the talk on the air waves. When it developed that the address would be a "fireside talk" to the nation, all the four principal broadcasting systems arranged to "air" the address.

Hence the address was not directed to a convention of churches and

United Evangelical Action is a semi-monthly magazine, official organ of the National Association of Evangelicals. Executive offices are located at 111 East Fourth Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. Subscription price, \$1.50 per year, \$1.00 for 8 months.

ness and Finance, and generous representation on the boards of directors of both divisions and departments. Laymen also are to have a share in preparation of pronouncements and statements of policy, Mr. Pew declared.

That Mr. Pew acted and spoke in good faith cannot be questioned. He, and presumably other Christian men who accepted his invitation to serve in the lay committee, assumed that the promises and pledges of the Planning Committee were bona fide. It is, of course, quite possible that the National Council will follow a more moderate course than did the Federal Council. But nothing in the actions of the Planning Committee points in that direction.

The nominating committees set up by the Planning Committee placed in control all the old, discredited leadership of the Federal Council, which has continued its sniping at free enterprise and the American system of government since the convention, and has announced no change in its plans for using the \$100,000 grant of the Rockefeller Foundation for further sniping at the besmirching of our basic American ideals.

If laymen are to alter the policies of the past in any way whatever they must rally in great numbers and, rolling up their sleeves, pitch in to do a gigantic job of house cleaning.

Congregational Laymen Protest Social Program

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—The Council of Social Action of the Congregational Christian Church is under fire by a well-organized group of Minnesota laymen with headquarters here.

The Congregational Lay Group of Minnesota, as the group is called, has called upon their denomination to cease supporting the CSA out of missionary funds; to discontinue its political lobby in Washington; and to include in its official framework a proper representation of business men, manufacturers, and professional men.

The CLGM charges that the CSA has been "pro-labor" and "pro-union" in

churchmen, but to the nation; nevertheless it was accepted by Council leaders as their own. The Secretary was highly complimented for his restraint in not "calling us, a church group, to take part in a 'holy war.'"

Stress Social Action

A book could be written about other indications that the chief attention of the "new" National Council, like that of its predecessor-parent, the Federal Council, will be given to matters social-economic and political rather than to religion.

Convincing evidence of this fact is to be found in the National Council's own publications. One of these is a pamphlet, *Christian Faith in Action*. Here are many fine phrases about "the role the churches should be playing

* A quotation from a statement by Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, dean of the graduate school of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

Pro-Communist Letter Brings Baptist Action

NEW YORK—(RNS)—Officials of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society have recalled Dr. Dryden L. Phelps, a missionary in China since 1921, because of a letter published under his name in the November issue of the magazine *Soviet Russia Today* (UEA, December 15).

In the purported letter Dr. Phelps, who is stationed at West China Union University, Chengtu, paid high praise to the present Chinese Communist regime. He called it "the most comprehensive renaissance the human spirit has ever experienced," and "the most dynamic change in human history."

The letter also characterized the "reorganization of Chinese society" as the "most profoundly religious experience I have ever been through". It asserted that "God is working alongside of these Communists."

Discussing the situation in Korea, the letter charged that the South Korean government "first attacked" North Korea and that "95 per cent of press reports appearing in the USA on the Far Eastern crisis are absolutely false."

It said that Dr. Phelps and a Chinese colleague had translated into Chinese an article by Rev. William Howard Melish called "Religion in the U.S.S.R." Mr. Melish is the former assistant rector of Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal church in Brooklyn, N.Y. His father, Dr. John Howard Melish, was removed as pastor of the church for supporting his son's "radical" activities.

The decision to recall Dr. Phelps so that he might be given an opportunity to explain the letter was made by unanimous action of the officers' council of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society. An announcement issued by the Society said:

"This letter, if it is from Dr. Phelps, reveals that he has taken a position which is not in accord with the policies laid down by the Board of Managers of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society governing the attitude and work of its missionaries."

"Accordingly, immediate and unanimous action was taken by the officers' council, asking Dr. and Mrs. Phelps to come home immediately for a conference with a board committee."

many of its utterances and has represented the "left-wing" element of the denomination in its representations before the government.

Literature is being circulated substantiating their position. Among the pamphlet available are "What Is the Congregational Lay Group of Minnesota?" "What Is the Council for Social Action?" and "Congregationalism and the Social Gospel."

in this great drama of human destiny," and the need for "larger strategy." The slogan is "Cooperative Christianity." In nineteen numbered paragraphs the planning Committee tells how "The National Council Will Help You and Your Church." The first paragraph—surely the most important—reads:

"By providing an authentic expression of the Christian conscience in matters of religious liberty, human rights family life, social welfare, world peace emergency relief needs, and great moral issues."

A great many Christians will prefer to allow their own consciences to guide them. They will not wish to depend upon the "one voice" of the super-liberals of a Protestantism which protests nothing more strongly than protests the eternal verities of Christianity. But such is the "new" National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA.

Unfinished Business

Important among items of unfinished business of the supposedly defunct Federal Council of Churches is the matter of the "three-year study of the ethical side of economic activity in modern society" for which the Council accepted a grant of \$100,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Announcement of the grant was made at the National Study Conference sponsored by the Federal Council at Detroit in February, 1950. And of course there is no thought of abandoning the study and turning back the unspent portion of the \$100,000 grant. The study will proceed as planned, under sponsorship and supervision as announced, with some slight change in the titles of supervising persons and departments.

First announcement of plans for the study appeared in Federal Council Bulletin for April. Director and principal consultant of the study, the Bulletin announced, are to be A. Dudley Ward and Dean Howard Rothmann Bowen, dean of the College of Commerce, University of Illinois.

Director Ward is not identified in the story. Readers presumably are expected to know that Mr. Ward is director of studies for the Federal Council's Department of the Church and Economic Life.

Partly Obscured Background

Dean Bowen's background, as described in the Bulletin, is as follows: he is a graduate of the State College of Washington and received his doctorate at the University of Iowa, where he taught economics for seven years. He renewed his studies of economics in England in 1937-38 and was in government service during World War II, serving as chief economist of the Joint Congressional Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation. Subsequently he spent two years as an economist in employ of the Irving Trust Company of New York. In 1947 he assumed his present post.

With customary candor, the Bulletin neglects to inform the readers that Dr. Bowen's English studies were in the London School of Economics, whose best-known professor was the late Harold J. Laski, for many years leader of the British Labor party and world renowned propagandist for a leftist brand of Socialism based in Marxism.

Late in 1950, Dean Bowen was relieved of his administrative responsibilities by action of the Board of Regents of the University. The stated reason was his adherence to the theories of deficit financing, principal exponent of which is Lord Keynes.

The study will be carried on by economists and theologians. The need for including both economists and theologians in a study such as the one contemplated was explained in the Bulletin as follows:

"A theologian may argue for justice in the distribution of income, yet without the technical equipment to measure the effects on production and progress.

"On the other hand, economists report that they feel handicapped by their lack of professional competence in the field of ethics and by inadequacy of their techniques for measuring results of alternative actions and policies."

Just why economists should believe that theologians are better equipped than they to foretell the results of economic changes which economists recommend is not explained.

Nor is explained why it never has occurred to the Department of the Church and Economic Life, setting up and preparing to supervise the study, that a few practical business men who really know what makes the wheels of the national economy turn, might be of value to the group of economists and theologians, if only as consultants.

Director Ward outlines more detailed plans for carrying on the three-year study in a signed article in the October issue of the Bulletin. Quoting:

"The study will relate Christian ethics to five major areas of economic life:

- "1. The goals of economic life.
- "2. The value criteria which people use and the problems of conscience which they face in economic decision making.
- "3. The social responsibilities of individuals in economic activity.
- "4. The place of organized economic groups in modern life.
- "5. The standard of living and the content of consumption in modern society."

Preserved for Posterity

The conclusions of the scholars and theologians will be preserved for posterity in six volumes, one devoted to each of the above five general subjects, and a sixth volume will evaluate the total study, the director wrote. Quoting again:

"To determine the goals of economic life the approach of a variety of disciplines and ways of thinking will be sought. The responsibility for the projects rests with a panel of competent scholars. Each one will prepare a statement. These statements will be integrated, interpreted and evaluated by a theologian in cooperation with a philosopher and an economist. Those participating and their fields of interest are:

- "1. The Historical Perspective — Clarence H. Danhof, Professor, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University.
- "2. The Concept of Economic Progress — Kenneth E. Boulding, professor of economics, University of Michigan.
- "3. Theology — John C. Bennett, professor of Christian theology and ethics, Union Theological Seminary.
- "4. Philosophy — Theodore M. Greene, professor of philosophy and Master of Silliman College, Yale University.
- "5. Psychology — Donald Snygg, professor of psychology, Oswego State Teachers College.

Bible Society Adopts Record Budget in 1951

NEW YORK—A budget of \$2,161,500 to cover the regular work of the American Bible Society in 1951 was approved by the Advisory Council of the Society, at its annual meeting here.

"6. Cultural Anthropology — Ralph Linton, professor of anthropology, Yale.

"7. Biology — Alfred E. Emerson, professor of zoology, University of Chicago.

"8. Jurisprudence — Walton Hamilton, member of the law firm, Arnold, Fortas and Porter, Washington, D. C.

"9. Political Science and Sociology — Robert M. Mac Iver, professor of political philosophy and sociology, Columbia University.

"10. Economics — John M. Clark, professor of economics, Columbia University; Frank H. Knight, professor of economics, University of Chicago; Joseph J. Spengler, professor of economics, Duke University; William Vickrey, professor of economics, Columbia University.

"11. Introduction, interpretation and integration — Reinhold Niebuhr, professor of applied Christianity, Union Theological Seminary."

Who's Who, and Why

Some "personal notes" on persons named above, with numeral reference for convenience of the reader, are as follows:

3. Dr. John C. Bennett ranks among the half-dozen most radical theologians of the day. He long has been an apologist for Communism; his most recent books, including "Christianity and Communism," Association Press (YMCA) 1948, attempt to correlate the ethics of the Christian faith with Marxian Communism.

6. Ralph Linton is listed in "Red-ucators at Yale" published by National Council for American Education, as having four radical affiliations, and three such listings appear in Appendix IX of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

9. Robert M. MacIver has five listings in "Red-ucators at Columbia," published by the National Council for American Education, and four such listings appear in Appendix IX.

11. Reinhold Niebuhr, long an advocate of the "social gospel" and who retained his belief in Socialism even after he had "discovered sin" about a decade ago, was a co-founder of the Fellowship of Socialist Christians.

Ever since it was organized the Federal Council of Churches has been "studying" economics, and in all of its "studies" it comes up with the conclusion that private enterprise and competition are evil and should be supplanted by some sort of "co-operative commonwealth." From its own authorized description of the aims and methods of procedure of the "three-year study," it is perfectly clear that the cards have been stacked to assure the same kind of findings.

With the personnel selected by the managers of the enterprise, no other result can be expected.

HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**

14
Nov. 4. 1952

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

Dear Sir:

We have been hearing reports of communism working in and among the members of the National Council of Churches in U.S.A., formerly called the Federal Council.

Do you have any information on any person who might be so associated with this association, or do you know definitely if there is any such work in this organization. I am willing to fight this thing with all I've got, but I must have facts before anything can be done.

I will certainly appreciate anything you might be able to offer on this thing which I feel, is gripping our country, and truly the Christian people are going to have to fight to keep our country the God-fearing nation it once was.

Thanking you sincerely, I am,
b7c [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 71

WAB:LB

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cc - Detroit
11-12-52
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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INDEXED - 28

November 12, 1952

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 4, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance in connection with your request, I must advise that in accordance with a Departmental regulation data contained in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this regulation and no inference will be drawn because of my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

2 - cc Detroit (with copies of incoming)

No identifiable data re correspondent located in Bufiles.

The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America has not been the subject of investigation by this Bureau; however, allegations concerning Communist infiltration into this organization have been received in the past.

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b7c [REDACTED]
October 31, 1952

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am enclosing a pamphlet which has come to me, causing much unrest in my soul and disturbance in thought.

Would you be so kind to read it and then inform me as to its real value. Federal Council of Churches

Are these facts? Is it true that these men whose names are mentioned are actually doing their best to lead our country into socialism? or even communism?

You will notice at the bottom of one page, there is a statement attributed to you. Is this true?

I realize that you are a busy man, but please take time to read this literature.

Let me thank you as an American citizen for the fine work you have done as Director of our F.B.I. You have the admiration and respect and the prayers of many who are unable to express themselves in a letter such as this. In these days when corruption abounds, we are grateful that men like you and others, cannot be "bought" and that you remain honest, steadfast and courageously loyal to our beloved nation. I say these things to let you know that the American people, of which I am but one, are indeed thankful to your organization for the efforts made to clean-up America.

God bless you.

RECORDED - 41

INDEXED - 41

NOV 6 1952

EXPEDITE PROCESSING
NOV 6 1952

ack
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/8/83 BY SP4 [signature]

b7c [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/12/83 BY SP4

100-50869-205

ENCLOSURE

HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



100-50869-205

**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**

November 18, 1952

RECORDED - 41

100-50869-205

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of October 31, 1952, together with enclosure, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do, or that we do have the information you request.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me in the pamphlet you forwarded is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Un-American Activities Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives. I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt quoted appears on page twelve.

I very much appreciate your generous comments regarding my administration of the FBI, and I sincerely hope that our work in the future will continue to merit your approval.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 16
NOV 18 1952
COMM-FBI

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

Enclosure

HPL/DIC:grs:mns

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/82 BY 9046/af

63 NOV 26 1952

676

[REDACTED]

November 12, 1952

NOTE:

Bufile 100-50869 reflects rival church groups have made allegations claiming that the National Council of Churches, also known as the Federal Council of Churches, has been infiltrated by Communists. In 1950 investigation limited to informant contacts failed to reflect any subversive activities on the part of persons affiliated with this organization.

The pamphlet "How Red is the National Federal Council of Churches?" attempts to show that the Federal Council is Communistic and includes a statement of the Director which is accurate although incomplete.

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

November 3, 1952

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have been hearing quite a bit about the communists working in the National Council of Churches. I talked to most of the members of our church, trying to find out if we were in the council. They said they didn't know for sure, but thought we ~~was~~ are in it. The members wanted me to write to you to see if we could find out for sure if the communists are working through the council.

Could, and would you please send me some information to clear our minds on this matter, then if it is true, we can decide on what to do. We would truly appreciate hearing from you on this subject.

RECORDED - 4

Thank you.

100-50869-206

NOV 11 1952

11-1

Sincerely truly,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/3/83 BY SP4/bw/br

November 12, 1952

RECORDED - 41

INDEXED - 41

100-50869-206

Dear [REDACTED]

The letter dated November 8, 1952, which was sent by you and your wife, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

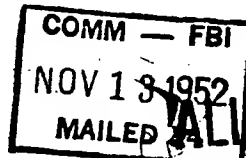
Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE:

The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the National Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of the organization. (100-50869).

ELT:mn



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

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Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Laughlin _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

NOV 12 4 10 PM '52
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FBI

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100-50869-207
CHANGED TO
62-100432-14

OCT 7 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/89 BY SP4 chf/uf

From [redacted] 11/10/52

b7C

Bus. Address [redacted]

sl

RECORDED-52

I do not know who sent me this or where it comes from

DEC 2 1952

EX-104

[redacted]

b7C

name
#ch 11/20/52
LH.

208

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/89 BY 2046/sf

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE BY

Note:

Below is a transcription of Rabinovich's speech given me by a former Bulgarian diplomat who broke with the communist regime and reached Budapest, Hungary, whence he hid out with anti-Communist friends until March. While there, he obtained a copy of this speech, and was then smuggled to Hamburg, Germany, finally making his way to this country (America). A gentleman in Hamburg gave him my name, and he met me two days ago and urged me to distribute this speech at once. I sincerely hope that it will give the American people a better picture of the force arrayed against them.

