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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**HQ FILE: 100-50869**

**SECTION 8**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**



## **NOTICE**

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February 5, 1957

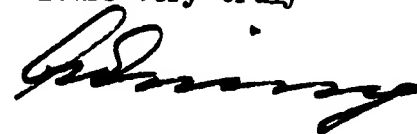
Statistical & Publications Div.  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

Referring to our outstanding Purchase Orders for 1956, we found out that we did not receive an invoice from you on Purchase Order Number 857 dated August 1, 1956.

Will you please send us your invoice for same provided you have shipped the goods. Otherwise let us know as soon as possible when we may expect them.

Yours very truly



E. Welsing  
Business Office

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 Klu/aka  
EW/jg

*called 2/2/57  
M. J. J.*

RECORDED - 60

100-50869-291

20 FEB 13 1957

EX-127

*THE*

February 12, 1957

RECORDED - 60  
INDEXED - 60

100-50869-291  
Mr. E. Welasing  
Business Office  
National Council of the Churches of  
Christ in the United States of America  
297 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

Dear Mr. Welasing:

This will acknowledge your letter of  
February 5, 1957, about your purchase order number  
857 dated August 1, 1956.

Please be advised that this Bureau makes  
no charge for the printed material which it has  
available for public distribution.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Main file 100-50869 on this organization reflects  
no information about referenced purchase order. Bufile  
100-50869 reflects that no data has ever been developed  
by the Bureau indicating any communist or subversive  
activities on the part of persons affiliated with this  
organization. (Inquiry was confined to contacts with  
informants by the New York office in 1950.)

MMR:fmb  
(3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 9

FEB 12 1957

COMM-FBI

67 FEB 19 1957

EBF  
680621A RVHYCWEK1  
FEB 18 10 50 AM '57

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/2/89 BY SP6 [signature]

b7C

Feb. 22, 1957

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

Dear Sir:

Congratulations on your recent commendation.

Recently I have read reports of Communism being widespread among the leaders of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches. That in 1935 the U. S. Naval Intelligence Agency charged the Federal Council of Churches with being one of the largest and most influential subversive organizations in the U. S. My church (United Presbyterians) is a member of the National Council of Churches and makes me a member, even though I had no choice in the matter, and in my small way I support it. I very definitely do not want to support a Communist front organization.

RECORDED - 83

INDEXED - 83

EX-122

MAR 5 1957

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/10/83 BY SP5/BJP

2/ etc. Is now in regard to Communism?  
I especially want to know the standing

b7c

(T) 10

[redacted] and [redacted] of our own  
theological seminary.

I know the church and state are  
separate and I believe they should be.  
I also believe Communism should be  
rooted out and exposed regardless of  
where they are. If they are in the  
National and World Councils they should  
be exposed so that innocent people  
won't be supporting them.

I read recently that Communism in  
the U. S. is putting on a respectable front.  
Is there anything more respectable than  
a church?

According to West Philadelphia Communism  
chief aim is to dominate the world.  
He also said you have to denounce G. I.  
before you can be a good Communist.  
How else could they undermine the  
Christian faith in God? They are doing  
it by deceitfully preaching the doctrine

3/

of the Red and understanding the doctrine of Jesus Christ. so tactfully <sup>and</sup> <sup>good</sup> that busy Christian people don't realize the difference.

I believe it is the moral, Christian duty of our U. S. Govt. to expose Communism for what it is and to tell us who is a Communist and who isn't.

Please tell me where the leaders of the National Council of Churches stands in regard to this. Am I right in assuming that they are a Communist front organization? If I am I want positive proof. Can you give it and if you can't, will you tell me who can?

Communism can't hurt us if we keep the power of Almighty God. If we lose that power this nation is doomed.

I have a simple mind and I have simple faith in God. I'm confused. Can you give me the answer?

Sincerely,

b7C

100-804-292  
INDEXED - 83  
RECORDED - 83

EX-122

March 4, 1957

EX-122

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 22, 1957, with enclosure, has been received, and I want to thank you for your congratulations.

Although 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 this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know that 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 desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: On the basis of information available, correspondent was not identifiable in Bufiles. Correspondent submitted self-addressed, stamped envelope which is being utilized in return. 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 group. (100-50869)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FJH:mlw

(3)

COMM - FBI

4 - MAR 1957

MAILED 30

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/5/83 BY SP4/ewh

b7c

[Redacted]

Feb 28, 1957

Dear Sir;

I teach a Sunday School Class  
in the Church of the Brethren and I  
made the statement that the  
National Council of Churches is  
controlled by Communism.

X

b7c

Our Pastor [Redacted] gave  
me a calling down that this  
statement is false.

EXP. PROC. 1957

mc

Could you please send me some  
Documents to prove that the  
National C. of C. is controlled by  
Communism?

If any charge please let me know.  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

b7c 2

100-50869-293

14 MAR 4 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY 9246/uf

RECORDED  
INDEXED

74P



100-50869-293

March 8, 1957

RECORDED-18

INDEXED-18

EX-128

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 28, 1957, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in the files of this Bureau is confidential and available for official use only. I knew that 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.

Sincerely yours,

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, 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 group. (100-50869)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FJH:mlw

(2)

66 MAR 8 1957

COMM - FBI

MAR 8 7 1957  
MAILED 20

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]

b7C

[REDACTED]

March 9 1957

Dear Sir,

I have been thinking for some time how I could find out about some of the reports of Communism in our Church. And someone told me to write this office

Where can I get a list of those known Communist in our Church?

And I would like to know is the national council of Church & Communist organization or its leaders. For I want know part of them Communist. And I don't want to tell some one else

RECORDED - 48

100-50869294

EX-117

14 MAR 15 1957

ALL CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/ku/John

so they will get mixed up  
with them. For I am  
Sunday school Supt. and  
Elder of our church. And  
there are some that have ask  
me at different times. thing  
that I would to give a answer  
that was right. If you can't  
help me can you tell me  
where I can find out

I thank you

b7C

11

CONFIDENTIAL

March 14, 1957

100-50869-294

RECORDED - 49

INDEXED - 49

EX-117

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 9, 1957, has been received and the interest prompting your communication is appreciated.

While 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 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.

Furthermore, I must point out that this Bureau has never compiled a list such as you requested, since we are strictly a fact-gathering agency which does not issue evaluations or clearances of organizations, individuals or publications.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/5/83 BY SP4CJW/af

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

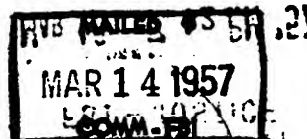
APR 14 8 48 AM '57

1 - Kansas City (Information) (See note page two)

RECEIVED - BCYBDMV

JTM: mag

(4)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

50 MAR 22 1957

184

b7C

NOTE SAC, KANSAS CITY:

Bufiles negative re correspondent.

Correspondent requests "list of those known Communist in our Churches." Also, he would like to know "is the National Council of Church a Communist organization or its leaders."

For your information, 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 in the New York Office in 1950 reflects that no data was developed indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this group.  
(100-50869)

MAR 14 3 05 PM '25

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

RECEIVED-MAR 14 1925

b7C  
[REDACTED]

March 18 1957

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

In-Re: Request Information:

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In so far as is possible, will you discuss with us the connection between the Methodist church and the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People. Are the funds raised on Race Relations Day in this branch of the church delegated in any way to this organization; does the General Conference allocate any portion of other funds to this connection without the consent of individual church; do you feel clergy, through influence National Council of Churches, speedily leading membership toward integration, and in your opinion, is there a way by which an individual church may withdraw from the Council and retain holdings or do we have to continue supporting it with our funds and approval and thereby live our lives by its mandates?

We thank you for your kindness.

Yours very truly,

[REDACTED]

b7C

nmcl  
3-25-57  
Tgh

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/aw/...

RECORDED-87

INDEXED-87

EX - 117

100-37167-295  
24 MAR 27 1957

ORIGINAL FILED



March 25, 1957

RECORDED-87

INDEXED-87

EX-117

My

received.

Your letter of March 18, 1957, has been

Although I would like to be of service, information in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only. 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.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/m/jk

NOTE: On the basis of information available, correspondent was not identifiable in Bufiles.

MAR 25 11 20 AM '57  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

12 DEB 10 21 11  
FBI  
FBI

Le 13  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
andy \_\_\_\_\_

FJH:jh  
(3)

COMM - FBI  
MAR 25 1957  
MAILED 20

60 APR 2 1957

M. G. Jones

BT

b7C

[REDACTED]

June 10th 1957

Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Washington D.C.

Federal Council of Churches  
Gentlemen:

The statement has been made here in public that the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America (the predecessor of the Council of Churches) was listed by the F. B. I. as a subversive organization. I am writing to inquire whether there is any truth in this statement. If there is I shall hang my head in shame if not I shall refute the statement.

RECORDED - 52

100-5214-596

JUN 20 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/5/83 BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C



INDEXED - 52  
RECORDED - 52

100-50869-296

June 19, 1957

EX-113  
b7C

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of June 10, 1957, with enclosure, has been received.

Although I would like to be of assistance, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. 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.

For your information, this Bureau has never prepared any list of subversive organizations. Current copies of the list of organizations designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450 may be obtained by directing a request to the Department of Justice, Attention: Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, Washington 25, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/13/83 BY SP-10/10/83

MAILED 9  
JUN 19 1957  
COMM - FBI

NOTE: On the basis of information available, the correspondent was not identifiable in Bufiles. 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 (100-50869). Correspondent enclosed stamped self-addressed envelope which is being utilized in reply.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

68 JUN 24 1957  
MAIL ROOM

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

[REDACTED]

- 1 - b7C [REDACTED]

June 11, 1957

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the first place, let me express my appreciation to you, both for the service that you are rendering our country, and for your conviction in regard to the importance of Sunday school attendance and Christianity in general.

In the second place, could you give me some light on the question of Communism? As you possibly know, Southern Baptists are not affiliated with any of the Councils of Churches, whether they be National Council or International Council of Christian Churches. All along, however, we are hearing from the International Council of Christian Churches, which has Dr. Carl McIntire as president, just how Communistic all other groups are, and especially the National Council of Churches. I have been told from several sources that the group of ministers that came over from Russia a year ago were all Communists and were being used by the Communist Party. The names of these are as follows: Ilya Ivanov, Alexander Karev, Nikolai Levindanto, Klaudia Tyrtova, and Jakov Zhidkov.

Thank you again for the service that you are rendering. Our people are interested in fighting Communism and we prefer to get the facts before we move. We feel that you are the best source of information on this subject.

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/5/83 BY SP4/ELH/STP  
EXP: b6c

RECORDED - 51

P.S. Do you have any  
above named individuals?

100-50869-111  
information on the  
JUN 25 1957

1 - Mr

RECORDED - 51 INDEXED - 51

EX-117

100-50869-297

June 20, 1957

b7C

[Redacted]

Dear

Your letter dated June 11, 1957, has been received and I appreciate the kind comments which you made.

While I would like to be of service to you, information in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only. 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 do not have the information you requested.

As of possible interest and assistance to you, I am enclosing three pamphlets on communism.

In the event you acquire specific information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our San Diego Office located at 716 San Diego Trust Savings Bank Building, San Diego 1, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 3  
JUN 20 1957  
COMM-FBI

FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM

JUN 20 9 52 AM '57

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4/BJH/ldh

- Tolson
- Nichols
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Nease
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

1 - San Diego (Enclosure - copy of incoming) (See note page 2)  
(See note on yellow, page 2)

Mail Room 67 JUN 20 1957

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "Bm" and "FBI".

b7C

[REDACTED]

NOTE SAC, SAN DIEGO:

Correspondent requested information re possible communist infiltration of National Council of Churches. Also desired information on five Soviet ministers who visited United States in 1956. No record correspondent in Bufiles.

For your information 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. Investigation, confined to contacts with informants in New York Office in 1950 reflects that no data was developed indicating any subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this group. (100-50869)

Bureau aware of visit of Soviet ministers in June, 1956, who have since left U. S.

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

Information received regarding visit of Soviet ministers was disseminated to interested Government agencies. (105-46691) Pamphlets sent correspondent are "How Communists Operate," "Breaking The Communist Spell," and "The Communists Are After Our Minds."

b7C

Aug. 27, 1957.

Dear Mr. Hoover, b1P 8-1  
Can you give me the  
F.B.I. report on the National  
Council of Churches?  
Yours very truly,

b7C

① National Council of Churches

CRIM. REC.  
adl

RECORDED - 52

100 - 50869 - 297

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 hcl/ufw

2 SEP 10 1957

EX-108

GIR 1

September 6, 1957

*gnd*  
RECORDED - 52  
INDEXED - 52  
EX-108

100-50869-298

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated August 27, 1957, has been received.

Although 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 this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication 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 information relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCLE:pjt  
(3)

MAILED 5  
SEP 6 - 1957  
COMM - FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/82 BY SP4 [signature]

2 SEP 16 1957



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *[Signature]*

DATE: September 12, 1957

FROM : M. A. Jones *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: MISS LENA ESTELLE  
 ○ NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
 122 MARYLAND AVENUE, NORTHEAST  
 WASHINGTON 2, D. C.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont *[Signature]* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

By referral from the Director's office this morning, SA Heim, Crime Records Section, interviewed captioned individual. She presented a mailing list of approximately 300 individuals belonging to various organizations. She desired to know if there were any subversive organizations included in the list. She was advised that the FBI does not cite organizations and does not have charge of the list of subversive organizations. For this information, she was referred to Room 2732, Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. She was grateful for this information.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

cc - Mr. Holloman *[Signature]*LJH:rcw  
(3) *rcw*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY *[Signature]*

SEP 16 1957

65 SEP 20 1957

CRIME REC. *[Signature]*

LJH

TRUE COPY

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
Oct. 29 1957

J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Sir

Having read part of a speech you made at the American Legion Convention in our daily paper by George E. Sokolsky so I wanted to ask you a question hoping you will answer. You said certain organizations dedicate their efforts to oppose the very concepts of Security. Could one of these be the National Council of Churches. I belong to a Methodist Church which of course belongs to the N. C. C. and I feel if I can get an answer from you it will be first hand and the truth I dont want to belong to something that is working against our Security. I have read where the Communist are gaining more thro the churches than any other place. Isnt this an awful thing. My Mind has been so tormented by these things I have heard Thanking you for all you have done for our Nation and I hope you continue to do the things that are right and not be a compromiser. I would be so grateful to have an answer.