(Signed)

Eustice Mullins,
May 14, 1952

COPY

SPEECH OF RABBI EMANUEL RABINOVICH

as reported by Eustice Mullins, May 14, 1952

The following is a speech of Rabbi Emanuel Rabinovich before a special meeting of the Emergency Council of European Rabbis in Budapest, Hungary, January 12, 1952.

Greetings, my children! You have been called here to recapitulate the principal steps of our new progress. As you know, we had hoped to have twenty years between wars to consolidate the great gains which we made from World War Two, but our increasing numbers in certain vital areas is arousing opposition to us, and we must now work with every means to precipitate World War Three within five years.

The goal for which we have striven so concertedly for three thousand years is at last within our reach, and because of its fulfillment now apparent, it behooves us to increase our efforts and our caution tenfold. I can safely promise you that before ten years have passed, our race will take its rightful place in the world, with every Jew a King and every Gentile a slave! (applause from the gathering). You remember the success of our propaganda campaign during the 1930s', which aroused anti-American passions in Germany and at the same time we aroused anti-German passions in America, a campaign which culminated in the second world war. A similar propaganda campaign is now being waged intensively throughout the world. A war fever is being worked up in Russia by an incessant anti-American barrage, while a nation-wide anti-Communist scare is sweeping America. This campaign is forcing all of the smaller nations to choose between the partnership of Russia or an alliance with the United States.

Our next pressing problem at the moment is to inflame the lagging militaristic spirit of the Americans. The failure of the Universal Military Training Act was a great setback to our plans, but we are assured that a suitable measure will be rushed through Congress immediately after the 1952 elections. The Russian, as well as the Asiatic peoples, are well under control, and offer no objections to war, but we must wait to secure the Americans. This we hope to do with the issue of Anti-Semitism, which worked so well in uniting the Americans against Germany. We are counting heavily on reports of anti-Semitic outrages in Russia to whip up indignation in the United States and produce a front of solidarity against the Soviet power. Simultaneously, to concentrate to Americans the reality of outspokenly Anti-Semitic elements in America to increase their effectiveness, and we shall stage anti-Semitic outbreaks in several of their largest cities. This will serve the double purpose of exposing reactionary sectors of America, which then can be turned into a devoted Anti-Russian unit.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/2/88 BY SP-1

ENCLOSURE

100-10000-210

Within five years this progress will achieve its objectives, the Third World War, which will surpass in destruction all previous contests. Israel, of course, will remain neutral, and when both sides are devastated and exhausted, we will arbitrate, sending our control Commissions into all of the wrecked countries. This war will end for all time our struggles against the Gentiles. We will openly reveal our identity with the races of Asia and Africa. I can state with assurance that the last generation of white children is now being born. Our Control Commissions will, in the interests of peace and wiping out inter-racial tensions, forbid the whites to mate with whites. The white women must cohabit with members of the dark races, and the white men with dark women. Thus the white race will disappear, for mixing the dark with the white means the end of the white man, and our most dangerous enemy will become only a memory. We shall embark upon an era of ten thousand years of peace and plenty. The Pax Judaica,* and our race will rule undisputed over the earth. Our superior intelligence will enable us to retain mastery over a world of dark peoples.

* (meaning friendly, cooperative symbology as between Judaists)

Questions from gathering: Among them the question, what about the various religions after the third world war,)

There will be no more religions. Not only would the existence of a priest class remain a constant danger to our rule, but belief in an after-life would give spiritual strength to irreconcilable elements in many countries, and enable them to resist us. We still, however, retain the rituals and customs of Judaism as the work of our hereditary ruling caste, strengthening our racial laws so that no Jew will be allowed to marry outside our race, nor will any stranger be accepted by us.

We may have to repeat the grim days of World War Two, when we were forced to let the Hitlerite bandits sacrifice some of our people, in order that we may have adequate documentation and witnesses to legally justify our trial and execution of the leaders of America and Russia as war criminals, after we have dictated the peace. I am sure you will need little preparation for such a duty, for sacrifice has always been the watchword of our people, and the death of a few thousand Jews in exchange for world leadership is indeed a small price to pay.

To convince you of the certainty of that leadership, let me point out to you how we have turned all of the inventions of the white man into weapons against him. His printing presses and radios are the mouth pieces of our desires, and his heavy industry manufactures the instrument which he sends out to Asia and Africa against him. Our interests in Washington are greatly extending the Point Four program for developing industry in backward areas of the world so that after the industrial plants and cities of Europe and America are destroyed by atomic warfare, the whites can offer no resistance against the larger menace of the dark races, who will maintain an unchallenged technological superiority.

And so, with the vision of world victory before you, go back to your countries and intensify your good work, until that approaching day when Israel will reveal herself in all her glorious destiny as the Light of the World. . . .

Are you aiding this plan by contributing to a Church that is a member of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America?

Many of these Churches are advocating the mixing of the races!!

November 20, 1952

100-50869-208

RECORDED-52
INDEXED-52

Dear [REDACTED]

The material which you forwarded under date of November 10, 1952, has been received.

I want you to know that I appreciate the interest which prompted you to bring this data to my attention.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: A copy of the speech which correspondent enclosed, has already been brought to the Bureau's attention. Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contact with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no information was developed indicating any Communistic or subversive activities on the part of any individual affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

LH:nem:umk:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/3/83 BY SP-6/STP/STP

COMM - FBI
NOV 21 1952
MAILED 24

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

RECEIVED
NOV 21 1952
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b7C [REDACTED]

December 1, 1952

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The past week in presenting the annual budget of our church we had a small amount listed for "Council of Churches." Really, this was to be used by our local organization here in the City. However, the item was questioned by one of our men. He stated that the Council of Churches had been listed by the Department of Justice as subversive.

Would you be so kind as to inform us relative to whether "The Federal Council of Churches" or the "National Council of Churches" or any part of the latter organization has ever been questioned as to loyalty. It is understood that the former organization has ceased to exist.

The writer is neither a reformist nor a crusader and any information you may supply will be used only in our own group. This kindness on your part will be deeply appreciated.

Gratefully yours
[REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED]

RECORDED - 5
b7C [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4HLS/SP4

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100-50869-209

DEC 10 1952

4/1/52
[REDACTED]

RECORDED-100-50869-209
INDEXED-89

December 8, 1952

EX-102

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of December 1, 1952, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to communicate with me.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

COMM — FBI

DEC 9 - 1952

MAILED 27

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, most of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation conducted by contacts of informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any person affiliated with this organization.

RECEIVED
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DEC 8 5 53 PM '52
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/83 BY [REDACTED]

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Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

69 DEC 22 1952

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b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

M

December 2, 1952

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am interested in our religious institutions, not only from the standpoint of their spiritual ministry but also of their contribution as American institutions.

I would appreciate any information you can give me concerning any inroads which Communism may have made within our ecumenical and denominational organizations. I am especially interested in the Northern (American) and Southern Baptist Conventions and the National Council of Churches. Thank you very much for your kindness and help.

Very truly yours

[REDACTED]

b7c

INDEXED-14

RECORDED-14

100-50869-210

DEC 12 1952

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/18/83 BY SP4 JED/BJ

7m
ack 12/18/52
EJF

7

PRIME

December 9, 1952

RECORDED-14

100-50869-210

EX-102
b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated December 8, 1952, has been received.

In view of the confidential nature of data in FBI files, it is not possible for me to furnish you with the specific data you desire. I am, however, enclosing some material which I believe will be of interest to you.

I hope that you will not infer from my inability to give you this specific data either that we do or do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/89 BY SP6/bjg

Enclosures (5)

How to Fight Communism, God or Chaos, Don't Be Duped by Communism, Unmask the Communist Masquerader, 100 Things About Communism.

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York office in 1950, did not develop any data indicating subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

(100-50869)

ELT: [REDACTED]

DEC 9 6 47 PM '52
RECEIVED BUREAU
FBI

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

1/10/53
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

b7C [REDACTED]

Dec. 5th, 1952.

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

Dear Sir: It has been charged here by some of the smaller denomination
pastors that the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in U. S. A.
in 1936, were under suspicion and possibly under charges of being Com-
munist or Communist sympathizers. I am a long time Methodist, and it
is hard for me to believe this of the leading scholars of my church and
others in this great organization of Protestants. This charge is
being made to throw disfavor on the New Revised Standard Version of the
Bible, since this organization sponsored it or backed it and secured
copyright on it. One pastor of an "Off-Brand" Baptist Church here
last Sunday burned a copy of this new Edition in his little church.
Pastor of our largest Baptist churches here have been praising this
new Bible and endorsing it.

Thanking you for any information you have on Communist charg
as above set out, I am

Yours very truly,
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/abw/af

b7C [REDACTED]

RECORDED - 79 1/105 - 50869-211

INDEXED - 79

DEC 17 1952

COPIES DESTROYED 10-16-38 & 277

December 12, 1952

b7C
RECORDED - 7
EX-130
100-
Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated December 5, 1952, has been received.

Although I would like to be of assistance in connection with your inquiry, I must advise that in accordance with a Departmental regulation data contained in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only.

I would also like to point out that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and it is not within the prescribed functions of this Bureau to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for these regulations and no inference will be drawn because of my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director
DEC 15 1952
DEC 10 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP-6/SP-7

Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
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Tele. Rm.
Nease
Gandy

2 - cc Dallas (with copies of [redacted])

TOC: jdt

MAILED 7
DEC 15 1952
COMM-FBI

74 DEC 22 1952

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DEC 12 4 35 PM '52

7903
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b7c

[REDACTED]

Numerous allegations concerning Communist infiltration into the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America have been received in the past. An investigation confined to contacts of informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activity on the part of the organization.

(100-50869)

b7c

Nov. 22/52-

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

Dear Sir:

As Mr. Dulles last evening said over the radio he wanted his whole history investigated & exposed by the F.B.I., I am taking the liberty of enclosing 2 newspaper clippings, one from our paper & one from a Chgo paper, the local one stating "Dulles was for years president --- of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ" which you yourself investigated according to the enclosed printed matter which I have marked -

As a citizen, we voted for a change (not of faces) but of principles - I personally am very much concerned about our government & I sincerely hope you will (Mr. Dulles) & his early associates do not at all trust Eisenhower & his friends in America or rather the time - I hope & pray all a communist

ENCLO. ATTACHED

RECORDED

100-50869-8

DEC 1 1952

DEC 2 1952

DEC 5 1952

DEC 2 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP-6/...

ack 12-2-53 RECEIVED

2

will rid our Gov't of the same; also rid
our Gov't of the homo-sexuals & other vile
creatures. I only hope & pray the U.S. will
regain the respect of the other nations
& that decency & integrity will once more
characterize those in high positions
in Washington & elsewhere.

May God direct you in your honest
efforts to clean up the dirty mess in
our national capitol.

Sincerely

b7c

[REDACTED]

DAVID LAWRENCE Observes

Ike Ignores Politics in Picking Cabinet

WASHINGTON — Orderly minds and efficient operating men can give President-elect Eisenhower a great cabinet. Already the announcement of the three posts of secretary of state, secretary of defense and secretary of the interior reveal that Eisenhower is determined to make efficiency and ability rather than politics the rule.

For John Foster Dulles, as pointed out in these dispatches earlier, is recognized the world over as an American statesman with exactly the right qualifications for secretary of state. And Charles E. Wilson, president of General Motors, is the very type of man long needed to head up the greatly-expanded department of defense.

Parallels Roosevelt's Move.
Just as the late President Roosevelt turned to the president of General Motors, William S. Knudsen, in 1941, to head up the office of defense production, so Eisenhower also turned for a somewhat similar post to the chief executive of the largest business in the world today.

Wilson, of course, like Knudsen, will permanently sever all connections with his company and devote himself entirely to his government position. The president-elect has let it be known on several occasions that he wanted a man of wide business and production experience for the secretaryship of defense. He sees that vital job as not so much a military one, because the tasks of military strategy are vested in the joint chiefs of staff.

He sees the office as involving contract negotiations and appropriations of billions of dollars.

The opinions expressed by David Lawrence in this column are not to be construed necessarily, nor even probably as those of The Press. They are only those of an experienced and responsible commentator.

Businessmen have complained that millions of dollars are wasted because government officials do not understand the production operations of American industry.

Fits Needs of Position.

So, in selecting Wilson, the president-elect has made a ten-strike. Wilson is an engineer. He thinks in straight lines. He is primarily a civilian and will not become immersed in the rivalries of the armed services. Fortunately, he himself, has not been identified with any of them before. He will give the defense department the business management it needs and this will make unnecessary such extra agencies as an office of defense production if a war emergency develops.

Wilson knows full well what can be done by mobilizing small businesses and he knows, also, what the irregular flow of contracts can mean, both from the defense standpoint and the national economy. Small business will get a better break than ever before. If ever there was a time to have a businessman in charge of defense spending it is today when the military appropriations alone run around 50 billion dollars a year.

As for the department of state, the announcement that Dulles will take charge means that worthwhile policies and procedures will

be retained and useless or unwise policies will be discontinued by a man who has been inside the department and knows the score.

Most significant is the manner in which Dulles intends to approach his new duties. He wants to see all the administrative bureaus put in charge of competent men so he can devote himself entirely to policymaking. His appointment was favorably received in Washington by many elements, including church circles. Dulles was for years president of the big Protestant organization then known as the Federal Council of Churches of Christ and he has a son studying to be a Catholic priest.

Abroad there is a mixed reaction to the Dulles appointment. In left-wing Britain and in Russia he has been pictured as a kind of "war monger." But the British people have been so much misled in recent months concerning American affairs by inaccurate if not deliberately distorted impressions about Republican leaders that it may take a little while for them to awaken to the truth, which is that Dulles probably will be found much more direct and forthright and hence more constructive than the vacillating type of diplomat who arouses hopes abroad only to find them dashed to the ground by a realistic reversal by congress back in Washington.

Congress Pleased.

Congress likes Dulles — both Republicans and Democrats say of him that he is an American in every sense and he has not fallen victim to the sloppy thinking which is so often ready to yield American sovereignty at the slightest pressure from the "world government" school of thought.

Dulles is an international co-operationist who never forgets that American interests are most vital to America, and that collective security doesn't mean American boys must do all the fighting in the world while American dollars flow abroad to bolster the budgets of foreign governments. He is a realist about both Europe and Asia, and that's the kind of secretary of state the American people really wanted Eisenhower to pick. And he did.

McKay "Right Man."

The selection of Gov. McKay of Oregon to be secretary of the interior — a man familiar with the vital interests of the west in reclamation and power projects — is also an application of the principle that Eisenhower is trying to follow in fitting the right man to the right job.

Now if the president-elect will select Herbert Brownell as attorney general — and this seems likely soon — the second issue of the campaign, namely how to protect an efficient, orderly cleanup of Communist influence inside our government, also will be taken care of in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the American electorate.

ENCLOSURE

Enc. 1

100-50867-3

44 PAGES

★ ★ HOME

S—PAY NO MORE

MAN

conviction

THREE CABINET
PLACES FILLED
BY EISENHOWER

Dulles, Wilson, and
McKay Chosen

SUCCESSES IN BUSINESS

Three cabinet choices have achieved success in private fields. Sketches of Dulles, Wilson and McKay on page 2.

BY WILLIAM FULTON

(Chicago Tribune Staff Writer)

New York, Nov. 20—President Elect Eisenhower this afternoon made his first three cabinet selections. They are:

1. Secretary of state—John Foster Dulles, Wall street lawyer and special foreign policy adviser to Gov. Dewey of New York.
2. Secretary of defense—Charles Erwin Wilson of Detroit, president of General Motors.
3. Secretary of the interior—Gov. Douglas McKay of Oregon. Dulles and Wilson immediately issued their acceptances. McKay's acceptance followed shortly.

Announced by Hagerty

The announcement was made by James Hagerty, press chief in the Eisenhower organization. He called in reporters shortly after noon and read from a brief statement. The general, he said, "would send the nominations to the senate for confirmation as members of his cabinet" following his inauguration Jan. 20.

Dulles, a well known internationalist, lay church leader and Republican "voice" in several Roosevelt-Truman administration diplomatic ventures around the world, obtained the top cabinet post that was turned down by Gov. Dewey, according to sources close to the inner councils of the new President's entourage.

The New York governor, twice defeated as the G. O. P. Presidential standard bearer, has stated his intention to serve out the remaining two years of his term in the state capital at Albany. Then, his closest friends say, he plans to go into the Dulles firm which has done many profitable legal chores for foreign governments. The governor is not well-to-do.

Might Improve Position

By staying out of the cabinet and dodging brickbats heaved at the new administration, Dewey would be in a position to make another try for the Republican nomination four years hence if in the interim Eisenhower has become unpopular, these sources say.

Dulles would without doubt have been named secretary of state had Dewey reached the White House. Today's announcement culminated the lawyer's long drive toward filling the same post as his grandfather, John Watson Foster, who served in President Benjamin Harrison's cabinet. An aunt of Dulles married Robert Lansing, secretary of state under President Wilson.

"Gen. Eisenhower is a great and purposeful leader," said Dulles in a brief acceptance statement. "His desire for our nation to be just and durable peace. I shall gladly serve in that cause to the best of my ability."

Dulles, 64, the son of a Presbyterian minister, has suffered some embarrassment as the result of important associations with Alger Hiss, the former top ranking state department official convicted of perjury in a case involving the peddling of war time secrets to a soviet spy ring.

The late President Roosevelt appointed Dulles as special adviser to the American delegation at the 1945 San Francisco conference when the United Nations charter was born. Hiss was secretary general of the conference. Subsequently, Hiss was picked for president of the Carnegie Founda-

(over)

Enc. 2

100-50869-212

Wilson, 62, has headed the General Motors organization since 1941, guiding it thru the tempestuous years of stepped-up war production and post-war dislocations of

McKay & Dark Horse
The proposed defense chief started his industrial career as an electrical engineer in 1909. He served as General Motors vice president from 1929 to 1939, and as executive vice president in 1939 and 1940.

Gov. McKay, 59, named for his prior secretary, was a complete dark horse in the running. According to dispatches, Eisenhower telephoned him this morning and asked him if he would accept. He replied in the affirmative. The Oregon governor refused to discuss any policies he had in mind.

See Eden, Stassen
Eisenhower had another day crammed full of conferences pointing toward the make-up of his new administration. His luncheon guests were British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Harold Stassen, University of Pennsylvania president and former governor of Minnesota. Eden spent an hour and 55 minutes with the general and was smiling and noncommittal at the end of it.

"The general and I talked about international security," said Eden. "For details you will have to speak to Mr. Eisenhower."

Stassen declined to say whether he was angling for a cabinet job. He has been mentioned as a possible secretary of labor. Stassen pronounced Eisenhower's first three appointments as "excellent."

Meets Head of KLM

Before the luncheon, the President Elect was closeted two hours with Dulles. He also saw Dr. Albert Plesman, president of KLM, Royal Dutch Air Lines, an acquaintance of Eisenhower's from his days of service in Europe.

"I have some ideas of the world to come which I hope to discuss with the general," Plesman said.

He declined to divulge the ideas. In reply to a question, he said "world federation" was a plan for 150 years in the future. He believed the first step was the North Atlantic treaty organization.

SUPREME COURT UPSETS RAPE CONVICTION OF 2

The Illinois Supreme court yesterday overruled the conviction of Albert Tocco, 24, and Thomas Christofanelli, 22, both of Chicago Heights, on charges of raping an 18 year old Riverdale girl on April 7, 1951. The Supreme court said there was no evidence of forcible attack. In a Cook county Criminal court trial in August, 1951, the defendants were sentenced to prison terms of 25 years each. They were accused of luring the victim into their car and attacking her as they drove thru south suburban communities.

Advertisement for Coca-Cola, featuring the classic logo and text: "Coca-Cola", "Bottled by...", "The Coca-Cola Company", "Atlanta, Georgia".



HOW RED IS THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

First Printing, October 1949
Second Printing, December 1949
Third Printing, January 1950
Fourth Printing, February 1950

**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**

100-50869-212

December 8, 1952

RECORDED - 67

b7c

INDEXED - 67

90-106

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked November 27, 1952, together with enclosures, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to let me have the benefit of your comments.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me in the pamphlet you enclosed is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the United States House of Representatives. I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt quoted appears on page twelve, and I know that you will realize when you read this passage in context that I was not making reference to any particular organization or religious denomination.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED REA. ROOM
DEC 9 11 05 AM '52

FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/klj/gh

Enclosure Director's statement 3-26-47

NOTE: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the pamphlet "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches," issued by the American Council of Christian Churches, Madison, Wisconsin, as well as the Federal Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of this organization. The pamphlet attempts to show that the Federal Council is Communistic and includes a statement of the Director which is accurate, although incomplete, and is taken from his statement before the Un-American Activities Committee. (100-50869)

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

20 JAN 5 1953

b7c
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
1
[REDACTED]
7 December 1952

(4)
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

I would like to know if the ^O"Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America" are now or have ever been on the list of subversive agencies or listed among those agencies that are communist dominated.

I am a member of the Christian Church and an officer in the local church. For nearly a hundred years now, there has been some division in our church over certain matters that to me seem unimportant. However, in these last years there has appeared in various literature the charge that the Federal Council is "modernist" and far worse, communist. If this last charge is true, I would like to get out of any organization that bears such a label or rid it of those elements that make it communist. If this charge is not true, I would like the word of the authority usually quoted to prove the charge to disprove it.

Thank you for any help you may be able to give me.

Yours in Christian Friendship,
b7c [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ehp/ll

RECORDED - 67
901 - 13

mul - ack 12-11-52
elt

100-50864-213
12 DEC 15 1952
Wm
CPM

December 11, 1952

100-50869-213

31
21

RECORDED - 67

INDEXED - 67

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated December 7, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/3/83 BY SP/klh/f

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Wm
6

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups. An investigation concerning the contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communism or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

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

ELT:amk

77 DEC 24 1952

MAILED 7
DEC 11 1952
COMM-FBI

VW

imp

ELK

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

November 29, 1952

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A story is going around Pittsburgh that the F.B.I. has investigated the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, with headquarters at 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y., and that the F.B.I. would take action because of subversive activities if it were not for the fact that you do not want to be involved in a religious matter. One of the men circulating this story says that he has been told personally by the F.B.I. that this is true.

It so happens that I am connected with several different angles of the National Council and have known some of its top staff members since I entered the ministry more than twenty years ago. I am as interested in the safety and soundness of my country as anyone else and I would like to know, if I am not asking something unreasonable of you, if there is any semblance of truth in this story.

As you perhaps know, the National Council represents the co-operative work of some thirty million Protestants and, of course, in that huge number there must be some of all shades of opinion, but I want to know if the leadership of the National Council has ever been under suspicion or if the Federal Bureau of Investigation has ever said anywhere that these men are subversive.

It is a matter of some concern to some of us as local Protestants that these stories persist. I think you, and you alone, can clarify the situation for us.

Yours most cordially,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]

RECORDED

100-50864-214

13 DEC 18 1952

EXPEDITE PROCESSING

Letter sent to Pittsburgh

b2

10

nmk
ack 12-2-52
HAB

December 10, 1952

RECORDED - 67

INDEXED - 67

100-50869-21X

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 29, 1952, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted your writing me.

I thought you might like to know that the FBI is strictly an investigative and fact-finding agency, and it has been our unvarying policy never to label or classify an organization as being subversive. It follows therefore that the FBI has never made any statement that the men who compose the leadership of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America are subversive nor have we stated that we have investigated this Council and found it to be subversive.

I sincerely hope these facts will assist in clarifying this matter and wish to assure you that it was a pleasure to be of service.

Sincerely yours

J. Edgar Hoover

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]

cc - Pittsburgh, with copy of incoming

HPL:afk:jec

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

MAILED 8
DEC 10 1952
COMM-FBI

RECEIVED RECORDING ROOM
FBI

DEC 10 4 05 PM '52

DEC 10 4 34 PM '52

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED DIRECTOR

WON

WHL

SAC, Pittsburgh

December 10, 1952

Director, FBI

RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

RECORDED - 67 100-50869-214

INDEXED - 67 There is enclosed a copy of the letter directed to the Bureau on November 29, 1952, by captioned individual, together with an original and copy of my reply to him.

You are instructed to personally contact [redacted] in the immediate future, and deliver my letter to him.

In view of [redacted] statement, that he knows the identity of one of the individuals circulating the story, you should attempt to ascertain this man's identity, and thereafter, unless circumstances dictate to the contrary, he likewise should be contacted and informed of the Bureau's policies and it should be ascertained whether, in fact, any Bureau employee made any such statement as is alleged. You should make it clear to [redacted] and any other person contacted that we are most anxious to have the record set straight in this regard.

Results of these contacts should be furnished to the Bureau under above caption no later than December 19, 1952.

For your personal information, Bufiles reflect certain unfavorable reports regarding the Federal Council of Churches which was later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, evaluation of this data reveals the bulk of it emanated from rival church groups. Inquiry conducted by the New York Office in 1950, and confined to informant contacts failed to reflect information indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any individual affiliated with this National Council.

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

Enclosures (3)

Original letter to be delivered to [redacted] copy of letter to [redacted] copy of incoming letter.

Follow-up for December 19, 1952

8 DEC 30 1952

HPL:nem:jec

MAILED 8

DEC 10 1952

COMM - FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/3/85 BY SP4 [redacted]

b7C

12/10-52

Dear Mr. Hoover, -

I am writing you concerning the Standard Revised Version of the Bible. I am greatly disturbed over it.

I Mat 1:18 R.S.V. "Mary had been betrothed (engaged) to Joseph King James Version "Mary was espoused (married) to Joseph Footnote "e" R.S.V. same page "Joseph, to whom was betrothed the virgin Mary, was the father of Jesus who is called Christ"

what does it all add up to, to you?

to me it is casting the most insulting implication at Mary's Character, to say she was on this several weeks journey, with a man to whom she was not married, who was "the father of Jesus, who is called Christ." It denies the divinity of Christ and makes Mary an immoral woman.

It is striking to me this is a Communist jab at the very heart of the Christian Religion, the divinity of Christ. The Old Testament points to and prophesies his coming. The New Testament is a fulfilling of that prophecy + his life on earth. Take this out + what do you have left? When Communists take over the Christian religion is the first thing to go.

RECORDED - 70 100-50869-215
EX-112 12 DEC 17 1952

The R.S.V. advertisers stated that the R.S.V. had been endorsed by over 33,000,000 protestants.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/12/83 BY SP-1/BJ

COPIES OF 44-38861-5

Only $3\frac{1}{3}\%$ of that number could possibly have owned one (only 1,000,000 copies had been published) and as the ink was scarcely dry on them, no one had had time to study and make an intelligent endorsement just some more of the Communist "Big Lie".

Please give this your serious consideration. It is so much more grave ^{than} a casual acceptance of it would indicate.

The Jews have never accepted Christ's divinity, also other modernists (dressed up word for Communists).

III How many of those on the jacket of the R.S.V. have been connected with Communists & Communist Front organizations? Also findings on The Federal Council of Churches? National Council of Churches? World Council of Churches?

To me the world state, these Councils of Churches and this R.S.V. are all bold jobs of the Communists to put the U.S. behind the iron curtain. They strike from the top and are lining up too many ministers and teachers.

We are having a group discussion in a very few days on this R.S.V., world state & these Council of Churches. Please air mail your findings as quickly as possible. Thanks so much and may God bless you and your work and help you to save American from the "iron claw".
Sincerely, [redacted]

December 15, 1952

RECORDED - 70

100-50869-215

INDEXED - 70

100-50896-715

EX-112

AIR MAIL

b7c
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of December 10, 1952, with enclosures, has been received, and I appreciate your making your observations known to me.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that I am unable to provide you with the information you desire inasmuch as data in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the necessity for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP8 [REDACTED]

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Correspondent enclosed three two-cent stamps which were utilized on outgoing.

Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

53 JAN 5 1953

b7C
[REDACTED]
December 12, 1952

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

Dear Sir:

I am very deeply grateful for the voluminous material which you recently sent me concerning the terrible crime wave in America. During my research in this matter I discovered something which disturbs me far more than the facts and figures regarding crime, although they are terrible to behold. In one of the pamphlets received you mentioned a real apprehension since communism had penetrated the churches of America and had even recruited Gospel ministers for their traitorous deeds.

I am well aware that the National Council of Christian Churches of America has been at least condoning socialism if not actually advocating its corruption. My church happens to be a member of the National Council, which membership should not be longer sustained if what I hear and read are true. However I very much desire the full facts: Therefore,

Would you please send as soon as possible information which would lead to a real and unbiased conclusion as to the National Council of Christian Churches of America (formerly the Federal Council). If the churches of America do not remain true to the WHOLE Word of God, what hope is left?

With the very deepest appreciation for all that you are doing to insure that America shall remain American.

A God-fearing, America-loving minister of the Gospel,
[REDACTED]

b7C
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4/duf/gha

elt
mmcl
ack 12-18-52

RECORDED - 53

INDEXED - 53

SE 2
100-50869-210
13 DEC 23 1952

CRIME REC.

December 18, 1952

RECORDED - 53
b7c

100-50869-216

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated December 12, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4Ew/kl

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Correspondent was recently mailed some material on juvenile delinquency in answer to his request.

Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches which was later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants with New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any person affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

ELT:imz

79 JAN 7 - 1953

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

RECEIVED
DEC 18 7 06 PM '52

1300 from 6 ma FEB 20

Dec. 17-1952

b7C

The Dept. of F.B.I.

Dear Sir,

(4)
Are they any Communists
affiliated with the translation
of the new Revised Standard
Version Bible?

Yours Truly

b7C

P.S.

I sure would like to have the
answer as I don't want any
part of the Communists.

Are they any Communists
in the Federal Councils of N
Churches?

RECORDED - 51

100-50869-211

b7C

n.m.
ack.
E.J.
12/23/52

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4ab/pj

December 23, 1952

RECORDED - 57

INDEXED

EX-102

100-50869-217

G.I.R. 8 29 47
29 8-1

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated December 17, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

MAILED 26

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Note: Bufiles reflect certain derogative information concerning the FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, later incorporated into the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA. Much of this data has come from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

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

2124
4 JAN 8 1953

ELT:mgh

W. L. C.

mafi
EN

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: ^{December} February 19, 1952

FROM : SAC, PITTSBURGH (100-

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

ORIGINAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF
CHRIST IN AMERICA
ReBulet 12-10-52.

b7C On December 15, 1952, [REDACTED] was contacted by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and personally furnished the copy of the Director's letter to him. [REDACTED] expressed his appreciation of the Director's interest in this matter and stated that he fully understood the Bureau's position.