A true blooded American  
A Bible Christian

/S/

b7C  
From [REDACTED]

nm  
ack  
11-4-57  
DCH

47 MAY 68  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP/12/83



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ela/1

b7C

[REDACTED]

OCT. 24 1957

J. Edgar Harper  
Dear Sir

Having read part of a  
speech you made at  
The American Legion  
Convention in our daily  
paper by George E. Sokalsky  
so I wanted to ask you  
a question hoping you will  
answer. You said certain  
organizations dedicate  
their efforts to oppose the  
very concepts of security.  
Could one of these be  
the National Council of  
Churches. I belong to a  
Methodist Church which  
of course belongs to the  
N.C.C. and I feel if I could

88

RECORDED 42

NOV

Hand and the truth  
I don't want to belong  
to something that is  
working against our  
Security. I have read where  
the Communist are gaining  
more thro the churches  
than any other place. I don't  
think an awful thing. My  
mind has been so tormented  
by these things I have heard  
shouting you for all you  
have done for our nation  
and I hope you continue to  
do the things that are right  
and not be a compromiser.  
I would be so grateful to  
have an answer.

A true blooded American  
A Bible Christian

b7C

6 1957

GIR 16

November 4, 1957

RECORDED-42  
INDEXED-42  
b7C

100-50869-300

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated October 29, 1957, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind message concerning my administration of the activities of the FBI.

Although I would like to be of service, I am unable to answer your inquiry since 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-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these

rules.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCL:agp  
(3)

NOV 4 - 1957

FBI - JUSTICE  
REC'D BELMONT

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
NOV 4 2 31 PM '57

64 NOV 13 1957

b7c

[REDACTED]  
J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Nov 13 1957  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir -

Am Writing to you about  
a matter that is of great importance  
to me since I am Chairman for  
National Defense in the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Chapter of the  
Daughters of the American Revolution

It concerns the report that  
the United Council of Churches  
was organized and headed by  
Communists. 100-50867-301

RECORDED - 50

I have to give a talk on  
this subject and surely want  
authentic information and  
know of no better place to  
than our F.B.I.

NOV 13 1957

CRIMINAL

I shall be deeply grateful  
INFORMATION CONTAINED

OPTIONAL COMMIC OF

to you for any or all the  
information you can send  
me.

Sincerely,

b7C

[REDACTED]

ALL  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/ahp/jbr

November 12, 1957

RECORDED - 50

INDEXED - 50

EX - 126

100-50869-301

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of November 1, 1957, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted your writing.

Although 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 this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency, and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know that you will understand the reasons for this rule and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: United Council of Churches not identifiable in Bufiles.

(private refers to National Council)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CFM:pwl  
(3)

COMM - FBI  
NOV 12 1957  
MAILED 25

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/89 BY SP4/rlu/mh

68 NOV 19 1957



TO:

☒ Director  
☒ Mr. Tolson, 5744  
☒ Mr. Boardman, 5736  
☒ Mr. Belmont, 1742  
☒ Mr. Mohr, 5517  
☒ Mr. Parsons, 7621  
☒ Mr. Rosen, 5706  
☒ Mr. Tamm, 5256  
☒ Mr. Trotter, 4130 IB  
☒ Mr. Sizoo, 1742

☒ Mr. Clayton, 5744  
☒ Miss Gandy, 5633  
☒ Mr. Holloman, 5633

☒ Records Branch  
☒ Pers. Records, 6631  
☒ Reading Room, 5533  
☒ Courier Service, 1541  
☒ Mail Room, 5531  
☒ Teletype, 5644  
☒ Code Room, 4642  
☒ Mechanical, B-110  
☒ Supply Room, B-216  
☒ Tour Room, 5625  
☒ Stop Desk, 7712

☒ Mr. Nease, 5640  
☒ Mr. McGuire, 5642  
☒ Mr. Wick, 5634  
☒ Mr. DeLoach, 5636  
☒ Mr. Morgan, 5625

☒ Mr. Jones, 4236  
☒ Mr. Leonard, 6222 IB  
☒ Mr. Waikart, 7204  
☒ Mr. Eames, 7206  
☒ Mr. Wherry, 5537

☒ Miss Lurz  
☒ Mrs. Faber  
☒ Miss McCord  
☒ Miss Rogers  
☒ Miss Padgett  
☒ Mrs. Dillon

☒ See Me  
☒ For Your Info

☒ For appropriate action

☒ Note & Return

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/ret/4/4**

G. A. Nease  
 Room 5640, Ext. 691

December 6, 1957

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clayton  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

## Digest of Current Communist Activities

A veteran fronter has been elected president of the National Council of the Churches of Christ. The triennial general assembly of the National Council, meeting in St. Louis, yesterday chose the Rev. Edwin T. Dahlberg to head the organization for the next three years.

Mr. Dahlberg, a St. Louis Baptist pastor, was formerly president of the American Baptist Convention. His support of Communist causes extends over a period of 15 years.

In April 1942, Mr. Dahlberg was affiliated with the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder, an organization cited as "Communist and subversive" by the Attorney General of the United States. Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, USA, was then serving a prison sentence for perjury in connection with his possession of a false passport.

Under date of April 22, 1943, Mr. Dahlberg joined a group of Communist frontiers in signing an open letter to President Roosevelt protesting an order for the deportation of Harry Bridges as an alien Communist.

According to a letterhead of the organization dated March 26, 1946, Edwin T. Dahlberg was a sponsor of the National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism. Various Jewish groups warned that the National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism was a Communist-front organization.

A few years ago, while the Yugoslav line of Tito was still a satellite of the Soviet Union, a group of American clergymen was invited to that country with all expenses paid by the Communist government. At least five of the seven clergymen who

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/26/83 BY SP/CLH

INDEXED-11

NOT RECORDED

140 DEC 19 1957

EX-143

62 DEC 26 1957



comprised the delegation which visited Yugoslavia were known members of the Communist Party or veteran collaborators with Communism in the United States. They were: Claude Williams, William Howard Melish, Guy Emery Shippler, Emory Bucke, and Phillips Packer Elliott. Claude Williams and William Howard Melish were members of the Communist Party. The delegation brought back a report which was a complete whitewash of the Tito Communist regime. This report was printed and distributed under the sponsorship of a group of Protestant clergymen which included Edwin T. Dahlberg.

According to the Communist Party newspaper, The Worker, July 24, 1949, Edwin T. Dahlberg was one of the organizers of the Washington Conference on Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact. This gathering launched the Communist-front organization which was known as the Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact.

Under date of January 19, 1951, an open letter was addressed to Congress by the National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act. Mr. Dahlberg was listed as an initiating sponsor of this organization. The McCarran Act whose repeal was sought by this Communist-front organization was the Internal Security Act of 1950. According to the Daily Worker, July 9, 1952, Mr. Dahlberg signed an open letter to the Republican and Democratic parties under the auspices of the National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act. Again, according to the Daily Worker, July 27, 1953, Mr. Dahlberg signed an open letter to President Eisenhower under the auspices of the National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Acts. It should be noted that the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 was added to the Internal Security Act of 1950 as one of the measures whose repeal was sought in an

extensive propaganda campaign of the Communist Party and this particular front organization.

The most active Communist-front organization of the present is known as the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. According to this organization's publication of August 1957, Edwin T. Dahlberg was a signer of an appeal on behalf of the Communist espionage agent, Morton Sobell, who is now serving a 30-year prison term in Alcatraz for his part in the Rosenberg espionage case.

Mr. Dahlberg's record of collaboration with the Communist apparatus places him among the leading Communist fronters who are clergymen. In choosing Mr. Dahlberg to head the organization for the next three years, the National Council of Churches has followed the precedents of the old Federal Council of Churches which numbered among its presidents such well known Communist fronters as the late Bishop Francis J. McConnell and Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam.

12/6/57

Local, state, national and international political and sociological programs of the National Council of Churches and World Council of Churches seen to exceed other denominational efforts during 1957.

For that reason it is important to emphasize that leadership people of the National Council of Churches and leaders of NAACP are closely interlocked and are both using local churches, denominational programs, Sunday school papers, and other church literature for propaganda purposes. Martin Luther King was one of the four principal speakers scheduled at the current Tri-annual Meeting of the National Council of Churches.

Of the 162 names connected with the 1957 letterhead of NAACP (front and back), 83 are names of individuals with Communist affiliations.

The Committee of 100 of NAACP has 89 members. 70 of these 89, including Methodist leaders, have records of Communist affiliation.

We are not discussing sociology, we are talking only about subversion and the exploitation of church facilities. During 1957 the greatest effort in subversion in the United States is in the race field with the religious exploitation feature as the glaringly outstanding phenomenon.

RECORDED - 83  
INDEXED - 83

100-50367-30  
M.G. DEC 20 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/uf

EX-135

NO DEROGATORY DATA  
FBI FILES  
DEC 20 1957  
NOT TO BE CONSIDERED  
AS CLEARANCE

ENCLOSURE

EX-135

**NCC Vice President**

# Church Council Elects C. P. Taft

By TIMES-STAR Wire Services

Charles P. Taft of Cincinnati was elected in St. Louis Thursday as one of eight vice presidents-at-large of the National Council of Churches. The Episcopal layman, and until recently Cincinnati's mayor, formerly was president of the National Council's predecessor, the Federal Council of Churches.

Elected to the presidency of the NCC for three years was Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, 64, pastor of Delmar Baptist Church, St. Louis, a congregation affiliated with both the American (Northern) and Southern Baptist Conventions. Formerly head of the northern Baptist body, he is the first Baptist ever to head the co-operative organization of 30 Protestant and Orthodox denominations.



CHARLES P. TAFT

DR. DAHLBERG'S congregation has been called "a church with a northern accent and southern exposure." As head of the organization that has about 37.5 million members, he succeeds Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, Presbyterian (U. S. A.) Church administrative head, Philadelphia. Dr. Dahlberg spends his vacations mountain-climbing in Colorado.

Former U. S. defense mobil-

izer Charles E. Wilson, an American Baptist, and New York shipping lines executive, was re-elected the NCC treasurer.

The 2,000 churchmen at the St. Louis meeting took a close, critical look at their own record in race relations. Dean Liston Pope of Yale Divinity School reported that about 10 per cent of the nation's Protestant churches now have interracial congregations.

Edwin T. Dahlberg

- (1) Citizens' Committee to Free Earl Browder -- favored clemency -- letterhead, April 1942
- (2) Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell -- signer of appeal -- That Justice Shall Be Done, August 1957, page 2
- (3) National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism -- sponsor letterhead, March 26, 1946
- (4) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act -- initiating sponsor -- open letter to Congress, January 19, 1951
- (5) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act -- signer of open letter to Republican and Democratic parties -- Daily Worker, July 9, 1952, page 3
- (6) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Acts -- signer of open letter to President Eisenhower -- Daily Worker, July 1953, page 8
- (7) Open Letter to President Roosevelt Protesting Deportation Order Against Harry R. Bridges -- signer -- letter, April 22, 1947
- (8) Statement Endorsing Publication and Distribution of Report of Seven Clergymen Who Visited Yugoslavia -- sponsor and signer -- press release, October 31, 1947
- (9) Washington Conference on Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact -- organizer of -- Worker, July 24, 1949, page 1

\* CRITICISM OF THE SOCIALISTIC, PRO-COMMUNISTIC, COLLECTIVIST, AND OTHER UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, OVER A PROLONGED PERIOD, CAUSED THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO LOSE SUPPORT. THE NEW NAME WAS ADOPTED IN 1950.

December 2, 1957

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4/ahp

100-50869-302

December 24, 1957

Mr. Tolson: ✓

*National Council  
of Churches*

The attached material was received  
from Myer G. [redacted] Executive Secretary,  
Circuit Riders, Inc.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

G. A. Nease

Enclosure

GAN:rm  
(2)

RECORDED - 17

100-50869-304

JAN 3 1958

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP-1/1/84

ENCLOSURE

76 JAN 7 1958



100-50867-30ff

GREAT EARS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW



## NATO Meetings?

as directed by Supreme Commander.

Just and five over- the which because of light up in advance of the primary answer to the challenge in military technology.

Dutch Premier, Willem van Vreeswijk, indicated cautious agreement. Holland will accept military provide basis. Britain has agreed to do this, and presumably will go.

And Turkey is expected to operate. But those who at Paris on opening day of different stage.

AMBASSADOR Konrad Adenauer talked last night of the need for study of the Russian "proposals" — Bulganin's letters to NATO leaders.

Adenauer, still smarting from the Tunisian arms affair, only questioned the proposals but the attitude toward the "proposals" was not "proposals" — not military "proposals."

After Elmer Gerhaarden of was the most outspoken.

In effect, he refused to discuss missiles and warheads on the subject, suggesting the question be deferred in a greater effort to deal with the Soviet Union on disarmament and other issues.

British Prime Minister asked himself with this po-

those who were not pre- to turn down the IRBM. He shifted the emphasis on war preparations to the Bulganin pro-

That included Prime Minister Harold Macmillan of the United Kingdom.

His represents a serious understanding. It traces the dramatic events of the past era. Americans checked to realize that Russians had moved ahead.

United States in the of tomorrow. They used that this gave European a new advantage to negotiate from.

know—it was said often—that thoughtful Europeans were becoming disillusioned about American leadership and apprehensive about

Through one of the hard to explain, adjoining room.

and forever pervades

shown carefully. Just

ing. Hard core men

and

American intelligence vis-à-vis Russia. There were many demands made among our allies that the alliance be reworked to give the continental members greater influence in policy-making.

ALL THIS WAS in the record. A new sort of equilibrium was being created. It called for a revision of the alliance, and for a new approach to a Russia that no longer had to negotiate from manifest inferiority.

Yet the President and the Secretary of State went to Paris with no fresh idea or proposal, save the purely military and quite provocative one of stockpiling nuclear warheads and 1500-mile ballistic missiles on the perimeter of Russia.