By way of background, [REDACTED] briefly reviewed the content of his letter to the Director dated November 29, 1952. [REDACTED] stated that the National Council of Churches of Christ in America was organized by various interested individuals of the many Protestant faiths in the United States and that he has been interested in the organization over a long period of time. [REDACTED] pointed out that the National Council was an organization which permitted, through the cooperation of the various Protestant denominations, activities which could not be accomplished by any one of the denominations by and of itself. [REDACTED] stated that as a consequence there were some individuals in virtually all of the various denominations who were opposed to the general activities of the National Council and were under the false impression that there was a super church which was imposing upon the independent denominations which, as a result, would lose their identity.

[REDACTED] was asked to furnish the identity of the individual known to him to be circulating the story concerning an FBI investigation of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America and he readily stated that one [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a member of [REDACTED] congregation, was the person. [REDACTED] pointed out that he personally has never heard [REDACTED] make the statements but that [REDACTED] had made the allegations to an Elder of the [REDACTED] in turn related

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP7/MLH/96

COPIES DESTROYED 10-10-68 277

53 JAN 13 1953

100-50864-218

DEC 25 1952
11 1-17-53 (action)

Following
filed in
On Records
1-5-53
DUE

b7c
Letter to Director

EE: [REDACTED]

b7c
the information to him. [REDACTED] stated that he would prefer not to identify the Elder since the information had been furnished [REDACTED] in confidence.

[REDACTED] stated that he intended to make a copy of the Director's letter to him available to the Elder and request the Elder to show the letter to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] expressed the belief that the Director's letter would rectify the situation and requested that this office take no further action at this time since a contact with [REDACTED] would in all probability compromise the Elder.

With reference to [REDACTED] it is noted that on May 5, 1952, [REDACTED] personally appeared at the Pittsburgh Office and advised that [REDACTED] was believed by him, [REDACTED] to be connected with the Communist Party and other subversive organizations.

[REDACTED] could furnish no specific information substantiating his opinion of [REDACTED]. He was asked specifically for any definite discussions or sermons preached by [REDACTED] which would indicate any connection with any subversive organization, however, [REDACTED] was unable to recall any.

It is noted that during the conversation with [REDACTED] he referred to many individuals as "pinkos" and when asked specifically what he meant by "pinko" [REDACTED] stated that he believed these people were Communist Party sympathizers. With reference to the general allegations concerning the persons considered as "pinkos" by [REDACTED] it is noted that he was not able to furnish any specific information and again stated that it was his opinion.

A review of the Pittsburgh indices at the time the allegations concerning [REDACTED] were received failed to disclose any reference concerning [REDACTED]. No other information concerning [REDACTED] pertinent to this inquiry is reflected in the Pittsburgh Office files.

Since the inquiry in this matter has disclosed what appears to be an interfactional disagreement within the [REDACTED] and further since [REDACTED] has specifically requested that this office not contact [REDACTED] for reasons stated above, no further action is being taken in this matter at this time.

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dec. 19, 1952

Edgar Hoover
F. B. I

Dear Mr. Hoover; (y)
I shall try to be brief.

This letter concerns the New Standard Revised Version of the Bible.

There is controversy as to the reliability of the Translators and Endorsers. The book itself is evidence that the writers were not Christians, which would perhaps not come under the jurisdiction of the F.B.I.

But various speakers have accused
LUTHER WIEGEL JEROME DAVIS
WILLIAM W. WILLIAMS Claude Williams
and others of being affiliated with the Communist party. These men are translators and Endorsers of the New Standard Revised Version of the Bible. The National Council of Churches of America have endorsed this book. There is also talk of some of the

nmf
ack. 12-30-52
ELT

Top Officers of this being classed as Communistic.

RECORDED-42
INDEXED-42
100-50869-211

I belong to a church (Methodist) which is a member of the National Council of Churches and our church endorsed the

JAN 6 1953
[REDACTED]

new Bible

It is very disturbing to doubt the reliability of one's church. What are the true facts? Are churches unwittingly being used to further Communism or are various parties trying to make it appear so?

Could you send me any information on these men if there is such? Church members should know if this is the situation.

I shall refrain from talking of any of this if the rumors are unfounded. Hoping to hear from you,

I am, sincerely

b7c
[REDACTED]

RECEIVED
F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

DEC 23 3 21 PM '57

MR. JONES

DEC 23 2 12 PM '57

12/23

RECORDED-42 EX - 107
INDEXED-42

December 31, 1952

100-50269-219

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated December 19, 1952, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out, also, that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information that you requested.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED
JAN 31 5 19 PM

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into The National Council of Churches of

(Note continued on second page)

ELT:blt:mfo [signature]

FBI

RECEIVED MAIL ROOM

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

COMM - FBI
JAN 2 1953
MAILED 26

78 JAN 19 1953

[signature]

[signature] [signature] [signature]

b7C [REDACTED]

December 10, 1952

Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

b7C [REDACTED]

Directory not available to clarify street address.

Jan. 14, 1953

(M) b7C
The United States F. B. I.
J. Edgar Hoover:
Director of the F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In writing to you I hope to inquire of a few things and hope that the answers will not be too demanding on your busy schedule:

b7C I am the [redacted] County Ministerial Assoc. in the county where I am serving and also serve two churches; and my concern is not only for myself but for all the Christian People and Ministers in this County of [redacted]

There is a Rev. T. H. ^{VA}Bumpus, who seeminly has departed from his own denominational ranks, for he publicly denounces them as others, who called for a public protest meeting against the New Revised Version of the Bible:

This Protest is not so strange because people have been doing that ever since the Bible was printed and will continue for as long as man lives I suppose:

Publicly the following were classed as Communists by the above named Minister and the branding of the following were given out as the United States House Comm. on Un-American Activities; The United States Navel Intellegence Officers and The Attorney General Francis Biehn and Tom Clark. These are the names and offices that were named as branding the following as Communists: I would like to know if they are so listed as Communists in your files:

1. The Federal Counsel of Churches of America:
 2. The National Counsel of Churches.
 3. The entire Comm. who worked on the Translation of the Revised Standard Version of the new Bible: (32 of them)
 4. Dr. Luther A. Weigle,
 5. Dr. Walter Russel Bowen.
 6. Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick.
 7. Dr. E. Stanley Jones.
 8. Dr. George Buttrick.
- VA

I personally know some of these men and do not beleive that they are so listed by the F. B. I. as Communists. However, this man has stired up this county and many churches over this matter and I would like an answer from you as to wheather they are at this time listed by your board as Communists:

Hopeing to hear from you soon and greatfully thanking you for your consideration on this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/3/83 BY SP4 [redacted]

RECORDED - 63
INDEXED - 63
in God's Work:

100-50166-20
JAN 20 1953

January 21, 1953

RECORDED - 63

100-52767-220

J. I. R. - 8

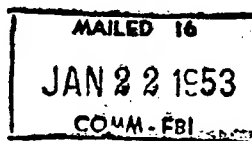
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of January 14, 1953, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you request.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this information came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. This Bureau has received several inquiries from individuals concerning the alleged Communist background of the members of the committee who worked on the translation of the revised edition of the Bible. Bufiles reflect that one of these individuals who worked on the new Bible belongs to a couple pro-German clubs in New York City during World War II and 3 other members of this committee have been associated with pacifist and some Communist front organizations.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/13/83 BY SP4/MLH

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

78 FEB 2 - 1953

ELT:amk

RECEIVED
JAN 21 6 56 PM '53

MAILED
JAN 21 1953

b7C

Jan. 14-53

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir.

197

I am writing to request any help or pamphlets on Communist activity.

I have long been convinced of Communist activity under cover of The National Council of Churches. My own church being a member of this council. Because of my convictions I have refused to support this council. To me it would be treason to my country and to God to do so.

I have long been a Sunday school teacher and feel keenly my responsibility to plant the right seeds in these young minds and hearts.

May God bless you in your battle for the right.

Sincerely

b7C

P.S. Could you give me any information concerning National Council of Churches? C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/klp

RECORDED-21

100-50869-221

13 JAN 27 1953

mm - cck - 1-21-53

CRIME RECORDS

INDEXED-24
RECORDED-24

EX-130

100-50869-221

January 21, 1953

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of January 14, 1953, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you request.

Enclosed is some material which I thought you might like to have.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-2-83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]
COMM - FBI

AM 21 6 17 PM '53
jrn
mares

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Laughlin
- Nease
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Gandy

Enclosures (4), Communist Threat in U. S., Unmasking the Communist Masquerader, Make Communists Show Own Colors, McCarran Report.

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

ELT:amk ank

78 FEB 4-1953

b7C [redacted]
January 16, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I wonder if you could give my any kind of a statement regarding the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Is it participating in any "subversive activities"? Also, I would like to know what your Bureau thinks of National Laymen's Council, Church League of America, Evanston, Ill.

Being a Daughter of the American Revolution a life-long Republican and Methodist, you well understand I am saturated with Patriotism. However my sources of information are often criticized by my minister even had the audacity to question my DAR literature on National Defense!

I shall be most appreciative of any statements you could give, and will be receptive to your suggestions.

I thank God every day for your FBI - we have so few citizens working for the defense of America.

Very sincerely,

[redacted signature]

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [redacted]

EX-130

JAN 29 1953

b7C

January 27, 1953

100-50869-222

RECORDED - 7
INDEXED - 1
EX-130
b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of January 16, 1953, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you request.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/89 BY SP4 [signature]

NOTE: Bufiles contain certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups, and investigations confined to contacts with informants of the New York office in 1950, reflect that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Laughlin
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Rm.

ELT:nem

FEB 10 1953

✓B

CON

b7C
[REDACTED]
January 20, 1953

J. Edgar Hoover
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

Some few weeks ago there came into my possession a pamphlet entitled "How Red is the National Council of Churches". Can you tell me, or give me some information concerning the authenticity of this.

Also I would like to know if the United Christian Missionary Society at 222 S. Downey Ave, Indpls., Ind. has any part in the National or Federal Council of Churches.

b7C I am a Minister of the Christian Church, at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Some two months ago an evangelist, Eugene Bream, was there with us in a meeting and he tied the two organizations together, arousing quite a discussion among some of the people.

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]
b7C [REDACTED]
st

mm 2-28-53
ack 1-28-53
PIC
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4clw/ab

RECORDED - 44
INDEXED - 44

100-50869-223
FEB 10 1953
20

EX-123
CORRESPONDENCE
FILE

January 28, 1953

RECORDED - 44

100-50869-223

b7C

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

AWK

Your letter dated January 20, 1953, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to bring the matter you described to my attention.

Although I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the scope of its prescribed authority to make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me in the pamphlet you described is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 28, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives. I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt quoted appears on page twelve, and I know that you will realize when you read this passage in context that I was not making reference to any particular organization or religious denomination.

With reference to the affiliations of the United Christian Missionary Society, the thought occurs to me that you may wish to direct your inquiry to the headquarters of that organization.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/che/uf
JAN 29 1953
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JUL 23 1953

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Laughlin
- Nease
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Gandy

Enclosure

cc Indianapolis, with a copy of incoming.

ATTENTION SAC: (See following page.)
(See note on following page)

DIC:ral:ns

RECEIVED

AM 09 23
see

b7C
[REDACTED]
January 28, 1953

cc - Indianapolis, with copy of incoming.

ATTENTION SAC: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the pamphlet "How Red Is The Federal Council of Churches?" as well as the Federal Council of Ghurches. An investigation confined to contact with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of this organization. The pamphlet attempts to show that the Federal Council is Communistic and included a statement of mine which is accurate, although incomplete, and is taken from my statement before the Un-American Activities Committee.

(100-50869)

The Bureau has never investigated the United Christian Missionary Society. Several inquiries have been received asking about the organization; however, identifiable information on the organization's background and activities is known. (per File Reviewer. 94-6-9171; 100-0-23422 and 100-0-28064)

SAC: See your memo dated 12-18-53 re Bream

NOTE: A leaflet in Bufiles setting forth the organizations and denominational groups affiliated with the National Federal Council of churches does not include the name of the United Christian Missionary Society.

b7C
[REDACTED]

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

b7C [REDACTED]

(9)

February 6, 1953

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

In a meeting this week, a statement was made to the effect that the Bureau had investigated the Federal Council of Churches as a subversive organization. I wonder if it would be possible for you to let me know whether or not such an investigation was made and also something as to the nature of the findings?

As you know, the Federal Council no longer exists since it's work has been included in the work of the present National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. together with other interdenominational organizations.

Yours very truly,
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 cmj/uf

b7C [REDACTED]

Dictated by [REDACTED]
but signed in his absence.

RECORDED - 61

100-50869-224
FEB 9 1953
594
[REDACTED]
FEB 9 1953
EXCLUDED PROCESSING.

b7C

mmg
ack 2-11-53
DRC

February 11, 1953

RECORDED - 67
b7c

INDEXED - 67

100-50869-224

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 6, 1953, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted your communicating with me.

Although I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that I am unable to answer your inquiries since information appearing in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed authority to make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

COMM — FBI

FEB 13 1953

MAILED 27

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

c - Springfield, with copy of incoming.

ATTENTION SAC: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the Federal Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive tendencies on the part of this organization. (100-50869)

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

DATE 12/13/53 BY SP4/...

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

79 FEB 20 1953

Bay...

FEB 12 3 51 PM '53

Handwritten signatures and initials.

b7c

[REDACTED]

February 9, 1953

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Could you please tell me whether the statements in the enclosed folder about the organizations and the men who belonged to them are true or not?

I am enclosing a self-addressed envelope and would appreciate it if you would return the folder to me if possible.

si

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/88 BY SP4/che/lt

Yours truly

[REDACTED]

b7c

RECORDED-89

100-50869-225

FEB 19 1953

EX-123

CRIME RECORDED

27 NOV 17 2 16 PM '53
ack hpl

February 17, 1953

100-50869-225
RECORDED-89
b7C

G.I.R. 3

INDEXED-88

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 9, 1953, together with enclosures, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted your writing me.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

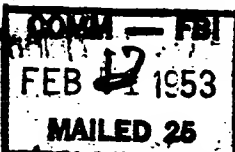
I know you will understand the necessity for our policy in this regard and will not infer either that we do or do not have the information on the organization you mentioned.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me in the pamphlet you enclosed is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives. I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt quoted appears on page twelve, and I know that you will realize when you read this passage in context that I was not making reference to any particular organization or religious denomination.

The stamped, self-addressed envelope you so thoughtfully forwarded is being returned, together with the folder which was enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director



Enclosures (9) Statement by J. Edgar Hoover, March 26, 1947.
Stamped, self addressed envelope.
Folder, "How (Red Is the Federal) Council of Church
(See note next page)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/29/86 BY SP4BJS/JSK

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

79 MAR 3 - 1953

HPL:mmj

HALK
SUBMITTED BY CONAN

NOTE:

Enclosure to incoming was a pamphlet entitled "How Red Is the Federal Council of Churches?" issued by the American Council of Christian Laymen, Madison, Wisconsin.

The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the pamphlet as well as the Federal Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contact with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of this organization. The pamphlet attempts to show that the Federal Council is Communistic and includes a statement of the Director which is accurate, although incomplete, and is taken from his statement before the Un-American Activities Committee. (100-50869)

Correspondent enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope which is not being utilized in reply because of the bulk of the enclosures.

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

[REDACTED]

February 7, 1953

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

Dear Mr Hoover:

Our community of some 50,000 people has been P.A.
disturbed by accusations being made by Mr Robert Wells that
the National Council of Churches is communistic and subversive.

Through the public press he has said, "Proof that
it is a SUBVERSIVE organization, cited as such by the U.S. Naval
intelligence". J. EDGAR HOOVER SAYS: "I confess to real appre-
hension, so long as the communists are able to secure ministers
of the Gospel to promote their evil work".

We in America do believe in the freedom of the
press, but we also want the truth. If the National Council
of Churches is subversive, the people ought to know it. If
the F.B.I. has not listed it as such, then we ought to know
that too. Personally, I do not believe such a group to be
subversive. Was not John Foster Dulles active in this group?
It is unthinkable that such a one would be associated with
a subversive group, for he is a fine Christian person.

Would it be possible for me to receive an answer
to the following questions?

Has the F.B.I. ever labeled the National Council
of Churches as a subversive organization?

In your public addresses have you ever accused
the Council of being communistic?

Are the findings of your investigations into
subversive groups, made public?

This may seem trivial in this day of such momentous
decisions. Yet the glory of free America is that an ordinary
minister can write to the chief of the F.B.I. and not be afraid
to do so, even in a time like this.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 b7c

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 59
INDEXED - 53
FEB 11 1953
59-869-226
FEB 9 1953

February 12, 1953

RECORDED - 59
INDEXED - 59
b7C

50869-226

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 7, 1953, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting your communicating with me.

Although I would like to be of service, I am unable to furnish you data relative to the organization you named since information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I wish to advise that the FBI has never listed this group, or any other organization or individual, as being subversive, since this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the scope of its prescribed authority to make evaluations or draw conclusions of such a nature.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement of mine which you set forth in your communication is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the United States House of Representatives. I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt you quoted appears on page twelve, and I know that you will realize when you read this passage in context that I was not making reference to any particular organization or religious denomination.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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

MAILED 16
FEB 13 1953
COMM. FBI

Enclosure

Director's Statement 3-26-47

cc - Pittsburgh, with copy of incoming

ATTENTION SAC: (See following page)

78 MAR 2 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 chp/jk

b7c
[REDACTED]

February 11, 1953

ATTENTION SAC: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the Federal Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communistic or subversive tendencies on the part of this organization.

The pamphlet "How Red is the National Federal Council of Churches?" contains the statement correspondent included in his letter which is accurate, although incomplete.
(100-50869)

100-30869-227

CHANGED TO

94-49478-X

¹⁹⁵³
MAY 7 1956**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED,
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 ew/h**AC.

b7C

[REDACTED]

(y)

March 23, 1953

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

4-1
11-1

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have been appointed chairman of a committee for our church to investigate the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. Our church St Pauls Methodist Church in Houston, was asked to donate funds to these two organizations. Some of our members objected on the grounds that these groups were socialistic or communistic minded, and promoted unAmerican policies. These objections are based on a pamphlet put out by American Council of Christian Laymen prepared by Mr. Vern Kaub, Madison, Wisconsin.

I would appreciate any information you might have on the above organizations or on any member or members of their Boards or Staffs. Also have you made a statement criticising the Old Federal Council or the New National Council? Trace ✓

Our church wants to support worthwhile movements but we do not want to help any movement that is socialistic and promotes unAmerican practices.

I thank you for your trouble, I remain,

100-50869-22

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/89 BY SP4/ELW/JP

RECORDED - 46
INDEXED - 46

APR 1 1953

[REDACTED]

b7C

7ml
ack 3-27-53
etx

ORINT

March 27, 1953

AIR MAIL

100-50869-228

RECORDED - 46

INDEXED - 46

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 23, 1953, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/82 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

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

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from river church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any person affiliated with this organization.

7 APR 1 1953 All envelopes utilized in reply which correspondent for

b7C [REDACTED]
April 2, 1953

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

Dear Sir:

In the past few months there have been pamphlets circulating entitled ("How Red Is The National Council of Churches.") In this pamphlet are the names of several leading Churches in the United States, among them the American Baptist of which we are members. We know that in our Church there is no basis for the accusation but it is causing confusion among those who do not attend

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/13/83 BY 1043

RECORDED - 46

100-50869-2294
APR 15 1953

Church.

I would like a statement from you as to the truth concerning these accusations, and also your permission to publicize your letter to disprove these accusations as far as is in my power to do so.

Thanking you for your kind attention to this matter.

Yours truly

b7c

April 8, 1953

100-50869-229

RECORDED - 46
INDEXED - 46

b7c
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 8, 1953, together with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would also like to point out that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed authority to draw conclusions or make evaluations concerning the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the necessity for these rules and will not infer either that we do, or that we do not, have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP-10/10/83
APR - 9 1953
COMM - FBI

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups and investigation confined to contact with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

Correspondent enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope which is being utilized in reply.

LH:pa PA Jm

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

79 APR 22 1953

(g) b7C [REDACTED]
March 27, 1953

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

Dear Sir:

I have just read the article by Herbert A. Philbrick, who served as secret agent for the FBI, in the April "Christian Herald," entitled "The Communists are After Your Church!" I am glad for what this article reveals about the tactics of Communists, and I think that churches should guard against communist infiltration.

I would like more information as to what organizations are ~~Communitatic~~. Just what organizations are being used by Communists to trick ministers into supporting Communism without being aware of what they are really doing? G.I.R.-6

I received a booklet which makes some charges along this line which I have been wondering about. This booklet is entitled "Revised Standard per-Version" and is written by a Rev. Don Brown, pastor of the Fundamental Baptist Church of Buffalo, Missouri. It is supposed to be a printing of a "sermon" which he delivered in above mentioned church. Its main thesis is that the Revised Standard Version is not the Bible. Most of his reasons for saying this seem to me to show lack of real scholarship, but he goes to some length in an attempt to prove that the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. is communistic and that some of the revisers are communistic--that they belong to many communist organizations. He presents a number of quotations from reports of Un-American Activities Committees of our national and state governments in an attempt to prove that Luther A. Weigle, and W. Russell Bowie are communistic. He also quotes from Attorney Generals Tom Clark and Francis Biddle. ~~1953~~

Is there any real grounds for such claims? Could these two revisers have been tricked into some things without realizing what was happening? Are all the organizations listed by Don Brown really communistic? (I imagine you could get a copy of this booklet by writing him--P. O Box 306, Buffalo, Missouri) Is the Fellowship of Reconciliation communistic? Do you consider the National Council of Churches to be communistic?

I will appreciate an honest, detailed answer to this letter.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 klp/jk b7C

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 114

INDEXED - 114

100-5086

MAR 31 1953

24 4-8

RECORDED - 114

INDEXED - 114 - 50869 - 230

I sincerely appreciate the interest which prompted your letter of March 27, 1959.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

You might like to know that the Committee on Un-American Activities of the United States House of Representatives has published a "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" in which are listed groups, periodicals, and the like which have been cited as subversive by various state and Federal agencies. Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for thirty-five cents.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

(see NEXT page)

APR 6 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/666666

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NOTE:

Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups and investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communistic or Subversive activity on the part of any person affiliated with this organization.

Bufiles do reflect, however, that Fellowship of Reconciliation for a Social-Pacifist Organization active in campaigning for racial equality and world peace.

April 20, 1953

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

No doubt I am presuming too much, but I am quite concerned about Communism getting into our Churches and the liberal teaching among our Youth.

The Church I belong to, has a faction that is trying to force the "New Bible" on us and all the literature that the N.C.C. here in connection with it. HARRY EMMERSON FOLICK

I have been informed that HARRY EMMERSON FOLICK and James Moffatt are listed as can be (Members of the Federal Council which is our N.C.C.) I would like to know something about them, also.

Luther A. Weigle, Edgar J. Godspeed and James Moffatt (deceased).

This is really vital to me as I am quite active in Church work, and
Edgar J. Godspeed KANSAS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP-10/BJH








MORTIRON

INDEXED-100 87

APR 29 1953

CRIME EXHIBIT

    
b7C
still believe in the Christian teaching
of Christ, and do not like to see the
youth of our town get some of the teaching
that I feel is too liberal.

Very truly,

b7C

b7C


April 24, 1953

RECORDED-100
INDEXED-100

100-50869-231

Dear [REDACTED]

I appreciate the interest which prompted your letter of April 20, 1953.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

Federal Council

John Edgar Hoover
Director

N.C.C.

COMM - FBI

APR 27 1953

MAILED 25

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches which was later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups. An investigation in 1950, confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office, developed no data indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. The Bureau has been in receipt of

(See note continued next page)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/2/88 BY SP/BJH

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874-1
877-1
873-1

Mr. [REDACTED]
Mr. [REDACTED]

NOTE CONTINUED:

numerous inquiries lately concerning the background of those individuals associated with revising the Bible. Files confidential replies have always been given.

INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Assistant Attorney General Warren Olney XII
Criminal Division

June 24, 1953

Director, FBI

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF
CHRIST IN AMERICA;
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF
CHRIST IN AMERICA
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
FBI file 100-50869

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)
DATE 6/24/53 Class

Reference is made to the telephone call from
Mr. William E. Foley of the Department to a representative
of this Bureau making inquiry concerning the World Council
of Churches.

For your information this Bureau has conducted
no investigation regarding the World Council of Churches.
However, the files of this Bureau contain several letters
of a nonspecific nature received from various individuals
alleging that some of the members of the World Council of
Churches are or have been Communist sympathizers.

The World Council of Churches and the Federal
Council of Churches of Christ in America, both of
297 Fourth Avenue, New York City, are affiliated councils.
Enclosed herewith for your information is a copy of the
report of Special Agent Fred P. McRae dated July 7, 1950,
at New York captioned "Communist Infiltration into
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, aka.
Federal Council of Churches, Internal Security - C." It
is noted that no investigation of captioned organization
has been conducted by this Bureau and that the enclosed
report contains a summary of information contained in the
files of our New York Office.

Enclosure

RECORDED - 75

JUN 26, 1953

130

NOTE ON YELLOW:

William E. Foley of the Department on 6/22/53
telephonically contacted Supervisor James F. Bland and
made inquiry concerning the World Council of Churches.
The files of the Bureau reflect that no investigation
has been conducted concerning this organization and that
it is affiliated with the Federal Council of Churches of
Christ in America, both organizations having the common
address of 297 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

JHK:glg

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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Miss Gandy _____

June 26, 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

With respect to your letter of June 10, 1953, with enclosures, concerning the subversive lists, I am sending you twelve copies of the "Federal Register" for May 12, 1953, which contains the Attorney General's current subversive listing on page 2741. I see no objection to allowing your friend from General Motors or other associates of yours to go ahead and run off extra copies from this source.

Now with reference to the other group of organizations proposed by the Attorney General for designation within the purview of Executive Orders Number 9835 and Number 10450, a copy of which you enclosed, I think it is perhaps best not to release this data to your contacts until these organizations have been officially designated. I am sure you will agree that this is the safest course of action and would safeguard against any possibilities of embarrassment or criticism in the future. Obviously, you have stirred up a lot of thought-provoking interest in the right places as a result of your distribution.

As to your other letter also dated the 16th with reference to the clergy, I agree that it is definitely a very touchy matter to handle. Fortunately, there can be no question concerning the loyalty of the great majority of the country's clergy, and even among the questionable ones, there is a large percentage who are, in my mind, composed of individuals who regard themselves as enlightened liberals and sincere reformers. Naturally, there

cc - Buffalo, with copy of incoming

ATTENTION SAC (P&C)

Reurlet June 1, 1953

JUN 26 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/84 BY SP4/BJH

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b7C [REDACTED]
June 26, 1953

are others who can be definitely placed in the "hard core" category. As Philbrick indicated in the article you enclosed, most of these individuals were Communists before becoming ministers. A noncommittal answer is probably the best course of action in the event you should receive future inquiries.

Mr. Boswell has told me what a fine job you did in setting up those recent luncheon engagements and how grateful he is for your help. These meetings really get a new man off to a good start, and I fully appreciate all the time and effort you have spent in planning them.

Sincerely,

Edgar

Enclosures (12)

12 copies of the "Federal Register."

b7C NOTE: In his first letter regarding subversive lists, [REDACTED] questions if it would be O.K. to have a friend of his in General Motors run off copies of these subversive lists for distribution. Some way or other, [REDACTED] has received the impression that inasmuch as the distribution of these lists is an "official matter," it is necessary to have the Buffalo Office proofread them, if reproduced, for accuracy. ~~therefore, it is suggested that the Buffalo Office should have the lists proofread and then the copies should be distributed to the friends of [REDACTED] in General Motors.~~ He is being sent copies of the "Federal Register."

Regarding [REDACTED] second letter also dated the 16th re the clergy, it is felt desirable to caution him against making any affirmative statements re Communist influence in the churches.

The last paragraph of this communication is in response to SAC Boswell's suggestion that [REDACTED] be thanked for arranging introductory luncheons for him in the Buffalo Division area.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *W*

FROM : M. A. Jones *Federal Council of Churches of Christ*
Notion of Council of Churches of Christ

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT TO HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES, 3/26/47

DATE: July 21, 1953

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It will be recalled that captioned statement, in the third full paragraph on page 12, contained the following sentence:

"I confess to a real apprehension so long as Communists are able to secure ministers of the gospel to promote their evil work and espouse a cause that is alien to the religion of Christ and Judaism."

It will also be recalled that in 1949 the American Council of Christian Laymen published the pamphlet entitled "How Red Is The Federal (National) Council of Churches?", a copy of which [redacted] encloses with his attached letter of 7/18/51.

This pamphlet attacks the Federal (National) Council of Churches, and between two paragraphs referring to the Council was inserted the above-quoted sentence from the Director's statement. It thus appears that the Director was referring here to the Council. As a result, numerous inquiries concerning the character of the Council were subsequently received. Depending upon the nature of the inquiries, some were given "files confidential" replies and some were given explanations concerning the origin of the Director's statement.

In this latter category was a letter dated 1/20/51 from Mr. E. L. Repass, a Presbyterian Elder from Danoke, Virginia. The Bureau's reply to Mr. Repass, dated 2/3/51, is correctly reproduced on page 11 of "Plain Facts," a copy of which [redacted] also encloses.

From his letter, it appears that [redacted] desires the Director to take sides in this controversy against the Federal (National) Council of Churches. (100-50869).

The attached letter has been prepared to set [redacted] straight.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the attached letter be sent to [redacted] giving him the background of the quotation and a "files confidential" reply on his other inquiries.

Attachment *sent*
MLL:mnf

50 AUG 4 1953

RECORDED-601

JUL 24 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/12/83 BY SP4/ckd/uf

100-50869-234

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

b7C

[REDACTED]

July 13, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On pages ten and eleven of the enclosed pamphlet entitled "Plain Facts about the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A." your statement regarding communists being able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work is said to be repudiated by you as a reference to the National Council of Churches.

Does your letter to Mr. Repass of February 3, 1951 in any way affect your statement of March 26, 1947 concerning communists being able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work? I cannot see that it does in which case the argument set forth by the National Council of Churches is a non sequitor. How does the fact that you have never made any "statements criticizing the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches" in any way affect the fact that you stated that "communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work"?

Whereas your statement of March 26, 1947 was not said concerning the National Council of Churches, your letter of February 3, 1951 to Mr. Repass does not say you "had no such thought in mind" and that such a use of your statement was "unjustified".

It is my opinion that your statement of March 26, 1947 as quoted in the brochure (also enclosed) printed by the American Council of Christian Laymen is entirely justified and I would like to know if you feel otherwise. If the "shoe pinches" that is not your fault.

ATTACHED
Could you tell me if the National Council's interpretation of the story regarding "Naval Intelligence Condemns Federal Council" (page 12 of "Plain Facts . . .") is correct. Is the American Council of Christian Laymen guilty of "wresting of quotations" in regard to this matter? Do you believe the pamphlet "How Red . . ." presents a "gravely false picture" of the individuals connected with the National Council of Churches?

I shall deeply appreciate your answer to these questions.

How Red is the National (Fed.) Council of Churches

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures

RECORDED & INDEXED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/clw/jt

100-50869-22
JUL 24 1953

EXHIBIT - ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/1/83 BY SP4/BJH

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-236-

plain facts

about the
NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN THE U.S.A.