Meanwhile the Russians, who were more entitled to rattle the saber, did nothing of the sort. Sending far better than Messrs. Eisenhower and Dulles the message of West Europe, they fired off letters of protest, protestations, reasonable plans for negotiation and conciliation. With these disarming notes, keyed to the mood of a disillusioned Europe, Bulganin torpedoed the Eisenhower-Dulles campaign for a tougher, uncompromising NATO relying on weapons, not diplomacy.

Already there are signs that Mr. Dulles will eat his words—his refusal on opening day to approve any new dealings with the Russians. By this shift of basic policy, the United States may be able to salvage the conference and the alliance. But the golden moment for a reassertion of American leadership has passed. Instead of sensing the problem and meeting it at the outset, the Americans had to be persuaded by their allies that the times have changed.

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## READERS' VIEWS

### 'Out-Sputniked'

OF THE EDITOR OF THE RECORD.

So it seems we have been out-sputniked again. But, this time we did it to ourselves.

What kind of "advertising department" do we have. A step-by-step chronology of our failures. Who knows but what Russia may have had five, ten, perhaps twenty failures before they ever got No. 1 out in space. Yet, we have to ballyhoo our first failure, all over the world, and one can only imagine the propaganda Russia is making of it.

So, let Russia get the first satellite in space. We weathered the surprise, but let's don't make fools of ourselves by rushing easily into a smash program, wasting all kinds of money, and producing nothing. Let's wait. Let's

## New Head Of National

WASHINGTON. The National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. came into being in January of 1955 as a free-living operation of the old Federal Council of Churches, which had become generously misnamed by the pink break.

The idea was to attain some new respectability, although this rationale was not the professed reason.

In convention in St. Louis, some 2000 delegates have just elected 64-year-old Rev. Edwin T. Dahlberg, pastor of the Dehmer Baptist Church of that city, to be president for the next three years.

THIS SUGGESTS that the reorganization was not enough. The wheels are back in the old rut.

The Rev. Mr. Dahlberg is a handsome and personable man. He is a fervent preacher, with certain religious opinions that are reminiscent of the late Sen. George Norris' black ribbon tie and Borah's Non-like mane.

He makes a great deal of his practice of spending one night a year alone, under the open skies, devoting himself to self-examination and prayer. This is all well and good, but the once-a-year schedule seems to add a note of the superficial. He describes one of these occasions, at Green Lake, Wis., as follows:

"About 9 o'clock I got a boat and rowed out about 200 yards, put the oars in the boat and didn't touch them until sunrise.

"AT DAWN, I was two miles out, due to the deep currents of the lake. This has always been a parable to me: There are times when we need to pull on the oars with all our might, but there are other times when we need to let our oars rest on the bottom of the boat while we sit, completely relaxed beneath the stars of God; and we will find that there are deep moving tides of the spirit carrying us along."

This is lefty rhetoric, but in this course of self-examination, the Rev. Mr. Dahlberg seems to have missed a self-examination of his associations. They go back a long way.

As early as 1942, he was affiliated with the "Citizens Committee To Free Earl Browder," an organization cited on the Attorney General's list as "Communist and subversive."

Browder, at the time, was General Secretary of the Communist Party and was serving a prison sentence for perjury in connection with his possession of a false passport. And Communism is admittedly the death march of the very God with whose name the Rev. Mr. Dahlberg does his communing.

## General Of Churches

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## ALTAR STAIRS

By John Marvin Rast

KNOWING THE WORD

T. S. Eliot describes our generation as having "knowledge of words and ignorance of the Word."

Frequently we are amazed at the verbal and factual knowledge of the Bible that some folk possess. Some of them demonstrate this information on radio and television quiz programs.

Surely none would deny the most thorough acquaintance with the incidents contained in the Word; but we do know that they can be just that: A collection of incidents unrelated to life about us.

The Master was concerned that people truly know the Word, but more concerned that they know the Word as witness His power in the kingdom of the Word.

na. "We could until that made it possible until the overthrow of the Court has ruled that overthrow of the government out a specific some bomb or other reason. Then we may be doing. isn't it?"

GRACE C. MACK, 617 E.  
Mitchell Ave., Cincinnati.

It's beginning to appear that many government records and documents are classified as secret, not for the security of the country, but for the security of those who do the classifying.

NEW'S BUREAUS  
Columbus 15 207  
Washington 4 1867 National  
GENERAL ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE  
MOLONEY, REGAN & SON

CINCINNATI TIMES-STAR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1957

**NCC Vice President**

# Church Council Elects C. P. Taft

By TIMES-STAR Wire Services

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Former U. S. defense mobil-



CHARLES P. TAFT

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Edwin T. Dahlberg

(1) Citizens' Committee to Free Earl Browder -- favored clemency -- letterhead, April 1942

(2) Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell -- signer of appeal -- That Justice Shall Be Done, August 1957, page 2

(3) National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism -- sponsor -- letterhead, March 26, 1946

(4) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act -- initiating sponsor -- open letter to Congress, January 19, 1951

(5) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act -- signer of open letter to Republican and Democratic parties -- Daily Worker, July 9, 1952, page 3

(6) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Acts -- signer of open letter to President Eisenhower -- Daily Worker, July 27, 1953, page 8

(7) Open Letter to President Roosevelt Protesting Deportation Order Against Harry R. Bridges -- signer -- letter, April 22, 1943

(8) Statement Endorsing Publication and Distribution of the Report of Seven Clergymen Who Visited Yugoslavia -- sponsor and signer -- press release, October 31, 1947

(9) Washington Conference on Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact -- organizer of -- Worker, July 24, 1949, page 11

\* CRITICISM OF THE SOCIALISTIC, PRO-COMMUNISTIC, COLLECTIVIST, AND OTHER UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, OVER A PROLONGED PERIOD, CAUSED THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO LOSE SUPPORT. THE NEW NAME WAS ADOPTED IN 1950.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

February 22, 1958

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

Dear Mr. Hoover;

At a recent public meeting a state officer of the Mississippi Citizen's Council, in the course of a speech, and by means of some literature passed out to the group, said in effect two things: (1) The National Council of Churches is a subversive and communistic organization, and (2) the offices of FBI and Attorney General were given as source of proof.

I am a Methodist minister in a rural Mississippi community. One who has always considered himself a good American. In World War II as well as the Korean Conflict, I was in uniform as an enlisted man. It is most difficult for me to sit back and hear such charges as was made at the above mentioned meeting, and allow them to go unchallenged.

You would render a great service to me personally, and to my community if you would write me giving: (1) Your general opinion of the National Council of Churches, (2) the importance you place on the co-operative role of the Churches in meeting the needs of the people, and (3) the un-American and communistic activities and attitudes of both the National Council of Churches and the Council of Mississippi.

This information would greatly help in getting the support our Churches need in this area, and also in curbing the activities of a group which could prove very dangerous indeed.

Looking forward to hearing from you, and thanking you in advance for any help, I am

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/clw/jlp

Sincerely,

REC-9

EX-136

MAR 4 1958

REC-9

b7C  
11-136

March 3, 1958

100-50869-385

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of February 22, 1958, has been received during Mr. Hoover's absence from the city, and I am acknowledging it for him. You may be sure he will appreciate your interest in writing, and I am enclosing some material which may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy  
Secretary

MAR 3 3 49 PM '58  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

**Enclosures (9)**

- The Sunday School - Key To Tomorrow
- The Role of the Sunday School
- Communist "New Look"
- God and Country or Communism?
- The Communists Are After Our Minds
- Breaking The Communist Spell
- The American Ideal - Director's Speech, 2/22/57
- Director's Speech - 4/22/57
- American Legion Speech - 9/19/57

NOTE: [REDACTED] is not identifiable in Bufiles. Bufiles reflect no information indicating the National Council of Churches is under any communist or subversive influences and there have been no subversive activities on the part of this organization. (100-50869) Since he is unknown, it is believed an in-absence reply is warranted in view of his third paragraph.

CBF:gli  
(3)

- Ren b7C
- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
  - Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
  - Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
  - Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
  - Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
  - Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
  - Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
  - Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
  - Nease \_\_\_\_\_
  - Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

62 MAR 10 1958

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

COMM - FBI

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON *3/11*

DATE: March 7, 1958

FROM : G. A. NEASE *gan*

SUBJECT:

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Nease	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Attached hereto is some material relating to the National Council of Churches which was forwarded to me by ~~Mr. E. Holloman of the Cincinnati~~ *in Cincinnati*. The material needs no acknowledgment and it is thought it might be of interest to the Domestic Intelligence Division.

Enclosure

cc - Mr. Belmont

GAN:ejp  
(3)3 ENCLOSURE  
*2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/du/uf

61 MAR 18 1958

REC-24

100-50629-306

16 MAR 13 1958

INT. SEC.



*Personal  
Don't release*

*The statements of Nat'l Council of Churches -  
are very interesting.*

March 3, 1958

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
Dear [REDACTED] NY  
[REDACTED]

In compliance with your suggestion the following reply is offered for your consideration:

[REDACTED] confirm my earlier impression that funds made available to the National Council of Churches by me would, in effect, be spent to fight the very concepts of religion and patriotic loyalty to the U.S. which I have long fought to protect and preserve. There are many of us who had hoped the 1950 reorganization of the Federal Council of Churches into the National Council of Churches would have been an ideological and structural change rather than primarily a change of name and tactics.

I see nothing [REDACTED] which indicates Edwin T. Dahlberg is anybody I want to follow or support, financially or otherwise. What has the freeing of Earl Browder from jail, and the stopping of the deportation proceedings of Harry Bridges got to do with Protestantism or Christianity generally? The whitewash effort to clear Tito when he was at his peak of popularity with Stalin can hardly be called anti-Communism or pro-United States.

If, as you say, the election of Edwin T. Dahlberg was unanimous then I can only reply the unanimity of that action removes any question from my mind regarding the position of the National Council of Churches.

If Edwin T. Dahlberg were to resign today the National Council of Churches would still be inimical to practically everything for which I stand.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/whl

100-50869-306



b7C  
[REDACTED]  
- 2 -

March 5, 1958

I should like to compliment and praise John T. Flynn, Fulton Lewis, Jr., Frank C. Hanighen, "The American Legion Firing Line," and Carl McIntire for their efforts to expose and oppose many, if not all, of the individuals or programs of the National Council of Churches which they have exposed and/or opposed.

The above should suit you as a reply because heretofore our thinking has been in complete parallel on every item upon which we both had the same basic set of facts.

Cordially,  
b7C [REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED]  
ENC.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET13

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)C with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-50869-306 Enclosure

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
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 X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
 X FOR THIS PAGE X  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Mr. A. H. Belmont

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 10, 1958

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

**COLLECTIVISM IN THE CHURCHES**

By Edgar C. Bundy

**CENTRAL RESEARCH MATTER**

Background

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

By memo dated 3/4/58 Mr. Nease advised that Meyer G. Lowman, executive secretary of the Circuit Riders, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio, had furnished a copy of the captioned book to the Bureau. Circuit Riders is an organization of Methodist laymen whose purpose is to combat communist infiltration among members of the clergy. Lowman has been in frequent contact with the Bureau since 1953 during which time he has furnished voluminous material concerning communism. (62-89405)

The Author

Edgar C. Bundy is a former Air Force officer who lectures extensively before church and patriotic groups. His lectures deal mainly with communism and he has been consistently critical of the Federal Council of Churches. In 1956, he was a consultant to the Anti-Subversive Commission of the American Legion and in that year he also testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security. In 1954, Bundy deliberately misled the Bureau in attempting to obtain a Bureau speaker for a purely political meeting and the Chicago Office was instructed to be most circumspect in future contacts with him.

The Book

Classified by *SP/6/10/84*

Declassify on: OADR *4/10/84*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

The basic theme of the book is that "Marxian Socialists, under the guise of Christianity, took over the machinery of the major Protestant churches in this country lock, stock, and barrel." Bundy also claims that the National Council of Churches (which, he claims, evolved from the Federal Council of Churches) has developed into an "ecclesiastical octopus" and has become, in effect, "literally a political party operating within the framework of whatever legitimate political party happens to be in power." Bundy asserts that the National Council of Churches claims to speak for all Protestants on a variety of social, political, and economic issues, both national and international, but never submits these issues to the "men and women in the pews" to determine their views. (pp. 99, 201, 45-46, 62)

Enclosure

JFC:aml

(U)

61 MAR 20 1958

- 1 - Section tickler
- 1 - J. F. Condon
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Nease
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - 100-231551
- 1 - 100-50869

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-50869-✓

NOT RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP/6/10/84

Memorandum to Mr. Bell at  
Re: Collectivism in the Churches

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Bundy also claims that the National Council of Churches "has captured strategic posts within the United States government." He offers as proof of this claim the fact that Secretary of State Dulles; Harold Stassen, former Special Assistant to the President; Arthur Flemming former Director, Office of Defense Mobilization, and Alger Hiss have all held high positions in the Federal or National Council of Churches. In Bundy's view, the culmination of this "impregnable interlock" between the United States Government and the National Council of Churches was the success of the Council in "ensnaring" President Eisenhower into attending a meeting of the World Council of Churches at Evanston, Illinois, in 1954, which was also attended by ministers from Czechoslovakia and Hungary. (pp. 63, 64, 221)

Bundy claims that successful communist infiltration into seminaries and theological schools "furnished the Soviet apparatus with a machine which was used as a religious cover for the overall Communist operation ranging from immediate demands to actually furnishing aid in espionage and outright treason." However, the only proof he offers for this sweeping allegation is to cite the communist front affiliations of Dr. Harry Ward, well-known Soviet apologist; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, and various other officials of the Federal and National Council of Churches. This information is documented by Bundy entirely from public source material. (pp. 123-128)

Bundy mentions the Bureau on page 125, describing it as "the private detective agency of the Department of Justice." The Director is mentioned on page 127 as supporting Bundy's view that the communist movement still enjoys considerable support in the United States. Bufile 100-50869 reflects some derogatory information concerning the Federal and National Council of Churches, much of which was received from rival church groups. Investigation, confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office, developed no indication of communist domination. The Bureau followed activities at the meeting of the World Council of Churches, Evanston, Illinois, in 1954.