100-50869-235

PLAIN FACTS about The National Council of Churches

plete analysis of his charges against one of the 48 listed churchmen is presented. Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, respected General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, has been dedicating his time, talent and experience for the past 35 years to the development of Christian cooperation in this country and throughout the world. Because of his key position in the Council, we present a detailed examination of the attacks on him.

Dr. Cavert is charged with having "aided and abetted God-hating un-American organizations" — namely, Nos. 24, 37, 40, and 46 in Mr. Kaub's hodge-podge compilation.

No. 24 in his list is *The Fellowship of Reconciliation*.

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert did belong to the Fellowship of Reconciliation for a year or two at the time when our government was convening an international conference for reduction of armaments and pressing for the Kellogg Pact for the Outlawing of War. He resigned when it became clear to him that conditions in the world required preparedness for defense, and has not been a member at any time within the last twenty-five years.

No. 37 is the *North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy*.

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert never was a member of the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy. He made critical statements in 1936 about the way in which Franco overthrew the Spanish Republic, but joined no organization dealing with this issue.

No. 40 is "*The Protestant*."

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert never was affiliated with this magazine, never served on either its editorial board or its advisory committee, never contributed to its columns. He did sign an appeal against anti-Semitism entitled "Protestantism Answers Hate," which was published by "*The Protestant*," at the time when Nazi propaganda against the Jews was at its height. To infer that this meant any connection with the magazine is untrue.

No. 46 is the *War Resisters League*.

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert never belonged to the War Resisters League at any time.

▲ ▲ ▲

An especially flagrant case of deception in this pamphlet is the way it uses a remark by J. Edgar Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Hoover is quoted as saying, "I confess to real apprehension so long as communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work." This statement of Mr. Hoover's is inserted between two sections of the pamphlet, both of which refer to the Council of Churches, and the reader is thereby led to believe that Mr. Hoover was referring to it. Yet Mr. Hoover asserts without qualification that he had no such thought in mind, and that such a use of his statement was unjustified.

Reproduced on the following page is the letter from Mr. Hoover containing his statement of repudiation.



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO.

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.
February 3, 1951

Mr. E. L. Repass
Passenger Traffic Manager
Norfolk and Western Railway
Company
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Mr. Repass:

Your letter dated January 26, 1951, has been received.

The quotation which you set forth was taken out of context from remarks I made before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives on March 26, 1947, at Washington, D. C. I am enclosing a reprint of these remarks. You will note in paragraph 4, on page 12, the statement to which you make reference.

I want you to know that neither on this occasion nor at any time have I ever made any statements criticizing the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches.

I am enclosing some material which I thought you might like to have.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

100-50869-235-

HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**



UST FREEDOM PERISH?

UST FREEDOM PERISH?

NATIONAL COUNCIL

given the deceptive title "The Kingdom of God Society," Sunday School literatures are doing the same. David Lawrence, editor of The United States News, writing on the theme, "Saiping at Profit-and-Loss System" said:

"A drive to abolish private ownership and substitute some form of State Socialism appears now and then in democratic countries. But first confidence in the profit system has to be undermined, and the latest example of the subtle efforts to discredit private ownership comes in a bulletin distributed by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ. Much of the space in the Bulletin (meanwhile the Federal Council's 'Information Service' operatives) and of systems of public ownership here and abroad. It would have been a much more persuasive document if it had conceded its thesis to be the advocacy of State Socialism as a desirable objective." (See Issue Dec. 27, 1946).

Must Freedom perish? Those who aid and abet Socialism and Communism in the NCC are numerous . . . and official acts of the NCC often do so.

THE BIBLE

Many of the men whom the Federal Council has delighted for many years to elevate to its principal offices are deniers of the Bible as God's inerrant Word: DR. GEORGE A. BUTTRICK, President of the Federal Council (1940-1942), in his book "The Christian Fact and Modern Doubt" writes:

"Literal infallibility of Scripture is a fortress impossible to defend . . . Probably few people who claim to 'believe every word of the Bible' really mean it. That avowal held to its last logic would risk a trip to the insane asylum." Then, Dr. Buttrick exhorts men to "set out on the long hard quest for truth." (p. 162)

DR. HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK, for many years the Federal Council's most distinguished radio preacher, in his book, "The Modern Use of the Bible" writes:

"Biblical miracles will more and more become unreal ghosts lost in antiquity and, gradually becoming dimmer, will disappear in utter incredulity." (p. 157)

BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM, President of the Federal Council (1944-46) and President of the Council of Churches, (1948 -), in his book "Preaching in a Revolutionary Age," p. 79, says:

"God, for us, cannot be thought of as an angry, awful, avenging Being who because of Adam's sin must have his Shylockian pound of flesh. No wonder the honest boy in justifiable repugnance could say, 'Dirty bully.'"

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible is "authorized" by the NCC. It is the product of men who reject the Christian faith — a Bible corrupted by modernism, a perversion.

WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT TODAY'S CRISIS?

Even as the Bible upholds the profit motive as it teaches Christian stewardship, that is, the faithful discharge of one's duty to God and man by the systematic use of a portion of one's gain for that end. As can be clearly seen from the false position and propaganda of the National Council, there is a tremendous need today that a strong voice be lifted to expose and protest the National Council's work and to counteract its evil influence upon our nation. This is exactly what the American Council of Christian Churches is now effectively doing, already having gained notable victories for the cause of Christ and country. People must be shown that our freedoms are tied together so that if one goes over the precipice it will drag after it to destruction other freedoms. The one difference is this: Socialism is a local; Communism is a fast express. The American Council is presenting these facts to tens of thousands . . . evidence which millions must be shown if freedom in the world is to survive.

We therefore come to you without hesitancy or apology to ask that you exercise your Christian stewardship on behalf of this cause by sending a contribution now. Make your investment that this work of fundamental importance may go forward. Such gifts are deductible from income tax. For further information, write to the Council at the address below. Literature will be sent you upon request.

It is later than you think. Now is the time for action!

MUST READING: Three books by Carl McIntire, First president of the American Council of Christian Churches (1941-1944):

"The Bible of the Tyrant" (Controlled Economy vs. Free Enterprise) 288 pp., \$2.25

"Author of Liberty" (The Bible, Freedom's Charter) 288 pp., \$2.25

"Fascist Century Refutation" 228 pp., \$2.00

Brochure "What is Wrong With the Federal Council?" now known as the National Council . . . by the Rev. W. D. H. Garrison, Council president (1950-1952), 20 pp., 10c each; \$1. per dozen; \$7. per hundred.

Orders should be sent to:

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
15 Park Row
New York 38, N. Y.

Literature Item No. 182. For additional copies see this number.

AMERICAN COUNCIL

The American Council denies the allegation of the National Council that the profit motive is sinful. Honorable profits are endorsed by the Bible as indicated by the parables of the talents and of the pounds. (Matt. 25:14-30; Luke 19:12-26).

The American Council freely concedes the right of collective bargaining for just and righteous ends. It repudiates as contrary to the Bible the trespassing on the part of labor czars into the fields of collective management and control and of collective ownership of such institutions as they in no sense own.

The following is from a resolution adopted by the American Council of Christian Churches on May 1, 1952, emphasizing that union membership must be voluntary, not through such coercion as threatens no jobs for non-union workers:

"We maintain that joining a union should be entirely voluntary. We have no objection to men joining labor organizations if they so desire in order to safeguard their rights and ensure fair treatment. Workers, however, who for reasons of conscience and religious convictions refuse to join a union should not be deprived of their right to work. This Council of Churches is of the opinion that the closed shop is inherently totalitarian, and results in the enslavement of the worker; and for the government to demand a closed shop, or for industry to comply is discriminatory, violates the principle of freedom, and makes the unwilling joiner a victim of forces over which he has little control and no redress."

The American Council believes that the present terrific conflict in the industrial field to preserve free enterprise is but one phase of the larger campaign of the enemy which ultimately would destroy not only economic freedom, but political and religious freedom as well.

At all cost must all outposts of freedom be held impregnable against its powerful foes who are assailing it both from without and from within our land.

Must Freedom perish? Actions of the American Council of Christian Churches never aid Socialism or Communism, nor is any American Council member identified with any Communist-front organization.

THE BIBLE

The Preamble of the Constitution of the American Council, to which all members must subscribe before admission, reads as follows:

"Whereas, it is the duty of Christian believers to make common testimony to their glorious faith, especially in darkening days of apostasy, the bodies forming this Council do now establish it as an agency unreservedly dedicated without compromise or evasion to the glory of God and the historic faith of the Church universal, including adherence to these truths among others equally precious: the full trustfulness, and authority of the Bible, which is the Word of God; the holiness and love of the one sovereign God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the true deity and sinless humanity of Jesus Christ; His virgin birth, His atoning death, His coming again; His bodily resurrection, His glorious ascension in Christ; of those He has redeemed with His own precious blood; and the maintenance by His own purity of life and doctrine."

The American Council gives evidence to prove the evil character of the Revised Standard Version, and pleads with God's people not to accept this corrupted copy of the Word of God.

100-5061-1-23

A LIFE OR DEATH QUESTION

Christian business men of America today are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that the spread advocacy of plans and ideologies designed to the Christian faith, and the ultimate of freedom, it becomes a life or death question when these things are being trumpeted on every hand. Leading churches throughout the land are now speaking on behalf of The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. prior to 1928, known as the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, openly espousing the cause of a controlled economy, and a cooperative system which they, without any justification whatsoever, describe by the scriptural term of "The Kingdom of God on earth."

Dr. E. Stanley Jones, popular National Council speaker, in his volume, "Christ's Alternative to Communism" writes, "When the Western world was floundering in an unjust and competitive order, and the church was bound up with it and was part of that order, God reached out and put his hand on the Russian Communists to produce a juster order and to show a recumbent church what it has missed in its own gospel." (p. 224) Again, on p. 167, Dr. Jones writes, "I am persuaded that Christianity cannot fit into a competitive order." Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, in a Council publication is quoted as follows, "The principle of competition seems to be nothing more than a partly conventionalized embodiment of primeval selfishness."

Such foes to freedom as the NCC and its leaders must be exposed. Support for their program must cease — that is, unless American businessmen wish to finance the construction of the guillotine for their own economic necks! The National Council program is obviously at dagger points with our nation's historic position on pacifism and free enterprise, and is contrary to the teaching of the Bible. It is a program which would reject the free economy of our nation as a Republic and replace it with a controlled economy and accompanying regimentation in a socialist order. Yet leaders of the National Council claim that the weight of American Protestantism endorses their program because it is claimed that over 33 million Protestants are members of the denominations comprising the NCC. "How Red is the National (Federal) Council?" by the American Council of Christian Laymen lists 48 leaders and prominent members of the NCC and shows with which of 46 communist-front organizations they have been identified.

This is what businessmen would like to know: "Are there any Protestant churches which, in the name and authority of the Church of Christ, are opposing the radical innovations and foreign ideologies of these NCC prophets? If so, what are they doing?"

THE ANSWER

The answer is that there are Protestant churches in America which are strenuously opposing the perilous program of the National Council of Churches. Many of them are banded together beneath the banner of the American Council of Christian Churches, principal office of which is at 15 Park Row, New York 38, N. Y. On May 8, 1953, the American Council sponsored a CHRISTIAN CRUSADE AGAINST COMMUNISM, at Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C. At this great Mass Meeting the President, Congress, and the House Committee on Un-American Activities were strongly petitioned to expose and deal effectively with communism in religious organizations. The American Council's straightforward stand for the historic Christian faith and freedom is clearly seen in its pronouncements on these subjects: PACIFISM, FREE ENTERPRISE and THE BIBLE — in contrast to the National Council's dictum on the same issues.

Must Freedom perish? Not if men think straight and act consistently and courageously concerning Pacifism, Free Enterprise and the Bible.

NATIONAL COUNCIL

(From 1908-50, known as the "Federal Council")

PACIFISM

The United States Navy, through its Intelligence Department, made the following declaration in 1935:

"The Federal Council of Christ in America: This is a large, radical, pacifist organization. It probably represents 20,000,000 Protestants in the United States. However, its leadership consists of a small radical group which dictates its policies. It is always extremely active in any matter against national defense" (Congressional Record, Vol. 79, Part 12, p. 13503.)

In 1928 the Federal Council lobbied vigorously in Washington against the Navy's program with a high degree of success. The Federal Council boasted of its triumph in cutting the one billion dollar program to two hundred and seventy-four million—from seventy-one proposed new ships to seventeen! At that time, the Executive Committee of the Federal Council went on record as protesting rearmament generally. More than any other religious organization in the U. S. A. the Federal Council is guilty of contributing to our nation's unpreparedness for World War II, and has a measure of guilt for heavy loss of life by our boys in the earliest days of the conflict.

The Federal Council bitterly repudiated saturation bombings by the U. S. A. and her allies, but there was no word of protest against the most atrocious deeds perpetrated by Germany or Japan.

FREE ENTERPRISE

Plan No. 2 of the "Social Creed" of the Federal Council (now the National Council) advocates the following:

"Social planning and control of the credit and monetary systems and the economic processes for the common good."

The National Council has openly advocated repeatedly through her most responsible spokesmen the abolition of the private ownership of property, and has declared as un-Christian the profit motive in business. It is the usual thing for the National Council to advocate any legislation which radical labor leaders endorse, and their socialist and communist fellow-travelers support. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI, in his statement before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, on March 24, 1947, remarked:

"The Communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work and espouse a cause that is alien to the religion of Christ and Judaism."

The Federal Council officially issued a lengthy statement on what should be the Soviet relations of the U. S. A., which was clearly pro-Soviet.

Largely through the influence of the National Council's Commentaries on "The Church and Economic Life" students in seminaries are being prejudiced against free enterprise and made enthusiasts for Socialism, or a controlled economy, to which it

AMERICAN COUNCIL

PACIFISM

At its annual meeting in October, 1945, the American Council unanimously adopted the following statement:

"ON MILITARY SERVICE"

"The Christian owes the duty of service and protection to the state as an institution ordained of God and responsible to Him. That duty includes the necessity of bearing arms upon necessary and just occasions. We, therefore, approve the principle of universal peacetime military training. We believe that the sending of untrained boys into combat is cruelly unjust to them and little short of wilful murder. In the event of another conflict we may not be given a providential period of time for improvisation as was given us in both World Wars I and II. The Pacifism being spread by the Federal Council of Churches and other agencies will not prevent future conflict, but it might result in the destruction of the United States of America."

"We further urge that in any such program adequate measures be taken to protect the moral and spiritual interest and welfare of the men while in training."

The American Council continues to believe that some form of universal military training is absolutely indispensable to the security not only of the U. S. A., but of freedom wherever it is found in the world. Nothing will be more of a deterrent to another world conflict than a strong America. Her military weakness would constitute the strongest encouragement to aggression on the part of a highly militarized hostile power. During the course of World War II, this further resolution was adopted by the American Council:

"(1) The American Council of Christian Churches pledges its undying opposition to all forms of totalitarianism, whether they be Nazi, Fascist or Communist, and affirms its allegiance to the principles of democratic representative government as expressed in the constitution of the United States."

"(2) The American Council of Christian Churches repudiates the Federal Council's militant pacifism, holding it to be anti-Biblical, un-Christian and disloyal to the United States in this time of crisis. We charge the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America with being a fourth-rate agency of pacifism for many years, and solemnly declare it must answer at the bar of history for the harm it has done to our nation."

FREE ENTERPRISE

The American Council believes that the Eighth Commandment "Thou shalt not steal," is God's sanction for private ownership. No exception is made whereby the state may become a thief. The American Council believes there can be no compromise between freedom and the slavery of totalitarian systems.

100-50869-235

July 21, 1953

RECORDED - 120
INDEXED

~~100-50869-235~~ Council of Churches - F.C.I.
National Council of Churches in America

Dear [REDACTED]

IN America
IN America

I have received your letter of July 13, 1953, with enclosures.

In connection with your inquiry, I would like to point out that at the end of your second paragraph you quote part of a sentence which appeared in my statement before the House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities on March 26, 1947. By referring to the complete sentence, and especially to the entire context in which it originally appears, I am sure that you will see that the connotation becomes quite different. I am, therefore, enclosing a reprint of the original text, in which the sentence appears in the third full paragraph on page twelve.

With regard to your question as to how my letter of February 3, 1951, to Mr. E. L. Repass affects this statement, I believe it is obvious that the letter indicates that the statement was not meant to imply anything critical concerning either the Federal Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, or any other organization. This is entirely in accordance with a policy of long standing which precludes my drawing any conclusions or making any evaluations as to the character of any organization or individual. This policy is based upon the fact that such activities are not within the prescribed functions of the FBI, which is strictly a fact-finding agency.

Obviously, this same policy must apply with respect to the article on Naval Intelligence to which you refer.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Director's statement 3-26-47.
St. Louis, with copy of [REDACTED]
See NOTE next page.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Sims _____
Miss Gandy _____

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J. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

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[REDACTED] The Bureau frequently receives inquiries concerning this statement of the Director with reference to its use in the pamphlet "How Red Is The Federal Council of Churches?" Replies point out that the statement was not made concerning any particular organization. Many inquiries are also received regarding the character of the Federal Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches, and "files confidential" replies are given.

The letter to Mr. Repass is correctly reproduced in "Plain Facts."

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

June 16, 1953

PERSONAL

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT: The Communist - Clergy Matter

Dear Edgar:

The nation-wide controversy re the above subject has naturally hit Buffalo, and every so often it boils up.

Eddie Butler of the Buffalo Evening News had Fred Turner, who is one of his special write-up men and who particularly takes care of, shall we say, left wing matters, write up an article which appears in the June 10, 1953, issue of the Buffalo Evening News, copy of clipping enclosed.

I had several calls from friends who have been interested in the activities of the Council of Churches of Buffalo and Erie County. Their questions, in substance, were "How authentic do you think Turner's article is?" My answer was that, if the item reported by Turner were properly and accurately reported, the article must be authentic, inasmuch as Turner brought out the fact that Philbrick had been an FBI under-cover man for years.

Certain, shall we say, of the 700 odd clergymen who make up the Council of Churches of Buffalo and Erie County, I would call "pinkish."

Several years ago you put out a release, and in connection with its distribution to the Executive List, you mentioned that you thought it would be well for the clergy to receive it. I, therefore, took the matter of distribution up with the Reverend Harland M. Frost, Executive Secretary of the Council of Churches, he having received a copy of the release when it was distributed to my Executive List. I could see he was not enthusiastic and, to make a long story short, this is what happened.

- (1) They had no funds to cover the postage.
- (2) Would they run off envelopes from their addressograph machine? Answer - yes.
- (3) Told them I would pay for their envelopes.
- (4) Said he would not want to send them out in their envelopes.

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Personal Contact of Clergy

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Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

-2-

June 16, 1953

- (5) Told him that I would supply my envelopes.
- (6) He reluctantly agreed to run my envelopes through his addressograph machine.

I was surprised at the number of clergy of different denominations who wrote thanking me for having made your release available to them. Several of them mentioned what a great job J. Edgar Hoover was doing.

Have you any suggestion as to how I should handle future inquiries re this Commie - Clergy matter? Don't want to stub my toes, but at the same time, don't feel that the "pinks," some of whom, as you know, run more than "cerise" into at least "light red," should go unanswered.

I have three friends on the Council Board who have asked me how I can help them. I have told them I would think it over.

Sincerely,

b7C

Encl.

P.S. I have now available clippings from Buffalo Evening News, June 12, 1953, the heading of which is "Council of Churches Asks Full Hearing for Bishop Oxnham," which has a bearing on the subject referred to in the above letter.

Philbrick Testified That Reds Infiltrated the Religious Field

'7 or 8 Hardened, Disciplined Members Posed As Ministers of Gospel' in Boston Area

By FRED TURNER

To many who are inclined to view with alarm the announced intention of a congressional committee to inquire into the extent of Communist infiltration of the clergy and church bodies, the testimony of Herbert A. Philbrick of Boston, who became an FBI counterspy in the Communist Party, is of interest.

The detailed testimony given in April before a subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee of the U. S. Senate, was published last Wednesday by the U. S. Government Printing Office.

Mr. Philbrick described for the committee the make-up of the "pro" group of Communists to which he belonged in the late '40s in Boston. He listed five or six doctors; about six teachers; 20 to 30 college or university professors; 12 to 15 businessmen; four or five government workers and, "in the religious field, seven or eight." They were all "deeply underground," whose identities were not even known to rank and file Communists.

Questioned by Chief Counsel Robert Morris, the queries and answers were as follows:

MR. MORRIS—You say in the religious field. What do you mean by that?

MR. PHILBRICK — By underground pro group Communist Party members in the religious field I mean those individuals—and this, again, was to me, a Christian, a matter of terrific shock when I discovered this fact in Boston, a very dismal fact, that actually the Communist Party had in its pro group section between seven and eight individuals, hardened, disciplined, steered party members posing as ministers of the gospel.

SENATOR HERMAN WELKER

(Idaho)—In connection with the ministers you have mentioned in the Pro-4 group, in your experience . . . were they ministers first and then Communists, or Communists first and then ministers?

MR. PHILBRICK—So far as I could determine, these individuals were all Communists prior to their becoming ministers. In fact in the latter part of 1948 and early 1949, I actually sat in at a cell meeting at the home of Otis Hood, one of the heads of the Communist Party . . . and a member of our cell at that time was a young Communist who was being assigned by the Communist Party to that field of activity, and was in fact . . . about to be planted or was already planted in a seminary to study to be a minister . . .

SENATOR WELKER—Then these few ministers that were planted were dedicated to the Communist cause and not to the cause of their religion.

MR. PHILBRICK—That is absolutely true, sir.

SENATOR WILLIAM E. JENN-ER (Indiana)—To your knowledge did the Communists try to influence the ministers in the Boston area?

MR. PHILBRICK—Senator, that was one of the main projects which we had. All through the years, way back, starting with the youth activities, we were constantly instructed by Communist Party bosses to work upon the church groups, church youth activities, church youth organizations and upon both ministers and laymen.

When Mr. Philbrick moved to Wakefield, Mass., the first instruction he got from the Communist Party was to join the church of his denomination.

Dozens of suspected Communists called before the congressional committees have been permitted to place in the record formal statements denouncing the investigating committees in scathing terms.

Mr. Philbrick supplied the answer for this pattern.

The testimony continues:

SENATOR WELKER—What was the attitude of the Communists toward congressional investigations such as this?

MR. PHILBRICK—Not only a congressional committee, but even a court of law, a United States court of law—it was taught to us and described to be simply a tool of the capitalists . . . an organization designed to oppress the working class . . . We were taught to hold this committee and any legally, duly constituted committee or legal organization of the U. S. Government in complete contempt.

The next witness was Howard Selsam, a former teacher at Columbia University and Brooklyn College. He was unfriendly.

"I come before this committee only under compulsion," read his prepared statement. "I testify under protest. This is nothing but an evil inquisition into the heresies of which educators may be suspected. . . . Such a proceeding as this deserves nothing but contempt from any teacher, scholar or citizens of a democracy."

The Selsam statement differed but faintly from dozens of other statements filed by unfriendly witnesses.

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Buffalo Evening News
Buffalo, New York
Date: 6-10-53

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Council of Churches Asks Full Hearing For Bishop Oxnham

The Council of Churches of Buffalo & Erie County has recommended a complete House Un-American Activities Committee hearing for Bishop G. Bromley Oxnham of the Washington Area Methodist Church "so that he and the National Council of Churches can defend themselves against the smear campaign that is being waged against them."

The council's support of the outspoken and widely-criticized Methodist leader came in an overwhelmingly-supported resolution at its annual mid-year planning conference Thursday afternoon and evening on the Council House lawn at 1272 Delaware Ave. Some 150 clergy and laymen attended.

Offered by the Rev. J. Ralph Davie, minister of South Park Baptist Church and temporary chairman of the council's Public Affairs Department, the resolution was presented "in view of recent criticism directed at Bishop Oxnham by Republican Representative Harold H. Velde of Illinois, the Investigating Committee's chairman."

Drive 3% Past Goal

In another resolution, the council urged continued financial support of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund "because of its humanitarian effects." Copies of both proposals, Mr. Davie noted, will be sent to the nation's Capital.

Harvey W. Busch, finance-campaign chairman, reported that contributions totaling \$62,744.40 pushed the January-February drive 3% over its \$60,835 goal.

Expressing gratitude to everyone "for their wonderful support," Mr. Busch announced that the council's 1954 budget will total some \$79,600.

Mrs. Mildred H. Taylor, director of the council's Displaced Persons Department, noted that 455 families or 1941 persons have received aid since the department was formed in January 1949.

8 Groups Report Needs

The department closes June 30, she reported, because the flow of persons needing help has dwindled to the point where it would be more economical to turn cases over to the International Institute. The department will reopen if the need ever arises, she said.

Eight simultaneous discussion groups which considered the present work of the council reported that there is still a need for:

1—A "stronger" public relations program.

2—Arousing individuals to take action on public issues.

3—Sharing the insights and various special emphasis of various denominations.

4—Strengthening the chaplain program in hospitals, colleges.

5—Exploration of the special ministries.

6—Aiding churches in the older sections of the city.

7—Reaching more lay people in the Council's work.

Dr. Ralph W. Loew, pastor of Holy Trinity United Lutheran Church, quizmaster, emphasized that all participants praised the cooperation of the press, the radio stations and WBEW-TV "for their willingness in transmitting church news."

Buffalo Evening News
Buffalo, New York

Date: 6-12-53

100-50869-736

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. Ladd ✓
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Belmont ✓
 Mr. Clegg ✓
 Mr. Glavin ✓
 Mr. Harbo ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Tracy ✓
 Mr. Gearty ✓
 Mr. Mohr ✓
 Mr. Winterrow ✓
 Tele. Room ✓
 Mr. Holloman ✓
 Mr. Sizoo ✓
 Miss Gandy ✓

INITIALS

July 6, 1953

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 U. S. Department of Justice
 Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.
 Washington, D. C.

Subject: The Communist -
Clergy Matter

Dear Edgar:

Referring to that part of yours of June 26, 1953, regarding the above subject.

As per your suggestion (paragraph one, page two), I agree with you and will, therefore, simply use that part of paragraph three, page one, my June 16 letter, as follows:

"My answer was that, if the items reported by Turner were properly and accurately reported, the article must be authentic, inasmuch as Turner brought out the fact that Philbrick had been an FBI under-cover man for years."

Sincerely,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4/che/jk

b7C [Redacted Signature]

Handwritten:
 Memo Philbrick to Tolson
 7-15-53
 JEC

100-50869-✓
 ENCLOSURE

[Redacted Stamp]

Handwritten:
 4/10/53
 JEC

Office Memorandum : UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: July 15, 1953

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

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

There are attached three letters dated July 6, 1953, with two enclosures, from [redacted] to the Director. [redacted] the letter captioned "Subversive Organizations," appears to be apprehensive over his circulation of the organizations which appear on the proposed Attorney General's list of subversive organizations along with the circulation of those organizations which have only been published under Executive Order 9835 as on the Attorney General's list.

In order to put [redacted] apprehensions at rest, I had Crosby call the Buffalo Office. He talked to SA Lankes on July 15, who was acting in Mr. Boswell's absence. Crosby told Lankes to ask the SAC to tell [redacted] that I had called on other matters and wanted to acknowledge orally [redacted] letters of July 6, 1953, and pass on to him the Director's feeling that [redacted] was doing his usual splendid job and was glad to hear from him. SA Lankes said this would be done.

ACTION

None. This seems to dispose of the matter.

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DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/BJH/1

Attachment

cc - Mr. Jones

JUL 16 1953
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]
183

MIMEDOGRAPH

NOV. 16 - 52

ISSUE

FRANK M. BOYD REVIEWS ...

DANGER AHEAD.

"THE GROWING SUPER-CHURCH"

- A Critique of the National Council of Churches of Christ

BY JAMES D'FOREST MURCH

In November 1950 in Cleveland, Ohio, in the midst of a scene rivaling papal pageantry, the National Council of Churches of Christ was organized, superseding the Federal Council of Churches of Christ. A true appraisal of its aims, purposes, methods, and beliefs brand it as the organized apostasy of today. We might be persuaded to blithely let this organization go its way and to deceive ourselves that it can make no impact upon the thoroughly evangelical forces of our nation. But this is far from true, for as this incipient super-church develops its program, the true church will find itself not only opposed by, but in positive conflict with this super-body. Its program is materialistic, socialistic (if not communistic), Christ-denying, and opposed to the true gospel.

There are several areas in which the carefully planned and organized activities of N.C.C.C. have already affected, and can further affect, the true Christian testimony.

1. In the establishing of churches and erection of church buildings. Let us quote from Dr. Murch's analysis of the situation:

"In many cities, territories have been assigned certain denominations to the exclusion of all others. In one large midwestern city a home missionary organization made a canvass of a suburban area to determine where a new church might be established. Forty families of the community were discovered in one suburb who were being forced to travel many miles to attend the church of their choice, because the Council of Churches insisted that no church but a Presbyterian church could operate in this territory. The home missions body proceeded to buy a lot without permission of the Council, and to organize a church. When the Council secretary heard of it, he immediately engineered protests to the City Planning Commission who blocked the establishment of the new church on zoning technicalities. At the edge of the same city a new government housing project barred the same home missions organization from establishing a new church there, despite the fact that it was able to prove that a large percentage of the citizens were of its faith. The Council of Churches was then asked to establish an Ecumenical Church which it did under the leadership of a rank 'liberal' minister. Thus it will be seen that an unholy alliance between super-church and state is already in existence in some sections of the nation, to prevent strictly evangelical churches from being established. In these areas one who labors under the belief that this is a free country, and the law-abiding citizens may build a church where they can worship according to the dictates of their conscience, has to reckon with a new un-American factor in the nature of a super-church. If this is the case today, what will conditions be a few years from now when

the Ecumenical Church machinery is geared to power politics and greased for precision operation?"

2. In its opposition to true evangelism. The local Councils of the NCCC in Los Angeles, Boston, and Portland opposed the Billy Graham meetings. In Portland five downtown pastors in a well-advertised panel discussion one Sunday night literally "took Dr. Graham apart" and stated that the campaign had "set the cause of Christ in Portland back fifty years."

3. In the field of foreign missions. NCCC has absorbed the former Foreign Missions Conference of North America and will now control missionary personnel, mission policies, and occupation of fields. It will decide what missionary, charitable or educational institutions may or may not be established or supported. Evangelical missionaries under church boards in the NCCC have already felt the iron hand of restriction in these directions, and one missionary wrote, "It is worse than being under a bishop."

Worse than this, through political finagling with foreign governments, of which the former Federal Council was quite capable, NCCC may and possibly can in future bar true evangelical testimony from certain areas.