(100-211551)

#### OBSERVATIONS:

Bundy's opposition to the Federal and National Council of Churches appears motivated by the fact that the views of these organizations on various issues of national and international interest are at variance with his own. Even Circuit Riders, which is distributing 100 copies of his book, felt it necessary to point out that while the statements in Bundy's book pertaining to the communist front affiliations of the individuals mentioned therein are "correct, in so far as they go... we are not disposed to, nor do we feel qualified to, comment authoritatively upon some of the other phases of this work." Since all of Bundy's information is derived from public sources, it is not felt that any further action is required by the Bureau.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information. Bundy's book is enclosed for the information of the Internal Security Section.

-2- ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

December 2, 1957

**NCC Vice President**

# Church Council Elects C. P. Taft

By TIMES-STAR Wire Services

Charles P. Taft of Cincinnati was elected in St. Louis today as one of eight vice presidents-at-large of the National Council of Churches. The Episcopal layman, and until recently Cincinnati's mayor, formerly was president of the National Council's predecessor, the Federal Council of Churches.

Elected to the presidency of the NCC for three years was Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, 64, pastor of Delmar Baptist Church, St. Louis, a congregation affiliated with both the American (Northern) and Southern Baptist Conventions. Formerly head of the northern Baptist body, he is the first Baptist ever to head the co-operative organization of 30 Protestant and Orthodox denominations.



CHARLES P. TAFT

DR. DAHLBERG'S congregation has been called "a church with a northern accent and southern exposure." As head of the organization that has about 37.5 million members, he succeeds Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, Presbyterian (U. S. A.) Church administrative head, Philadelphia. Dr. Dahlberg spends his vacations mountain-climbing in Colorado.

Former U. S. defense mobil-

izer Charles E. Wilson, an American Baptist, and New York shipping lines executive, was re-elected the NCC treasurer.

The 2,000 churchmen at the St. Louis meeting took a close, critical look at their own record in race relations. Dean Liston Pope of Yale Divinity School reported that about 10 per cent of the nation's Protestant churches now have interracial congregations.

**Edwin T. Dahlberg**

(1) Citizens' Committee to Free Earl Browder -- favored clemency -- letterhead, April 1942

(2) Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell -- signer of appeal -- That Justice Shall Be Done, August 1957, page 2

(3) National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism -- sponsor -- letterhead, March 26, 1946

(4) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act -- initiating sponsor -- open letter to Congress, January 19, 1951

(5) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act -- signer of open letter to Republican and Democratic parties -- Daily Worker, July 9, 1952, page 3

(6) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Acts -- signer of open letter to President Eisenhower -- Daily Worker, July 27, 1953, page 8

(7) Open Letter to President Roosevelt Protesting Deportation Order Against Harry R. Bridges -- signer -- letter, April 22, 1943

(8) Statement Endorsing Publication and Distribution of the Report of Seven Clergymen Who Visited Yugoslavia -- sponsor and signer -- press release, October 31, 1947

(9) Washington Conference on Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact -- organizer of -- Worker, July 24, 1949, page 11

\* CRITICISM OF THE SOCIALISTIC, PRO-COMMUNISTIC, COLLECTIVIST, AND OTHER UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, OVER A PROLONGED PERIOD, CAUSED THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO LOSE SUPPORT. THE NEW NAME WAS ADOPTED IN 1950.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-5-80 BY 100-50869-306

[REDACTED]

March 8, 1958

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

There has recently come to the attention of this Session accusations that the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches are communistic, or led by communistically inclined men.

We are very anxious to settle this very vital question in order to have peace within the church. Is it at all possible for you to secure information as to the correctness of these charges, and the names of any of the leadership in these organizations that might be included among subversive organizations, as published by the Committee investigating Un American Activities.

Any information that you might give us will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

b7c -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

REC-1

EX-131

100-50567-307  
MAR 10 1958

EXP. PROC.  
MAR 10 1958  
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Ack. - Miami/encl.  
3-17-58

REG-100-50869-307 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 17, 1958

EX-131

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 8, 1958, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted your communication.

Since this Bureau has conducted no investigation of the organizations mentioned in your letter, I am unable to furnish you any information concerning them.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/93 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Miami (Enclosure)

NOTE TO SAC, MIAMI:

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

NOTE TO SAC, MIAMI, CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

12 MAR 21 1958  
(4)

6 MAR 21 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

3-19-58 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by SP4 [REDACTED]  
Declassify on: OADR

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-23153-1



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7C

NOTE TO MIAMI. CONTINUED

The World Council of Churches is allegedly composed of most of the Christian churches throughout the world except the Roman Catholic Church and certain small sects. It is governed by an assembly of approximately 600 delegates representing member churches. The last assembly was held in Evanston, Illinois, in 1954.

b1

(100-231551)

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 information came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants in the New York Office in 1950 reflects no data was developed indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this group. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

b7C

Correspondent is the minister of the [REDACTED]. He states accusations have recently come to his attention that the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches "are communistic, or led by communistically inclined men." He requests information as to the correctness of these accusations and the names of the leadership of these organizations that might be included among subversive organizations.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES CUSTOMS COURT  
201 VARICK STREET  
NEW YORK 14

CHAMBERS OF  
JED JOHNSON  
JUDGE

March 14, 1958

PERSONAL

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

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Clayton	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing a letter addressed to Mrs. Johnson from our friend, Miss Edith E. Lowry, National Director of Migrant Ministry, of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, which is self-explanatory.

I am sure that you are familiar with the fine, nationwide work this organization is doing, especially in its program of assisting migrants throughout the country. Mrs. Johnson has been closely associated with this work since we came to New York, and I have therefore had the privilege of listening to some of the outstanding speakers in years past at their annual National Migrant Committee luncheon held at the Waldorf in the fall of each year. It is an outstanding event and is attended by influential representatives of the organization from practically every State in the Union.

You will note from the enclosed letter that the National Director is anxious that you be the main speaker at the next annual meeting and that you speak on the all-important subject of juvenile delinquency, on which you are the nation's foremost authority. Because Miss Lowry does not know you personally, at Mrs. Johnson's suggestion I have been given the honor of approaching you on the matter. These fine ladies are very anxious that you accept the invitation and for that reason desire to extend it several months in advance so that you can make your plans. I do hope that it will be possible for you to accept, and I know that you will have not only an appreciative audience, but also the most worthy and influential that it could be possible to get together in the entire country. Although the letter does not say so, I feel safe in saying that I feel sure this organization would pay your expenses to New York and return.

Sincerely your friend,

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/...

JED JOHNSON

-2-

PS. Congratulations on your new book! Assuming that you have an extra one lying around, if you will autograph it to me and send it to me, I would be gratified to put it in my library along with many other autographed books of distinguished Americans, and if you will advise me the price of your book, I will be delighted to send you my check for same.

J. J.

National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America

DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS

257 FOURTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • TELEPHONE ORegon 4-6407

REV. EDWIN T. DAHLBERG

President

REV. ROY C. ROSS

General Secretary

R. H. EDWIN ESPY

Associate General Secretary

CHARLES E. WILSON

Treasurer

CHAIRMAN

Rev. Willard M. Wickizer

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Rev. Stanley U. North

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Edith E. Lowry

ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

Louisa R. Shotwell

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Department of Church Building  
Rev. S. Turner Rittenour

Department of the Town and  
Country Church  
Rev. Richard O. Comfort

Department of the Urban Church  
Rev. Meryl H. Ruess

DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS

Constituent Members

American Baptist  
National Baptist Inc.  
Church of the Brethren  
Church of God  
Disciples of Christ  
Protestant Episcopal  
Evangelical United Brethren  
Friends (Five Years Meeting)  
Augustana Lutheran  
United Lutheran  
African Methodist Episcopal  
African Methodist  
Episcopal Zion  
Christian Methodist Episcopal  
Methodist  
American Moravian  
Cumberland Presbyterian  
Presbyterian, U.S.A.  
Presbyterian, U.S.  
United Presbyterian of  
North America  
Reformed in America  
United Church of Canada  
United Church of Christ  
Congregational Christian  
Evangelical and Reformed  
American Bible Society

March 12, 1958

Mrs. Jed Johnson  
2 Fifth Avenue  
New York 11, New York

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

It was so good to have you at our Special Events Committee meeting yesterday and I am so glad that you feel that Mr. Johnson would be willing to approach J. Edgar Hoover to urge him to accept an invitation to speak at our National Migrant Committee Luncheon at the Waldorf on November 20, 1958.

Because of Mr. Hoover's special interest and competence in the field of juvenile delinquency, we would like to have him speak on the factors that lie back of juvenile delinquency with special reference to the migrant agricultural worker and his family. We would also like to have him tell us what he thinks the churches could do to help most effectively in this situation. Of course, Mr. Hoover would be the chief speaker.

It is the thought of the Committee that Mrs. Monica B. Owen, who works on the field constantly with our staff in the migrant camps, speak briefly on what is being done through the Migrant Ministry which represents the cooperative effort of the Protestant churches in this field. This Luncheon is a significant occasion because it draws together leaders of the Protestant churches throughout the metropolitan area as well as the national Protestant leaders associated with the National Council of Churches and the national denominational bodies. Also representatives of the federal and state governments always are at this Luncheon because of the very close working relationship that we have with them at all levels.

We would expect Mr. Hoover to speak from thirty to forty minutes as he would be the major program feature.

I hope you will express to your husband the deep gratitude of our Committee for helping us in this approach to Mr. Hoover.

Very sincerely yours,

Edith E. Lowry

Edith E. Lowry  
National Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/ehw/fake  
EEL/jar

REC- 85

March 21, 1958

100-50869-308

Honorable Jed Johnson  
Judge

United States Customs Court  
201 Varick Street  
New York 14, New York

My dear Judge:

I have received your letter of March 14, 1958, enclosing Miss Edith E. Lowry's letter to Mrs. Johnson dated March 12, 1958, and the interest which prompted you to communicate with me in this regard is truly appreciated.

It would indeed be a pleasure for me to accept this kind invitation to speak at the National Migrant Committee Luncheon to be held in New York City on November 20, 1958, especially in view of your kind interest. The heavy pressure of my official duties, however, with the resulting uncertainty of my schedule, will not permit me to make a commitment that far in the future. I do wish to thank you for your thoughtfulness, and I hope you will convey to Miss Lowry and her associates my sincere regrets.

Thank you for your congratulations on my new book. While I do not have a supply of copies on hand, I will be very glad to autograph a copy of the book to you if you will forward it to me.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

cc - New York, with copy of incoming

NOTE: Files reflect cordial correspondence with Judge Johnson periodically since 1945.

an invitation to appear 11-18-53 at a special luncheon of the General Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States.

REC'D-REVIEWING ROOM

MAR 21 3 14 PM '58

FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-16-83 BY SP4/ab/ldh

Tolson  
Boardman  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Nease  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

Honorable Jed Johnson

NOTE: (Continued)

Files reflect cordial correspondence with Miss Edith E. Lowry, Executive Secretary, Home Missions Council of North America, Inc., from 1938 to 1945, largely in connection with invitations for the Director to speak. (94-1-8787)

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover. Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Washington D.C. March 24

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Clayton	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Dear Mr Hoover.

Here are clippings from

The Lutheran. What is this  
National Council of Churches? is it  
"Communism"? I am a member of  
Luther Place Memorial Church. in  
Washington D.C. and I live in Winchester Va  
am visiting here in Arden. but will  
be at my home Address early in May.

EX-128

REC 35

100-50867-301

recd  
ack 4-1-58

ENCLOSURE

CONTAINED  
IS UNCLASSIFIED





## Action Taken On Lutheran Merger Plan

CHICAGO, March 22 (AP) — Representatives of four Lutheran Church bodies took steps here to broaden their merger plans to include all Lutheran groups in the United States.

The 46-man Lutheran Unity Commission extended an invitation to the other 12 Lutheran groups to join a "more comprehensive organic union."

Represented in the commission are the United Lutheran Church in America, the Augustana Lutheran Church, the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church and the American Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Proposals similar to that suggested here were rejected recently when the National Lutheran council met in Atlantic City, N.J. The majority of Lutheran groups are council members, and three of them outside the present discussions are expected to complete their own organic union by 1960.

During its three-day meeting, the commission approved plans for the church's proposed theological seminaries, and decided to ban pastors from belonging to secret orders. These actions removed major merger obstacles, commission spokesmen said.

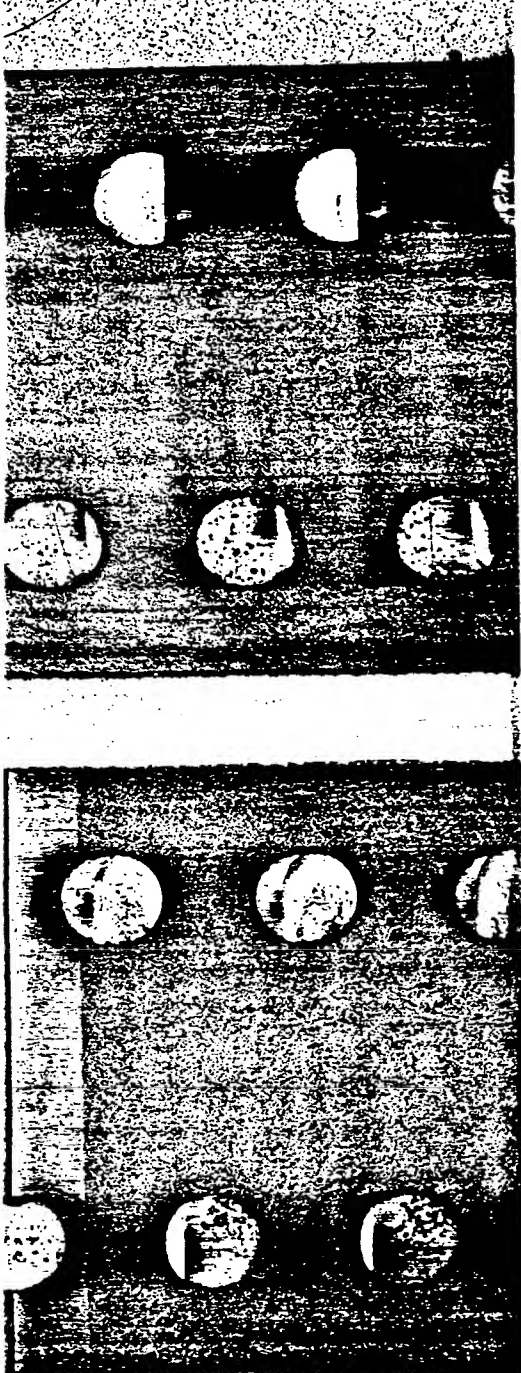
The four-way merger would create a single three-million member church.