4. In the field of radio broadcasting.

"The Council early recognized the importance of this means of disseminating religion. At a conference in Atlantic City, Dr. Charles C. MacFarland, then FCCC secretary, made this widely-publicized statement: 'The ultimate plan to be worked out will probably be for the local federations of churches to endorse and local stations to present national programs provided on Sunday by the Federal Council, whereby all will have their choice of hearing ... a few selected preachers who have received the full endorsement of the Federal Council.' Dr. MacFarland continued, 'The Federal Council is now surveying the entire field throughout the country and is signing up all available stations to carry its programs.' Frank R. Goodman, later head of the FCCC Department of National Religious Radio, made this survey and signed up fifty or more stations with iron-clad contracts obliging them to use the Federal Council religious programs and none other."

"At the Atlantic City conference a reporter asked, 'Did you mean, Dr. MacFarland, that it is the expectation of the Federal Council to control all religious broadcasting, making it impossible for denominational conventions to get on the air and for pastors to broadcast sermons without Federal Council sanction?' Dr. MacFarland replied, 'Precisely. The Council feels this to be a wise policy.' Thus was laid down the policy which in principle at least has been perpetuated until the present."

Only the grace of God and the loyalty of millions of Bible-believing, Christ-honoring radio listeners in a still-free America make possible such evangelical broadcasts as "Revivaltime," "The Lutheran Hour," "The Hour of Decision," and "The Old Fashioned Revival Hour." "Nevertheless these programs must pay commercial rates and are under constant shrewd undercover attack designed to eliminate them from the air."


All of our preachers, as well as our constituency at large, should read and be warned to alertness by Dr. Murch's able analysis of this modern apostate Colossus.

(This 80-page brochure can be ordered from United Evangelical Action, 111 E. 4th St., Cincinnati 2, Ohio. Single copy, 25 cents; \$2 per dozen; \$7.50 for fifty; \$12.50 for 100 copies.)

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DATE 12/8/83 BY SP4/bjs

12



Bishop Oxnam

Prophet of Marx

BY CARL McINTIRE, D.D.

*President of the International Council of
Christian Churches and Pastor of the Bible
Presbyterian Church, Collingswood, N. J.*

100-50869-237 Enc 1

July 24, 1953

Federal Council of Churches
of Christ

Dear [REDACTED]

The material you forwarded under postmark
of July 20, 1953, has been received.

It was indeed thoughtful of you to forward
these data to me, and I want to thank you for making
them available.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ENCLOSURE

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 12/1/83 BY SP4/eh/ld

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- Tolson
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- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gandy
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Sizoo
- Miss Gandy

JUL 24 1953

17 AUG 6 1953

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
COMM. ROOM

MAN
NOTED

© National Council of Churches

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

S-1

July 21, 1953

Sirs:

If at all possible I would like to get information in regard to the National Council Of The Churches of Christ In The U. S. A. I have heard many accusations made against the National Council and some of its leaders implying that it is Red and Subversive. I am now investigating the problem to satisfy my conviction.

Are any statements or excerpts available from the Investigating Committee's recent hearing of Bishop Oxniam. Any information that can be forwarded to me will be of great help.

Sincerely yours,

b7c

[REDACTED]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SPK/ht

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elt*

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EX-124

100-50749-23
13 JUL 31 1953

EDW

July 27, 1953

RECORDED-105
INDEXED-105
EX-124

100-50869-238

G. I. R. J

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of July 21, 1953, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write me.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise you that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual. I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

In regard to your request for excerpts from the hearings of the Committee on Un-American Activities of the United States House of Representatives, it is suggested that you communicate directly with that Committee for what information it can give you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Note: Bufiles reflect some derogatory information concerning the Council of Churches which was later incorporated into The National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to informants of the New York Office in 1950 developed no information indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of persons affiliated with that organization.

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Miss Gandy _____

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July 26, 1953

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

Dear Sirs:

I heard over the radio some time ago that certain members of the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America were claimed to be associated with Communism.

Would you please send me information regarding the above statement. Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter. My inquiry into this subject is for my own enlightenment.

Sincerely yours,
b7C [REDACTED]

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INDEXED - 67

July 30, 1953

AIR MAIL

[REDACTED]

G.L.R. - 24-1
98-1

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of July 26, 1953, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or do not have any information concerning the organization about which you inquire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/12/82 BY SP-10/BJ

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 Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

NOTE: Correspondent submitted an airmail stamp which is being utilized in reply. Bureau files reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. Much of this data, however, came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, uncovered no data indicating any communistic or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

ELT:rjb:mlw mld

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JUL 30 1953
FBI - NEW YORK

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9 AUG 11 1953

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

JOSEPH E. BOYLE
Chairman

DONALD C. BOLLES
Executive Director



30 Denominations Working Together

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
In the United States of America

297 FOURTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • OREGON 4

BISHOP WILLIAM C. MARTIN, President • REV. SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT, General Secretary

August 19, 1953

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This year Christian Education Week, as sponsored by the National Council's Division of Christian Education, has been set for September 27 - October 4. The theme of the observance will be: For All Children, Faith in God.

The Central Department of Public Relations is endeavoring to assist in every way it can to bring full notice of the Week to the attention of the whole American public, with special emphasis on the press media. One very effective way to obtain press cooperation in helping promote the Week is to furnish the newspapers (and radio stations) with a group of thoughtful statements on the place of spiritual and religious values in the lives of children. There would be seven statements in all, one from each of seven prominent church and lay leaders, for use on each day of Christian Education Week.

I earnestly hope that we may call on you to compose one of these statements, of a length not exceeding 250 words. It would have to be in our hands September 8th at the latest, to give leeway for general press release.

Here are some suggestions that may stimulate thought along the lines mentioned:

The importance of spiritual and religious values in the lives of children to the welfare of the nation.

The importance of these values in the child's own life.

The contribution of these values instilled in the young to family stability.

The ways spiritual and religious values help keep boys and girls out of difficulties and provide them with happy experience in life rather than those that lead too often to prisons.

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

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ela/gh

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You will agree, I feel sure, that the spiritual plight of our children, who by indifference are being denied their Christian heritage, is a basically contributing factor of the nation's moral crisis. Your statement in connection with Christian Education Week, given widest possible circulation, would be of definite help.

Sincerely yours,

Donald C. Bolles
Donald C. Bolles *CS*

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

August 24, 1953

RECORDED - 72 100-50869-240
INDEXED - 72

Mr. Donald C. Bolles
Executive Director
Central Department of Public Relations
National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America
297 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Mr. Bolles:

Your letter of August 19, 1953, has been received. Inasmuch as Mr. Hoover is presently in a travel status, I am taking the liberty of acknowledging it.

It is ^{most} highly unlikely that Mr. Hoover will return in time to prepare the statement which you request. Your letter will be brought to his attention, however, and I am sure that he will appreciate your interest in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

Helen V. Gandy
Secretary

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/clw/jhr

Note: This organization is what was formerly the Federal Council of Churches. It has become an extremely controversial organization, in view of allegations from many quarters that it has Communist leanings. An investigation has been conducted with informants of the New York Office in 1953 developed no data substantiating such allegations. In view of the controversial nature of the organization, however, the Bureau has always declined to issue statements on the organization, although many have been requested from various other members.

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Miss Gandy _____

(note on next page)

79 SEP 2 1953

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9/11

Mr. Donald C. Bolles

August 24, 1953

Note: It is possible that any statement provided at this time, even though on another subject, might be used by the organization as an indication of a clearance by the Bureau. (100-50869)

October 1953

J. Edgar Hoover
Chief of the F.B.I.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am the pastor of a large church in [redacted]

For the past few months, I have been doing my best in this city, to instigate an all out opposition to communism, and every other force that endeavors to take away the freedoms that we love and cherish in this city, and our country as a whole.

I am only nineteen years old, but I have traveled quite extensively, and am rather familiar with the activities of the National Council of Churches. This organization, I believe is communistic in its policy and action. I would appreciate it very much if you could send me some material concerning this group. I would like very much to have any information concerning any union of church and vice. Such as the infiltration of the Red activities into our religious field. Also I have a radio ministry, which reaches about 200,000 people, and it would help me very much in my work to have this information.

Thank you very much for your consideration of the matter.

Yours prayerfully, for the uplifting of
our country to God

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/3/83 BY SP4/che/hw

RECORDED - 26

EX-124

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EXPEDITE PROCESSING
OCT 10 1953

PRIM 83

October 21, 1953

RECORDED - 28

INDEXED - 26

EX-124

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked October 15, 1953, has been received.

With reference to your inquiry, I thought you might like to know that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. In addition, the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations concerning the character and integrity of any organization or individual. I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the organization you mentioned.

I am, however, enclosing some material on the subject of Communism which I thought you might like to have.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/82 BY SP4CCH/SPH

Sincerely yours,
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (2)

Communist Threat in U. S.

How to Fight Communism

Director's Statement B-26-47

God Or Chaos?

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandy _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
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Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

Notes: Bufiles reflect some derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated in the National Council of Churches of (Note continued on next page)

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63 OCT 29 1953

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OCT 21 1953
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[REDACTED]

October 21, 1953

(Note continued)

Christ in America. Much of this data came from rival church groups, and investigations confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected no information indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

[REDACTED]

SAC, New York City

10/22/53

Director, FBI

**RESEARCH MATTER
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS**

Your letter of 6/13/51 forwarded information furnished by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. Detailed information concerning church membership was contained in a leaflet entitled "Information Service," dated March 17, 1951 and published by this organization.

The Bureau desires the latest information relative to the number of church members in the United States which may be available through this organization. Please mark your reply for the attention of the Statistical Section.

MNR:mv
mv

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/89 BY SP4 FCB/ef

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MAY 7 1953
OCT 23 1953

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FBI
OCT 23 1953

Adg

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : SAC, Omaha

DATE: 10/26/53

ATT: CRIME RECORDS SECTION

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE
 CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U.S.A.

Enclosed you will find a pamphlet entitled "Plain Facts," which contains a letter from the Director on Page 11.

This matter is being brought to the Bureau's attention inasmuch as it appears slightly irregular for the National Council of the Churches of Christ to publish a letter of the Director addressed to an individual who does not appear to be an officer of the captioned organization.

Enc.

WHW:EOD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/12/83 BY SP4 KLS/ldf

RECORDED - 72

INDEXED

File - [unclear] - [unclear]
 previously handled. Letter
 in your [unclear] sent by [unclear]

File 100 - 50869-134 + 225

NOV 12 1953 - 50869-274 - [unclear]

Mr. Tolson
 Mr. Boardman
 Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Ladd
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Tracy
 Mr. Gearty
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Winterrowd
 Tele. Room
 Mr. Holloman
 Miss Gandy

EXP. PROC.
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100-50869-242

OCT 28 1953

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/du/du

100-50869-242
ENCLOSURE

plain facts

about the
NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN THE U.S.A.

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-242

PLAIN FACTS about The National Council of Churches

plete analysis of his charges against one of the 48 listed churchmen is presented. Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, respected General Secretary of the National Council of Churches, has been dedicating his time, talent and experience for the past 35 years to the development of Christian cooperation in this country and throughout the world. Because of his key position in the Council, we present a detailed examination of the attacks on him.

Dr. Cavert is charged with having "aided and abetted God-hating un-American organizations" — namely, Nos. 24, 37, 40, and 46 in Mr. Kaub's hodge-podge compilation.

No. 24 in his list is *The Fellowship of Reconciliation*.

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert did belong to the Fellowship of Reconciliation for a year or two at the time when our government was convening an international conference for reduction of armaments and pressing for the Kellogg Pact for the Outlawing of War. He resigned when it became clear to him that conditions in the world required preparedness for defense, and has not been a member at any time within the last twenty-five years.

No. 37 is the *North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy*.

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert never was a member of the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy. He made critical statements in 1936 about the way in which Franco overthrew the Spanish Republic, but joined no organization dealing with this issue.

No. 40 is "*The Protestant*."

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert never was affiliated with this magazine, never served on either its editorial board or its advisory committee, never contributed to its columns. He did sign an appeal against anti-Semitism entitled "Protestantism Answers Hate," which was published by "*The Protestant*," at the time when Nazi propaganda against the Jews was at its height. To infer that this meant any connection with the magazine is untrue.

No. 46 is the *War Resisters League*.

What are the facts?

Dr. Cavert never belonged to the War Resisters League at any time.

▲ ▲ ▲

An especially flagrant case of deception in this pamphlet is the way it uses a remark by J. Edgar Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Hoover is quoted as saying, "I confess to real apprehension so long as communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work." This statement of Mr. Hoover's is inserted between two sections of the pamphlet, both of which refer to the Council of Churches, and the reader is thereby led to believe that Mr. Hoover was referring to it. Yet Mr. Hoover asserts without qualification that he had no such thought in mind, and that such a use of his statement was unjustified.

Reproduced on the following page is the letter from Mr. Hoover containing his statement of repudiation.



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO.

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

February 3, 1951

Mr. E. L. Repass
Passenger Traffic Manager
Norfolk and Western Railway
Company
Roanoke, Virginia

Dear Mr. Repass:

Your letter dated January 26, 1951, has been received.

The quotation which you set forth was taken out of context from remarks I made before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives on March 26, 1947, at Washington, D. C. I am enclosing a reprint of these remarks. You will note in paragraph 4, on page 12, the statement to which you make reference.

I want you to know that neither on this occasion nor at any time have I ever made any statements criticizing the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches.

I am enclosing some material which I thought you might like to have.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America

297 FOURTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • TELEPHONE ORegon 4-5005

General Administration
REV. SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT
General Secretary
REV. ROY G. ROSS
Associate General Secretary
REV. EARL FREDERICK ADAMS
REV. PHILIP C. LANDERS
REV. J. QUINTER MILLER
REV. WILBUR C. PARRY
Administrative Secretaries

Officers

BISHOP WILLIAM C. MARTIN
President
REV. HERMANN N. MORSE
MRS. NORMAN VINCENT PEALS
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MR. JASPER E. CRANE
Vice Presidents
REV. PAUL C. PAYNE
DR. ARTHUR S. FLEMING
REV. EARL R. BROWN
REV. RAYMOND A. DUDLEY
Divisional Vice Presidents
MR. CHARLES E. WILSON
Treasurer
REV. REUBEN H. MUELLER
Recording Secretary

October 26, 1953

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It is my pleasure, in behalf of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, to invite you to be our guest at a special luncheon at the Statler Hotel, Washington, in the South American Room, on Wednesday, November 18, at 12:30.

The luncheon is being held in connection with a regular meeting of the National Council's General Board on November 17 and 18. This is the first time the General Board has met in Washington. The purpose of the luncheon is to afford an opportunity for informal contacts between the representatives of the thirty national denominations comprising the Council and a small group of Christian leaders in our government.

The President of the United States has accepted an invitation to bring a word of greeting at the luncheon.

I should appreciate it if you would let me know at your early convenience whether you are able to accept our invitation.

Very sincerely yours

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ela/jp

William C. Martin
President

RECORDED-52

NOV 9 1953

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

EXP. PROC.

OCT 27 1953

NOTED
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Martin J. G. on
Bureau 10-28-53
may

ack 10-29-53
7/7/53

100-32861
RECORDED-52
INDEXED-52

October 29, 1953
Reverend Bishop William C. Martin
President
National Council of the Churches of Christ
in the United States of America
397 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Bishop Martin:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of October 26, 1953, extending the cordial invitation for me to attend your luncheon on November 18, 1953.

While it would be a pleasure to be with you on that occasion, I deeply regret that a prior commitment makes it impossible for me to accept.

May I offer my best wishes for a thoroughly enjoyable event.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

COMM - FBI
OCT 29 1953
MAILED 27

cc - New York, with *Mr. [unclear]* [unclear].

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/2/83 BY [signature]

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OCT 29 2 31 PM '53
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RECEIVED - DIRECTOR

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Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gandy _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____