The commission plans to reconvene in Chicago Nov. 6-8.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 chj/afw

100-50867-207

ENCLOSURE



**Relief again goes to Polish Lutherans . . . Northern bishops repeat plea for church freedom in Hungary . . . Questions value of bowling alleys in churches . . . U.S. foreign aid program gets support from church leaders**

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

### Poland to get LWR aid

Seven years ago Lutheran World Relief halted shipments of food and clothing to Poland. The Red regime had prevented free distribution of such supplies by the land's churches, relief officials said.

This month Bernard A. Confer, LWR executive secretary, announced that a "more relaxed attitude" on the part of the Polish government made it possible for the agency to resume aid to Poland's Lutherans. An estimated 200,000 Lutherans remain in Poland, he said, a decrease of one million since 1939. Their numbers continue to dwindle, but 400 congregations are still served by 106 pastors.

A shipment of 25 tons of clothing will be made in the near future, Mr. Confer revealed. Distribution will be made through the Polish Ecumenical Council, co-operative organization of Protestant and Old Catholic churches.

Announcement of the resumption of Polish relief followed the annual meeting of the inter-Lutheran agency's board of directors. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church and of the Lutheran World Federation, was re-elected LWR president.

### Help for South Africans

Another Lutheran arm extended in a different direction this month. Dr. Carl E. Lund-Quist, executive secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, said funds for pastors and building programs had

been pledged to Lutheran groups in the Union of South Africa.

The aid will be used to establish English and Afrikaans-speaking congregations. The first pastor will be sent to Welkom in the Free State this month. Other congregations are planned later for Durban and Johannesburg, Dr. Lund-Quist said. Pastors will be sent from Germany, Norway or Sweden, but plans include future training for clergy at a South African seminary, he said.

### Second plea sent to Hungary

Primates of the four Scandinavian Lutheran State churches (Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland) had in January sent a joint letter to Janos Horvath, president of Hungary's State Office for Church Affairs. In it they expressed concern over restrictions on Hungary's Lutheran Church, especially the ousting of Bishop Zoltan Turoczy in its northern district and the demotion of Bishop Lajos Ordass, who had been head of the church. State appointee Lajos Veto had replaced Bishop Turoczy and had been recognized by the state as the leader of the entire church.

In reply, Mr. Horvath had called church affairs an internal concern of Hungary, but expressed the opinion that conditions had "in recent weeks" improved.

On Feb. 21 the northern churchmen sent a second letter to the Hungarian official. Unity of the church demanded that they speak out when basic Christian



#### OFFICIALS OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

*Charles C. Parlin, vice chairman of General Board; Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president; and Dr. Roy G. Ross, general secretary, as they led sessions of the 250-member policy-making group in New York in first meeting since General Assembly last fall*

treatment," the statement said. "They are especially in need of pastoral care and the divine love which the church can bring to them." Alcoholism is a serious threat to health and happiness as well as a source of instability in families and communities, the pronouncement said.

Although 175 members attended the meeting, the vote on the statement was 75 for, two against, and three abstaining.

#### Clean bargaining urged

"Both employers and employees" have the right to organize for collective bargaining, the board's labor pronouncement said. It reported that "employer-employee collusion in matters of prices and trade practices" has brought about abuses in labor-management relations and urged both groups to show a "compelling sense of responsibility for the public interest." Faithful observance of agreements and peaceful settlement of differences were asked.

Another resolution strongly supported U.S. economic aid and reciprocal foreign trade policies "in the light of our Chris-

tian obligation to care for our neighbors throughout the world."

#### Africa's doors may close

The chance for expansion of Christian work in Africa may soon come to an end, Dr. Roy G. Ross, NCC general secretary, told the board. Observations during his recent tour of Africa revealed that growing nationalism made African nations eager to terminate their dependence on western missions and missionaries, he said. They still wanted help in their educational and literacy programs, he added.

Splinter divisions of Christianity in Africa were a "cause for apprehension," Dr. Ross continued. He said that in South Africa alone more than 1,000 separate groups call themselves Christian. With literacy programs enabling millions of African natives to read, he urged the churches to strengthen their educational and evangelistic work while the opportunity still remained.

The board decided to advance the date of the next General Assembly to Dec. 4-9, 1960, to avoid a conflict with



## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

the meeting of the World Council of Churches now scheduled for December, 1961. Most of the NCC's member churches also belong to the World Council. The NCC Assembly will be held in San Francisco.

### Says Lutherans are changing

The Lutheran Church in America is "in a state of ferment" and is "bristling with new ideas with which to adorn an unchanging faith," an article in *Look* by Hartzell Spence declares.

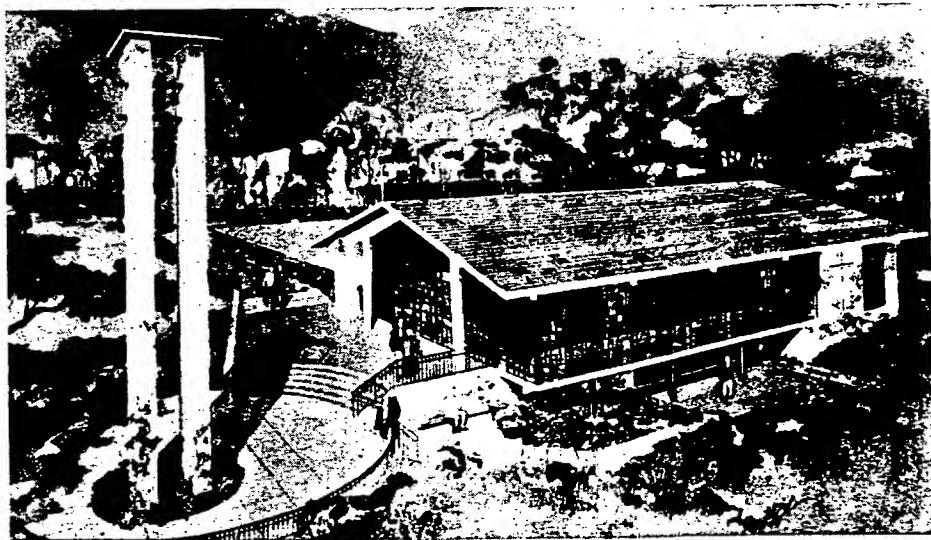
Citing current Lutheran mergers and referring to the intensive evangelism program carried on during the past few years, Mr. Spence continues, "The entire denomination has come alive, as though it suddenly decided to make good President Theodore Roosevelt's 53-year-old prophecy that Lutheranism is destined to become one of the two or three greatest churches in the United States."

The article, in the April 1 issue of the

magazine, includes pictures of Dr. Fry and of the historic Trappe Church, near Philadelphia. Unswerving emphasis on the "New Testament Gospel and on the thesis that man is naturally sinful, constantly in need of God's forgiving grace" plus brisk up-to-the-minute methods of evangelism have been responsible for U.S. Lutheranism's gain of 1,716,592 members between 1946 and 1956, Mr. Spence says.

### Merger documents revised

Conventions of the three churches planning to unite in 1960 into the American Lutheran Church will this year be required to act on 250 additions, deletions and amendments to the constitution, by-laws and articles of union of the new church. The American, Evangelical and United Evangelical churches will be asked to rubberstamp the changes, since further alterations would require more action by the other bodies.



ONE SIDE IS ALL GLASS, THE OTHER IS WINDOWLESS  
Cate School Chapel, Carpinteria, Calif., won top 1958 honors from church architects



NUCLEAR SCIENTIST-PASTOR  
*Dr. Harold R. Lohr*

### Atom scientist to be pastor

A nuclear scientist who once paid little heed to religion will become a Lutheran pastor in June. Dr. Harold R. Lohr, former research specialist for the Atomic Energy Commission, will be ordained by the Augustana Church at Jamestown, N. Y., on June 22 after graduation from the seminary at Rock Island, Illinois.

The 38-year-old scientist "wasn't much concerned about any church relationship" in 1950 when an evangelism visitor from Grace Lutheran Church, La Grange, Illinois, called at his home. The visitor was a Ph.D. in chemistry. His approach appealed to the Lohrs, who joined the church one year later. Dr. Lohr became a Sunday school teacher, usher, and a member of the church council.

Asked to address the congregation one Sunday on how Christ can change a man's life, Dr. Lohr used as an illustration the experience of Dr. O. V. Anderson, nuclear physicist at Oak Ridge who became an Episcopal priest. "I saw the parallel in my own situation," he said. "I learned that a man could use his mind in religion and that there was room in the church for one who asks questions."

### Church asks Cuban peace

The Cuban regime of Dictator Fulgencio Batista has been disrupted by a rebel group led by Fidel Castro which holds the eastern end of the island. Beside intermittent fighting which has disrupted the island's economy, the rebels have recently filtered into the capital city of Havana. They have showed their power by kidnapping the favored driver in a popular auto race, destroying the checks in the reserve bank, burning of sugar warehouses and similar pranks.

Early this month the Roman Catholic

that body's Manpower Commission suggested at a Chicago meeting. Noting that the shortage of pastors is likely to get worse before it gets better, the commission asked district presidents to study the proposal. It noted also that an increasing number of pastors is being called into general work, adding to the shortage in congregational pulpits.

A "definite need" for general and specialized training of laymen to fill new positions for full-time church work was stressed by the commission. It recommended that the church's seminaries provide "opportunities for lay training in addition to the present program of theological training."

"If the shortage of pastors makes us utilize our lay people, history may interpret this shortage as providential," said Dr. A. C. Schumacher of Madison, Wisconsin, commission chairman.

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

hierarchy on the island called for free elections and establishment of a "government of national union." The declaration caught the Batista regime by surprise and foiled a later presidential order that it be not printed or broadcast.

Spokesmen for the Castro rebels said they did not want any "ecclesiastical interference" in Cuban politics. Batista declared that he would remain in office regardless of any elections. However, the Revolutionary Directorate (one of the groups aiding rebel activity), civic and labor organizations heartily endorsed Cardinal Arteaga's views. Only Batista's resignation could bring about a peaceful solution, the Directorate said, adding, "Our fervent desire is that God and Jesus Christ will illumine the despot and make him understand that only by this path can a new spilling of Cuban blood be prevented."

### Tolerance seen gaining

Tolerance is growing in the world today, both toward specific religions and toward agnostics and atheists, a United Nations commission believes. A Study on Discrimination in the Matter of Religious Rights and Practices has been issued by a subcommittee of the UN Commission on Human Rights. The study, prepared by Arcot Krishnaswami of India, a Hindu, noted that state interference in the observance of religion is the greatest source of discrimination today. Avowed purpose of the commission is to eradicate religious discrimination throughout the world.

The report, based on information gathered from 30 nations, urges five freedoms in religion—to maintain religion, to change religion, to manifest religion, to disseminate religion, and to associate with



PAVILION AT BRUSSELS

Protestant building at 1958 International Exposition (left) with the fair's atom symbol visible in the center background

fellow-believers. Instances of discrimination noted include treatment of conscientious objectors to war, lack of legal recognition for some religious marriage ceremonies, religious processions on public highways, and taxation of religious property, among many others. No religion or country is specifically named.

Only major objection to the study came from the Soviet Union's committee member, who opposed the clause that "certain philosophies of new ruling classes in certain countries of the world affect the religious freedom not only of the minority but also of the majority."

### And so forth

Enrollment in Roman Catholic parochial schools in the District of Columbia doubled in the last ten years. Total for January, 1958, was 46,868 compared with 22,762 at the same time in 1948.

The Lutheran



exactly the same amount as they had in 1956—when returns were 106 per cent of the quota—the church's total fell about \$13,000 short of the \$1,595,985 asking. In percentage, contributions reached 99.14 per cent of the 1957 goal.

LWA funds are used to provide for the international emergency programs of the National Lutheran Council and Lutheran World Federation. Included are service to refugees, help for younger churches in mission areas, service to military personnel, and various relief programs.

#### **Hungary Reds reward church**

With Communist - approved leaders again in high church posts, relations between Hungary's Lutheran Church and the regime of Premier Janos Kadar have been "normalized," Janos Horvath, head of the State Office for Church Affairs, said last month. As a sign of this "normalcy" Presiding Bishop Lajos Veto, who had been put into office by the Reds in December, pledged that the church would recognize "the divinely ordained supreme authority" of the state. The government thereupon agreed not to put into effect a threatened 25 per cent cut in the church's funds.

Similar fund cuts for Roman Catholic, Reformed and Jewish churches had also been revoked when they promised to support the Red regime. The Lutheran Church, Hungary's third largest with 500,000 members, was last to fall into line.

#### **Veto pledges loyalty**

The pledge said, "The church recognizes the revolutionary workers' and peasants' government and its divinely ordained supreme authority and will educate believers in a spirit of obedience toward the state's supremacy." It assured support of efforts to "build socialism" and

urged "peaceful co-existence" between the church and the Communist regime. It also condemned "all efforts, both within and without, to disturb the country's inner peace."

Signers were Bishop Veto; Erno Mihalyfi, government-appointed general inspector of the church, and Horvath. Notably missing from the document was the name of Bishop Lajos Ordass, who still heads the church's southern district.

In Vienna, Lutheran spokesmen for the Austrian Church scoffed at the document as a "deal imposed on the church and signed by the Communist collaborators." They said it "does not express the views of the Lutheran faithful in Hungary."

Veto, presiding bishop of the church during the Stalinist regime of Matyas Rakosi, was put back into office by the Red regime in December. He replaced Bishop Zoltan Turoczy, a former Red prisoner, who had three times been elected to office by church conventions. The Hungarian government also chose to recognize Veto as presiding bishop in place of Bishop Ordass.

#### **Ordass faces new attack**

Pressure against Bishop Ordass appeared to be building up as his activities continued under close government scrutiny. Further changes in the leadership of the southern diocese might be needed for a "good relationship between church and state," the Jan. 19 issue of *Evangélikus Elet*, Hungarian church paper, reported. The paper announced that requests from the church had led the government to withdraw special commissioner Karoly Grenak from the northern diocese of Bishop Veto, but that he would continue to supervise the work of Bishop Ordass in the southern diocese.

A Budapest daily last month charged Bishop Ordass with making "anti-Com-

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# THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

munist addresses after his return from a visit to the United States." Bishop Ordass had been keynote speaker at the Lutheran World Federation Assembly in Minneapolis. He was elected vice president of the LWF, a post he had also held in 1948 prior to his eight years of imprisonment and house arrest under previous Hungarian Communist regimes.

## Churches aid UN program

It may never have happened before. A Protestant church organization has loaned a government agency \$100,000.

Church World Service, relief agency of the National Council of Churches, made the advance last month to the United Nations Refugee Fund. The money will be used to help resettle some of the White Russians who had been bottled up in Communist China or Manchuria since the Red revolution 40 years ago. About 1,200 will be resettled immediately in Australia or Brazil.

Dr. said speed was a group now stranded in UN group had exhausted its required the loan to tide over its program "until participating governments are able to appropriate the necessary money," Dr. Wilson explained. The loan is repayable in nine months.

More than 10,000 of the Russians have been resettled through the efforts of religious or intergovernmental agencies during recent years. Beside the group now in Hong Kong, about 11,000 are still in Red China. Of these, 3,500 have exit permits but cannot be brought into Hong Kong until the White Russians now in the overcrowded British colony are moved out.

The World Council of Churches will "intensify its efforts" to aid 750,000 Chinese refugees now in Hong Kong, the UN was told by Dr. Elfan Rees, WCC



WHITE RUSSIAN REFUGEES IN HONG KONG  
Church co-operation with United Nations program will speed them to new homes



#### THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

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leges came under fire from Dr. Henry J. Whiting, secretary of the NLC Welfare Division. Such emphasis "may in the long run seriously jeopardize the very qualities we seek to protect," he said. "In a world that is in danger of losing its soul" students require a "well-balanced educational program to give them the strength, stability and creativity needed for the solution of human problems."



#### RILLING TO BE CHAPLAIN

Dr. John W. Rilling, pastor of St. John's Church, Minneapolis, will be chaplain of the 1958 ULCA convention at Dayton, Ohio, Oct. 8-15. Announcement of the Minnesota pastor's appointment was made this month by Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, ULCA president.

Former president of the Board of Parish Education, Dr. Rilling is now on the Executive Board. In 1951 and 1952 he was preacher for the nationwide Sunday Vespers broadcast on the ABC network. A native of Ohio, Dr. Rilling served parishes in Versailles, Lakewood and Springfield until called to Minneapolis in 1945.

#### Elected for third term

Dr. Reinartz, ULC secretary since 1947, was returned to office for his third one-year term as NLC president. Also re-elected were Dr. Norman A. Menter of the American Lutheran Church as vice president; Dr. Raymond Olson of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as secretary; and Mr. Fred C. Eggerstedt, ULC layman, as treasurer.

Called to head the council's Division of Public Relations was the Rev. Philip A. Johnson, Augustana pastor who has served interracial Salem Church in Chicago since 1949. In the same division, Miss Betty Barth of Indianapolis was named to direct radio and TV work. She now heads the radio and TV program for Indianapolis public schools.

In other fields, the council:

—Adopted a strongly worded statement calling on all churches to open their doors to people of all races. Excluding persons because of color, culture, class or caste is a "sin against God and man," it said.

—Heard a plan for "roving service pastors" to minister to isolated military units in outpost positions.

—Learned that the film *Martin Luther* had been widely distributed abroad and was now released for general television use.

—Was told that its member bodies had established a record 160 new mission congregations in 1957. United Lutherans led with 75.

#### Chides American fears

The cold war struggle with Russia "determines . . . our belief and thinking" to an appalling extent, Dr. Jerald C. Brauer, dean of the theological faculty at the University of Chicago and a United Lutheran churchman, told a Chicago conference of clergymen this month. He said it was

**New publication building is dedicated . . . National Council warns on alcohol, urges stronger missions . . . Lutherans get praise for new ideas, evangelism efforts . . . Bishop's conviction shocks Catholics**

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

### New address in Philadelphia

After a week of moving and getting settled, most United Lutheran Church boards and agencies in Philadelphia were comfortably quartered this month in the new building constructed by the Board of Publication at 2900 Queen Lane, in the Germantown section. It will be known as the Muhlenberg Building—the same name as that of the former headquarters at 1228 Spruce Street in Philadelphia's center city.

Dedication ceremonies took place on Monday, March 10, in the chapel of the new structure. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, ULC president, preached. The service was conducted by Dr. F. Eppling Reinartz, ULC secretary. Dr. H. Torrey Walker, executive secretary of the Publication Board, read the lessons.

Carillon music played as the dedicatory procession moved across the large circle in front of the main entrance. At the door, keys to the building were presented to Fred Konemann of Washington, Publication Board president.

### A "radial hemicycle"

The new Muhlenberg Building is arc-shaped with four extending wings—architecturally a "radial hemicycle." It contains 160,000 square feet of office and storage space—approximately twice that of the former building. It is situated on a 16-acre plot. About 350 staff members and employees of the boards and agencies will be working in the building, which is

owned and will be operated by the Board of Publication.

Beside the Board of Publication, offices now in the building include those of the boards of Parish Education and Deaconess Work, United Lutheran Church Women, Luther League of America, and the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, as well as the editorial offices of THE LUTHERAN. The Board of Pensions will move its offices to the Queen Lane address in late spring.

### NCC warns on alcohol

Policy statements on collective bargaining, economic aid to foreign lands, and problems of alcoholism were adopted by the 250-member General Board, policy-making arm of the National Council of Churches, as it met in New York on Feb. 26. Presiding was Dr. Edwin Dahlberg of St. Louis, who had been elected president at the NCC General Assembly last fall. Charles C. Parlin, Methodist layman and New York attorney, was chosen vice chairman of the General Board.

The pronouncement on "The Churches and Alcohol" resulted from a two-year study by a 15-member committee chaired by Dr. Harold C. Letts, United Lutheran churchman. The statement acknowledged differences of conviction on the use of alcoholic beverages among the NCC's 34 member communions. It advocated pastoral care, education, and development of clinics to aid alcoholics. They need "diagnosis, understanding, guidance and

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After March 1, 1958, the address of **THE LUTHERAN** and of the United Lutheran Publication House will be:

**2900 Queen Lane  
Philadelphia 29, Pa.**

Phone: Victor 8-6800



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**Merger moves won't be delayed . . . Council will ask all U.S. Lutherans to meet and discuss co-operative work . . . Dr. Reinartz gets third term as NLC head . . . Seminary dean calls Americans frustrated and fearful**

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

### Council tables Reinartz plea

The president's report at the annual meetings of the National Lutheran Council usually doesn't get much attention. Commissioners at this month's Atlantic City session felt that Dr. F. Eppling Reinartz's plea for all-Lutheran union was an exception that demanded some reply. They set a precedent in naming a special committee to study it.

With seven of the eight member bodies well advanced on two separate roads to merger, commissioners were in no mood to "sabotage" these efforts. With little dissent, they approved the committee's decision that the Reinartz proposal was "constitutionally outside the competence" of the council. The committee recommended that the president's suggestion should be "received and spread on the minutes as an expression of conscientious convictions to which we have listened with respect and attention."

### All-Lutheran meeting planned

Though organic union may be distant, world conditions make it urgent for Lutherans to strengthen their co-operative efforts, Dr. Paul C. Empie, executive director, told the commissioners. The council adopted his proposal to call a meeting of representatives of all 16 U.S. Lutheran bodies to discuss present and future programs "in the light of contemporary ecclesiastical and international developments."

This kind of discussion can be carried on without compromise of doctrinal prin-

ciples, Dr. Empie declared. He called the church's "visible disunity paraded before the world" a major hindrance to its effective witness. The meeting would consider whether the pattern of Lutheran co-operation in the U.S. provides "an adequate means for meeting to the utmost our responsibilities in witnessing to the Gospel," he said. The "changing picture" because of mergers, the increasing role of the Lutheran World Federation, and the need for effective co-ordination with other Protestant churches could also be considered, he suggested.

Largest group outside the council is the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, which works with the council in ministry to military personnel, overseas relief and refugee projects.

### Colleges called pagan

"A new era of pagan religiosity" is arising among college students, according to Dr. Donald R. Heiges, head of the council's Division of College and University Work.

Students are no longer "searching for the answers to ultimate questions," he asserted. "Crowding our campuses now are hundreds of thousands of students who have no questions, or whose questions move only on the plane of a lucrative career and comfortable family life." To meet this pagan challenge, Christian witness by students, professors and administrators is increasingly necessary, he claimed.

Plans to accent scientific study in col-

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- Personal Problem Clinic**  
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- A Guide to Bible Study**  
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- Books** - - - - - 33
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The new address of THE  
LUTHERAN and of the United  
Lutheran Publication House is:

**2900 Queen Lane**  
**Philadelphia 29, Pa.**  
Phone: VICTOR 8-6800

COVER PICTURE. Students stream out of chapel at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

March 5, 1958



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COVER PICTURE. Dedication services were held last month for the addition to New York's Lutheran Church House, headquarters of the United Lutheran Church. Photo shows new portion in foreground, looking west along 37th Street.

(ULCA-PRT photo)

# THIS WEEK in *The* LUTHERAN

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## FEATURES

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After March 1, 1958, the address of **THE LUTHERAN** and of the United Lutheran Publication House will be:  
**2900 Queen Lane**  
**Philadelphia 29, Pa.**  
Phone: Vltor 8-6800

**COVER PICTURE.** Dr. Franklin Clark Fry installs into office as president of Georgia-Alabama Synod Dr. Raymond D. Wood. At left is Dr. W. H. Lefstead, synod statistician; at right is the Rev. Dermon A. Sox, synod secretary. Service was held Jan. 27 at Ascension Church, Savannah.  
February 26, 1958

*Church relief program lauded by an Emperor and a Senator . . . Plan to tax church schools in California opposed . . . Country astir over Sunday observance . . . Protestants excluded from new Boston chapel*

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

### **Ordass misses meeting**

The first vice president was absent as officers of the Lutheran World Federation met last month at Frankfurt, Germany. Bishop Lajos Ordass of Hungary, who was recently deposed from his position as head of the Hungarian Lutheran Church by a decree of the Communist government, did not attend. Bishop Ordass was reported to have retained his place as head of the church's Southern District, although Bishop Zoltan Turoczy of the Northern District was replaced by Bishop Lajos Veto, a supporter of the Red regime. The government recognizes Bishop Veto as head of the entire church.

LWF officers and West German newspapers expressed fears that the Communist government had prevented the bishop from leaving Hungary. The Budapest radio took notice of the reports, saying that Bishop Ordass had never applied for an exit visa and that "anxiety about his whereabouts expressed at Frankfurt was unfounded."

Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, United Lutheran president and also head of the LWF, presided at the Frankfurt meeting.

### **Peter gets high state post**

Dr. Janos Peter, ousted former bishop of the Hungarian Reformed Church, has been named first deputy foreign minister of Hungary, the Budapest radio reported. A controversial figure in Hungary's church life since he was placed in office by the Reds in 1949, Dr. Peter was a delegate to the United Nations last year.

In 1956 the Reformed Church demanded Peter's resignation as bishop. He was called the "worst kind of Stalinist" and accused of being a Red agent and an "informer" against his fellow clergymen in Hungary. During his hectic seven-year tenure as bishop, Dr. Peter had represented Hungary's churches at meetings of the World Council of Churches and at Communist-sponsored gatherings in Europe and Asia.

### **Emperor thanks American churches**

A U.S. churchman had an unusual hour-long audience with Emperor Hirohito of Japan last month. The emperor received Dr. R. Norris Wilson, executive director of Church World Service, the relief agency of the National Council of Churches, in order to express his thanks to the American churches for aid given Japan since the end of World War II.

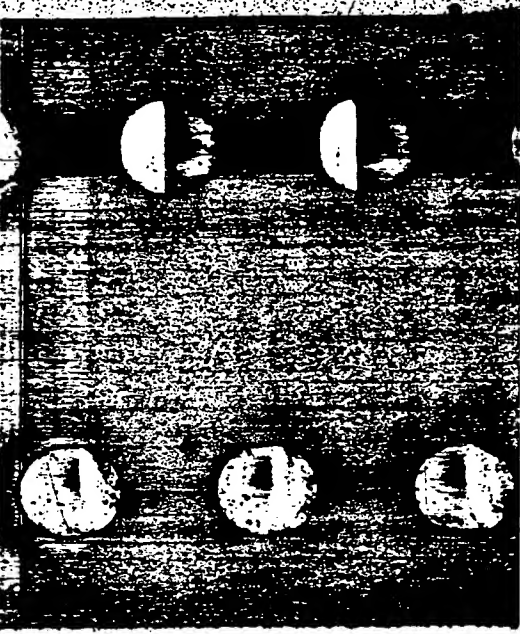
The Japanese ruler also praised American church efforts to aid Japanese emigrants who have settled in Brazil. He commended such people-to-people contacts as the "surest hope" for promoting understanding among the nations.

Japan's Health and Welfare Minister Kenso Horiki also expressed gratitude for the aid given by American churches. "I feel confident that Christianity is an essential factor in the relief of human needs," he was quoted as saying.

### **Overseas programs lauded**

Americans are not only interested in exploring outer space, but are "exploring





**World Council group to meet with Russians . . . Report new Red attacks on churches in East Germany . . . Hungarian official says church-state relations improve . . . Liberia offers support for ULC mission hospital**

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

### Russians accept bid

Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church will meet with officials of the World Council of Churches in Denmark this summer, Dr. Franklin Clark Fry announced to the WCC's executive committee in London this month. Dr. Fry is chairman of the executive committee and also of the Central Committee, governing body of the WCC.

The meeting will be "in the nature of a first exploratory consultation to exchange information and get acquainted," the United Lutheran president explained. "We have looked forward for two years to this new opportunity to discover ways in which fellowship in Christ may be shared by those who profess him even in the midst of drastically differing historical situations."

### Co-operation sought

No momentous decisions could be expected from the Denmark meeting, Dr. Fry added. Discussion would center on "ways in which the churches can co-operate and help one another more effectively to witness to Christ and serve freedom, justice and peace in the world."

The Orthodox Church and other Russian church bodies are not members of the world body. Conversations between WCC leaders and officials of the Moscow Patriarchate had been scheduled for Paris in January, 1957, but were delayed at the Russians' request. Contact with Russian churches was established several years ago when a delegation from the

National Council of Churches of the U.S.A. visited the Soviet Union. The visit was later returned by a Russian group.

### Reds harass churches

Protestant churches in eastern Europe are finding the going "more and more difficult," Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary of the WCC, told the London meeting. In East Germany the situation was "very discouraging," he reported. Red officials have cut off contact between the zone's churchmen and those outside, he said. Political accusations have jailed several pastors who have refused to give wholehearted support to Communist programs.

The Hungarian Lutheran Church is being subjected to increasing pressure at the hands of a Communist government, Dr. Visser 't Hooft continued. He stressed especially the plight of Bishop Lajos Ordass, vice president of the Lutheran World Federation and a onetime member of the WCC Central Committee, who had been forced to give up his office as presiding bishop of the church. Dr. Ordass reportedly had been permitted to continue as bishop of the church's southern district, however.

### Assembly may be postponed

Actions of the executive committee included a recommendation to the Central Committee which will meet in Denmark in August that the next regular WCC Assembly be postponed until Christmas,

The Lutheran





**U.S. CHURCHMEN AT WORLD COUNCIL MEETING IN LONDON**  
*Top: Dean Liston Pope of Yale, Dr. Fry, Dr. O. F. Nolde of Philadelphia*  
*Below: Dr. E. C. Blake, Dr. Roswell P. Barnes, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam*

1961. It is now scheduled for Ceylon in 1960. The delay would allow more time for completion of merger plans with the International Missionary Council.

The committee also voiced concern over the "tragically inadequate response" of governments in support of United Nations Relief and Works Agency programs. The failure would lead to "human suffering" and "disastrous political repercussions," the committee warned.

#### **Hungarian says things are better**

Concern over Hungarian Communist pressure upon the Lutheran Church and especially upon its leader, Bishop Ordass, led the Lutheran primates of Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland to ad-

dress a protest to the Hungarian government. Although speaking for the world's Lutherans, the message was signed by the Scandinavian leaders since they would be most likely to get a reply. Signers were Bishop Yngve Brilioth of Stockholm, Bishop Johannes Smemo of Oslo, Bishop Hans Fugelsang-Damgaard of Copenhagen, and Archbishop Ilmari Johannes Salomies of Turku.

In reply, Janos Horvath, head of the State Office for Church Affairs in Hungary, said relations between the Red government and the Lutheran church have "considerably improved" in the last few weeks. Failure of "certain leaders" to "conform" to an agreement between the church and the government had caused

## THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

the situation to "deteriorate temporarily," Mr. Horvath said. He failed to make any mention of Bishop Ordass, whose deposition from the top spot in the Hungarian church followed his reported reluctance to okay all government policies.

The Communist official characterized the Scandinavians' letter as "interference," saying that "anything that happens within the Lutheran Church of Hungary is the internal affair of the church and of our country."

### German opposition stiffens

Communist Party members in East Germany should sever their connections with the church and prevent their children from taking part in religious ceremonies, the Red organ *Neuer Weg* demanded last month. At the same time, the central committee of the East German Communist party urged a close check on all clergymen to make sure they were supporting the government's "peace policy." Party members were told to report promptly any "deviations" from Red ideology noticed at church services or other religious gatherings.

Protests continued against the harsh

sentence meted out to the Rev. Siegfried Schmutzler, Protestant chaplain at Leipzig University, who got a five-year jail term for alleged "counter-revolutionary activities." Student groups and church councils asked East German President Wilhelm Pieck to re-examine the case. Meanwhile, Pastor Schmutzler was reported being held in isolation at the jail for political prisoners at Torgau.

Seven Protestant students at Weimar University, charged with collaborating with Student Pastor Martin Giersch who is now serving a 14-month sentence for "slander" against the East German government, were this month given prison term of from seven to nine months.

### Mixed marriages reported

Six per cent of the married couples in the United States have different religious faiths, the Census Bureau estimated as the result of its sampling last year of U.S. religious affiliation. The test revealed that 96 per cent of all Americans consider themselves associated with some religion. About 79 million are Protestant, 30 million Roman Catholic, and four million Jews (see chart).

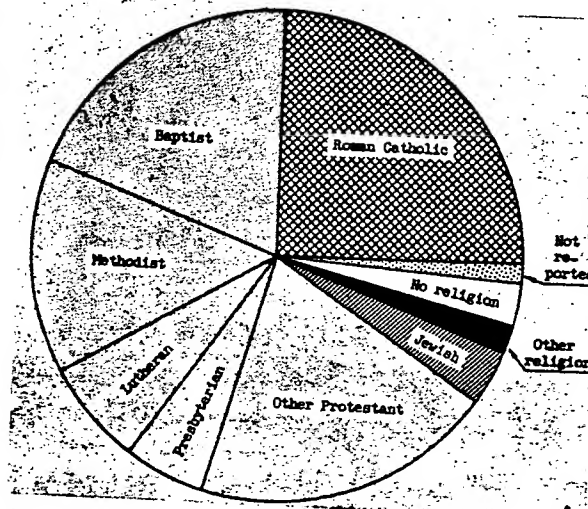


Chart shows proportionate membership of U.S. religious bodies. Census Bureau survey showed that 96 per cent of population claimed church affiliation. Thirty million said they were Roman Catholic, 79 million Protestant. Lutherans were third largest Protestant group

The Lutheran

April 1, 1958

REC-35

100 - 50869 - 309

EX-128

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 24, 1958, with enclosures, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I wish to advise that the FBI has never investigated the National Council of Churches. Accordingly, I am unable to be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

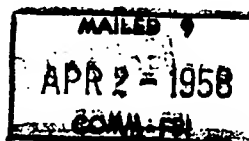
J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/88 BY [REDACTED]

NOTE: Street address cannot be clarified by a check of the Phoenix telephone directory. Correspondent's enclosures are clippings of various articles from the magazine "The Lutheran" and one of them mentions that a delegation from the National Council of Churches of the U. S. A. had visited the Soviet Union, which visit was later returned by a Russian group.

DCL:gaw  
(3)



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

magnum  
see  
Jaw

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
April 23, 1958

Dept to Investigate  
Un-American Activities,  
F. B. I.  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I would like to get some information on both the American Council of Christian Churches and the National Council of Churches.

Enclosed is a brochure put out by the American council. Kindly look at it and tell me if their claims are true and if so what percent (approximately) might be exaggerated.

Our church is talking of joining the National Council and we need all the information we can get. Of course we want nothing to do with Communism but we also need verification or refutation of the claims of the enclosed leaflet.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]

REC-93

EX-135

4 MAY 5 1958  
100 - 50869 - 310  
1 auto copy



REC- 93

May 2, 1958

100-50869-310

b7c

EX-135

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 23, 1958, with enclosure, has been received.

For your information, the FBI has not investigated the American Council of Christian Churches or the National Council of Churches, and I am unable to answer your inquiry.

In connection with the brochure you forwarded, you might be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me therein is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the U. S. House of Representatives. I am enclosing your pamphlet, together with a copy of my statement just described, 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 the 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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/3/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN  
MAY 17 1958  
FBI

Enclosures (2)

HCUA statement by Director, 8/26/47  
pamphlet enclosed by correspondent

NOTE: Correspondent enclosed a copy of the pamphlet, "How Red is the National/Federal Council of Churches?" distributed by the American Council of Christian Churches. It contains a statement of the Director's, "I confess to a real apprehension, so long as Communists are able to secure ministers of the gospel to promote their evil work." This pamphlet has been brought frequently to the Bureau's attention, and no copy is necessary for retention in Bufiles.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCL: [REDACTED] (3)  
52 MAY 14 1958

1 auto copy  
5-6-58

ECID: [REDACTED]  
M/K

del

b7C

[Redacted]

May 15, 1958

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
FBI Washington, D.C.  
Dear Sir -

I am President  
of the [Redacted]

[Redacted] of our town - elected  
at [Redacted] of January, 1958. This  
group is affiliated with  
the National Council  
of Churches of Christ in  
United States of America,  
for their World Day of  
Prayer Program. Since  
being elected President

of this group I have learn-  
ed that the National  
Council was formerly the  
Federal Council of Churches  
and is Communistic.

I am also District Presi-  
dent of the [Redacted]

American League -  
iliary and filed it my  
duty to ~~approve~~ inform  
the [Redacted]

b7C

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DATE 12/5/86 BY SP-6/BJH

(mm)  
ack 5-15-58  
OK

ENCLOSURE

enclosure  
to Mr. [Redacted]

REC-35

EX

MAY 20 1958

CRIME REC.

I cannot do it just from pamphlets.

I am a Baptist and the group are Presbyterians, Methodists, Assembly of God, Episcopalians and Nazarenes. So you see I must have absolute proof that the National Council is Communist and I must have it by May 28 in order to present it May 29.

Will you send me, just one sentence saying that they are - or are not - Communist and send it immediately, please?

Sincerely,

P.S. I would also like to know who the originators are.



REC- 35

May 16, 1958

EX - 123

100-50869-511

AIRMAIL

E-10

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated May 8, 1958, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that this Bureau has not investigated the National Council of Churches of Christ, and as our files contain no information regarding who originated Teen-Town, I am unable to be of assistance to you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAY 16 4 14 PM '58  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

COMM - FBI  
MAY 16 1958  
MAILED 25

NOTE: Inquiry with established contacts by the New York Office in 1950 revealed that the National Council of Churches of Christ in America had not been infiltrated by communists or engaged in subversive activities. Considerable derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches which later became the National Council of Churches was developed, but most of this data came from rival and competitive church groups.

[REDACTED]

Self-addressed airmail

envelope being used for reply.

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Nease
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Clayton
- Tele. Room
- Holloman

JK:mlw

(3)

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
May 5, 1958

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

Dear Sir

At a recent evangelistic meeting in a local Regular Baptist Church the speaker, D. M. Fruits of Kansas City, made several statements about communism in our churches. He stated that the National Council of Churches was "modernistic, communistic, anti-Christian, anti-American in every way". He further stated that "every Methodist member was signed up with communists". He said that through the National Council of Churches Methodists were supporting the communist program since there are 7500 communists in pulpits in the United States and they are propagating the communist doctrine".

I would be very much interested in any information you could give which would support or refute these charges. They have certainly caused a stir in our community and I believe that we need the answers. If there is a government document giving the names of communist pastors please tell me how I might obtain a copy.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely  
[REDACTED] E

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DATE 12/3/83 BY SP4HCL/PLW b7C

REC- 83

100-50869-312

14 MAY 20 1958

CRIME RECORDS

nmw  
ack 5/15/58  
DCL

May 15, 1958

REC-83

EX-117

100-50869-312

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated May 5, 1958, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, I must advise that the function of this Bureau as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations of individuals, organizations or publications. Furnishing information of the type you have requested would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the persons and organization you mentioned; therefore, I am unable to answer your inquiry.

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

Enclosed are some publications on the general subject of communism which you might like to read. If you desire a list of organizations cited by the Attorney General as coming within the scope of Executive Order 10450, your request should be submitted to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington D. C.

Sincerely yours,

COMM — FBI

MAY 15 1958

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/13/83 BY SPK/MLH

Enclosures and note on next page

DCL:gfs (3)

Tolson  
Boardman  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Nease  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Clayton  
Tele. Room  
Holloman

REC'D-READING ROOM

MAY 15 12 09 PM '58

b7c  
[REDACTED]  
Director's statement 3/26/47  
Struggle on a New Plane  
Communist "New Look"

Where do we stand today with Communism in the US  
God and Country or Communism?

NOTE: [REDACTED]

b7c  
[REDACTED] inquiring as to whether the  
Federal Council of Churches is communistic. Bufile 100-413026-11x is an  
inquiry from an Evangelical minister in [REDACTED] dated  
9/5/55 stating that Fruits had lectured there and had stated that six of the  
translators of the Revised Holy Bible were known communists. Files  
confidential reply sent.

b7C

(y)

Apr. 1, 1958.

Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington,  
D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing a leaflet that was given to me. I would like to verify the statements made by it.

Is the National Council of Churches, communistic?

Is the American Council of Christian Laymen communistic?

I would appreciate any proof that you could give to me.

EX-136

REC-24

Thank you,

47102  
62

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP8/ELH

REC-24

100-50869-313

April 9, 1958

EX-136

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated April 1, 1958, with enclosure, has been received.

Although I appreciate the interest prompting your writing, I must inform you that the FBI has not investigated either the National Council of Churches or the American Council of Christian Laymen, and I am unable to comment along the lines of your inquiry.

I want to take this occasion to point out that the statement attributed to me in the publication you forwarded 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 12, 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. Your enclosure is being returned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 9  
APR 10 1958  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2)

Correspondent's enclosure, "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches?" Dir 3-26-47 speech before Committee on Un-American Activities of HR.

(See note next page)

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DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [Redacted]

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Nease
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Clayton
- Tele. Room
- Holloman

APR 10 1958

(3)

Miss [Redacted]

Handwritten initials and stamps

RECORDED

APR 10 PM 1958

del



b7c  
[REDACTED]

NOTE: Correspondent's enclosure was a copy of "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" disseminated by the American Council of Christian Laymen. It quotes the Director as saying "I confess to a real apprehension, so long as communists are able to secure ministers of the gospel to promote their evil work."

This quotation was used out of context to infer that certain individuals affiliated with the Federal Council of Churches were subversive, and much controversy among Christian laymen has resulted from this publication. Verne P. Kaub, President of the American Council of Christian Laymen has written caustic letters to the Director relative to the use of the above quotation by his group. (94-1-14921; 94-37868-37 and 62-100432)

b7C [REDACTED]  
July 15, 1958

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

Dear Sir::

I am a member of a committee whose responsibility it is to get facts regarding the National Council of Churches.

The church to which I belong supports it. The Daughters of the American Revolution, in which organization I also hold membership, opposes "the political, economic and socialistic one-world activities of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. as destructive of the basic Christian principles upon which the Church was founded and urges its members to recognize the doctrine of collectivism as a very real menace to the survival of our Christian Church."

Is this organization worthy of the support of local congregations?

I will appreciate whatever information is available.

Very truly yours,  
b7C [REDACTED] C

REC- 65

100-50867 314

15 JUL 24 1958

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP8/ML

CRIME REC.  
1942

nmL  
ack. 7/22/58  
SC

EX 105

July 22, 1958

AWK  
REC-65  
b7c

100-50869-314

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated July 15, 1958, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that the FBI has not investigated the National Council of Churches, and I am unable to furnish you information concerning this group.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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DATE 12/5/83 BY SP8ELW/ufp

COMM - FBI  
JUL 22 1958  
MAILED 20

JUL 22 12 09 PM '58  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Clayton \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCL:bjv

57 JUL 30 1958

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

FBI  
REC'D MAIL ROOM

b7C

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

July 29, 1958

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I hesitate to write because I know very well that the pressures of public service at your level make impossible replying to questions raised by all of us you serve so well. I am moved to do so only by a matter of great importance to me.

I have recently received a letter severely criticizing me for support of the National Council of Churches. Apparently, you have been quoted, sir, in defence of the charge that the National Council of Churches is the fruit of a Communist conspiracy. I am aware of your statements and warnings about the possibilities of infiltration of churches, and can understand that the church would be a primary target for any interested in spreading that philosophy.

But I certainly have never interpreted your warnings to mean that we ought to drop the whole business because it is dangerous. I am firmly convinced that the Protestant churches of America must move in the direction of a united witness; not only for our self-preservation, but as a bulwark for such godless philosophies as communism. Without such organizations as the National Council, the Communists will not need to divide and conquer: we are already divided.

Is it true, sir, that the National Council of Churches is unworthy of our support? Is it correct to quote you that Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, of my Church, Dr. Henry Van Dusen of Union Theological Seminary, and Edward Dahlburg, the President of the National Council are men unworthy of our support.

My public critic has said: "If you do know them, and know what they are doing, I cannot believe that you would, or honestly could, defend them. If you want to be certain, you might learn the truth direct from Hoover."

I have followed his suggestion. I assure you, sir, I am not planning to write a book or start a lecture tour. I only want to be certain that I am not doing worse than nothing in my feeble efforts to work for a united witness through the Council of Churches.

Thank you so very much

AUG 7 1958

Gratefully yours,

EX-135  
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 100-50867-3151  
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ack 8-5-58  
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 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/5/83 BY

son

REC- 65

100 - 50869 - 315

August 5, 1958

EX-135

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated July 29, 1958, has been received and I appreciate the motive which prompted your communication.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, I must advise that the function of this Bureau, as a fact-gathering agency, does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of individuals or organizations. Also, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret to advise, therefore, I am unable to comply with your request.

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 31  
AUG 5 - 1958  
COMM-FBI

1 - Butte (Enclosure)

NOTE TO SAC, BUTTE:

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent, Dr. Henry Van Dusen and Edward Dahlburg.

(NOTE TO SAC CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Nease
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Clayton
- Tele. Room

RDS:ers (NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE 2)

(4) 820

53 AUG 12 1958

PER ERE

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[REDACTED]

NOTE TO SAC, BUTTE CONTINUED:

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 information came from rival church groups. Investigation confined to contacts with the informants in the New York Office in 1950 reflected no data developed indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

G. Bromley Oxnam is bishop of the Washington area of the Methodist Church [REDACTED]

The above is furnished for your information.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent states he has been criticized for supporting the National Council of Churches. He inquires whether this organization, Bishop Oxnam, Dr. Henry Van Dusen of Union Theological Seminary, and Edward Dahlburg, president of the National Council of Churches are unworthy of his support. Inasmuch as Bishop Oxnam is <sup>subject of</sup> highly controversial figure, it is believed desirable and to the best interests of the Bureau to advise the correspondent of the confidential nature of our files.



July 18,

PACIFISM, COMMUNISM, and the  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

In these days when the threat of Soviet aggression looms over the world and particularly over the United States, serious consideration should be given to the growing pacifist agitation in the United States.

Pacifist manifestoes, demonstrations, "walks for peace," and picketing at the nuclear and missile weapons sites are among the most prominent pacifist activities which are in the news almost daily.

Whatever the motivation underlying pacifism in the United States may be, it is clearly in the interest of the Soviet aggressors and against the interest of the United States that every type of pacifist activity be encouraged.

A careful study of the individuals involved in present-day pacifist activity in the United States reveals an extensive interlocking and overlapping of personnel between: 1) the leadership of the Federal-National Council of Churches, 2) the non-Communist pacifist leaders, 3) the Communist "peace" organizations, and 4) the Communist-front apparatus generally.

A chart of 25 clergymen (picked arbitrarily) and their past and present affiliations with the Federal-National Council of Churches, with the non-Communist pacifist groups, and with the Communist-front apparatus will graphically portray the interlocking and overlapping of the personnel of these groups.

In the chart which follows, an "X" in column (1) means that the individual has been officially connected with the Federal or National Council of Churches. An "X" in column (2) means public affiliation with the Church Peace Mission. An "X" in column (3) means that the individual is or has been recently affiliated with the Fellowship of Reconciliation. An "X" in column (4) means that the clergyman is

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

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EX-124  
REC-3

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affiliated at the present time with one of the organizations now operating under the name of Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, branches of which have been set up in a number of cities. An "X" in column (5) means that the clergyman was affiliated with the Communist organization which was known as the Mid-Century Conference for Peace. An "X" in column (6) indicates affiliation with the Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact. An "X" in column (7) means that the clergyman has been affiliated with pro-Communist projects or fronts other than those of columns (5) and (6).

To take a single example, it is indicated on the chart that the Rev. Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, currently the president of the National Council of Churches, has public affiliations with the Church Peace Mission, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact, and with sundry other Communist projects and fronts.

The chart shows that 20 of the 25 clergymen whose records are indicated have been officially connected with the Federal-National Council of Churches. Twenty-three have been affiliated with the Church Peace Mission. Fourteen are officially connected with the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the largest non-Communist pacifist organization in the United States. Nine of the 25 are currently affiliated with the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (column 4). Thirteen of the 25 were sponsors of the Communist outfit known as the Mid-Century Conference for Peace, according to column (5). Thirteen of the 25 clergymen were affiliated with the Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact (column 6). And all of the 25 have had affiliations with Communist organizations or projects other than those which are represented by columns (5) and (6).

XXXXXX  
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)C with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-50869-316 page 3

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August 25, 1958

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Would you please tell me what you  
can about the National Council of  
Churches? The more I hear about it  
the more it seems to be Communist  
dominated, to say the least.

If you cannot give me any information  
because of its secret nature - please  
tell me who I might write to get infor-  
mation. Too many of our Methodist  
Churches - of which I am a member -  
seem to be mixed up with it.

I thank you very much and keep up  
the good work. We sleeping Amer-  
icans, I believe, are finally waking  
up to the danger among us.

Sincerely,

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RDS: [unclear]

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EX-101

TRUE COPY

August 28, 1958

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Would you please tell me what you can about the National Council of Churches? The more I hear about it the more it seems to be Communist dominated, to say the least.

If you cannot give me any information - because of its secret nature - please tell me who I might write to get information. Too many of our Methodist Churches - of which I am a member - seem to be mixed up with it.

Thanks very much and keep up the good work. We sleeping Americans, I believe, are finally waking up to the danger among us.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]  
b7D

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DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 Hdu/jpf

TRUE COPY

1 - Mr. Simpson

September 5, 1958

REC-19

100-50869-317

8-2  
AT

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated August 28, 1958, has been received, and the motive which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, I must advise that the function of this Bureau, as a fact-gathering agency, does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual or organization. Also, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret to advise, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you requested.

Also, I am unable to suggest to whom you may correspond to secure the desired information.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 121

SEP 5 - 1958

COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
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Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Dallas (Enclosure)

(SEE NOTE TO SAC, DALLAS ON PAGE TWO)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW ON PAGE TWO

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[REDACTED]  
**ATTENTION: SAC, DALLAS**

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's letter. Bufiles reflect that correspondent directed a letter to the Bureau August 1, 1958, requesting information as to how he could help "blot out communism." He was afforded a cordial acknowledgment on August 7, 1958, and furnished some literature available for general distribution. (100-0-32197)

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. Investigation confined to contacts with informants in the New York Office in 1950 reflected no data developed indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. The Bureau receives numerous inquiries whether this group is communist dominated. (100-50869)

The above is furnished for your information.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent wants to know what the Bureau can tell him about National Council of Churches. He also heard it is communist dominated. He also wants to know where he can get the information if the Bureau is unable to furnish it to him. [REDACTED]

4

<sup>6</sup> NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

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## FOREWORD

719 of the officers whose names appear on the rolls of The National Council of Churches—Federal Council of Churches, have records of Communist affiliation. The names of many of these persons have appeared more than 100 times each in public support of pro-Communist or Communist projects, fronts and publications.

An even 50% of the names on the December, 1957 list of secretaries of local and state Councils of Churches affiliated with The National Council of Churches have public records of supporting pro-Communist projects, fronts and publications.

Until 1950 The National Council of Churches was known as Federal Council of Churches. Criticism of the socialistic, pro-Communist, collectivist and other un-American activities of the Federal Council of Churches over a prolonged period had caused a loss of financial and moral support . . . a similar reputation has been earned under the new name.

Ownership-control of the copyright title to the Revised Standard Version of the Bible by The National Council of Churches, has reportedly provided a fabulous royalty income to The National Council of Churches. This income makes the small management and leadership group free and independent of millions of Protestants in the local churches, who would not support a national and international political-economic emphasis in any association of churches. The conduct of a small leadership group which claims to speak for Protestantism has become repugnant and offensive to a vast number of Christian laymen and ministers.

M. G. LOWMAN

## REVISED STANDARD VERSION OF THE BIBLE—

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

In a brochure issued by the National Council of Churches, the story of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible is set forth.

Included in this story are the names of 95 men who have been officially connected with the project. Thirty of these men have been affiliated with Communist and pro-Communist fronts, projects, publications, and enterprises. This represents a very high degree of pro-Communist activity on the part of the men who have given us the revised Bible.

These thirty men who have been Communist fellow travelers in one form or another have been affiliated with 90 different Communist and pro-Communist projects, fronts, and publications. They date from the early 1930's up to 1958.

Merely to list the Communist affiliations of these thirty men, together with a brief sketch of the nature and significance of each affiliation, would require a substantial booklet.

Included among these thirty fellow travelers are some veteran supporters of Communist causes; for example, W. Russell Bowie has been affiliated with 29 different Communist enterprises, Leroy Waterman with 25, Fleming James with 22, Henry J. Cadbury with 13, George Dahl with 13, William Y. Bell with 10, Frederick C. Grant with 8, Euther A. Weigle with 6, and Millar Burrows with 5. The remaining individuals have had fewer than five such affiliations each.

In a recent brochure, the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches has summarized the story of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible which for the past six years has outsold all so-called best selling books.

In its brochure, the National Council of Churches has listed the names of the Revision Committee and the Advisory Board. The following members of the committee and board have been affiliated with fronts, publications and other enterprises which have aided and abetted the cause of Communism in the United States:

Charles N. Arbuckle, Andover Newton Theological Seminary  
 John W. Beardslee, Jr., New Brunswick Seminary  
 William Y. Bell, Cordele, Georgia  
 William E. Berry, Earlham College  
 Julius A. Bewer, Union Theological Seminary  
 Walter Russell Bowie, Grace Church, New York  
 B. Harvie Branscomb, Vanderbilt University  
 Arlo A. Brown, Drew University  
 Millar Burrows, Yale University  
 Henry J. Cadbury, Harvard University  
 Clarence T. Craig, Oberlin Graduate School of Theology  
 George Dahl, Yale University  
 Frederick C. Grant, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary  
 C. J. Gresham, Atlanta, Georgia  
 F. G. Holloway, Western Maryland College  
 Robert M. Hopkins, chairman of International Council of Religious Education; general secretary, World's Sunday School Association  
 E. G. Hoff, Elgin, Illinois  
 J. Philip Hyatt, Vanderbilt University  
 Fleming James, University of the South  
 John W. Martin, Chicago, Illinois  
 James Moffatt, Union Theological Seminary  
 Paul C. Payne, chairman, International Council of Religious Education; general secretary, Presbyterian Board of Christian Education  
 Donald W. Richardson, Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia  
 George V. Schick, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri  
 Willard L. Sperry, Harvard University Divinity School  
 John S. Stamm, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
 Marshall A. Talley, Nashville, Tennessee  
 Leroy Waterman, University of Michigan  
 Luther A. Weigle, Yale University Divinity School  
 Sidney A. Weston, Boston, Massachusetts

The foregoing list of members of the Revision Committee and Advisory Board represents a high degree of Communist infiltration into the apparatus of the National Council of Churches which presided over the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. In the pages which follow, the name of the Communist front or other Communist enterprise is underlined, and the names of the Bible Revision Committee and Advisory Board are given together with a brief statement of the Communist character of some organizations or enterprises with which they were connected.

American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom. Established on Lincoln's birthday in 1939, the announced purpose of this organization was the "preservation and extension of democracy and intellectual freedom." The *Daily Worker* of February 13, 1939, featured the event with a front-page display. Franz Boas, chairman of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, had a record of affiliation with Communist enterprises which clearly marked him as a conscious collaborator with the Communist conspiracy. George Dahl and Leroy Waterman were among the supporters of this Communist enterprise.

American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born. The ACPFB is the oldest unit of the Communist apparatus still in existence in the United States. It was originally organized in the early part of 1924 at the explicit direction of the second national convention of the Workers (Communist) Party of America. In the early years of its existence, the ACPFB was known as the National Council for Protection of Foreign Born Workers, with local councils in large cities where there was a concentration of the foreign born. Walter Russell Bowie, Arlo Ayres Brown, and Leroy Waterman, were among the supporters of this Communist organization.

American Committee to Save Refugees. In a letter dated October 27, 1941, calling for an emergency relief conference, the American Committee to Save Refugees announced its cooperation with the Exiled Writers Committee and the United American Spanish Aid Committee. The House Committee on Un-American Activities cited the American Committee to Save Refugees as one of a "series of Communist enterprises which have dealt with Spain and the Spanish Civil War." W. Russell Bowie and Leroy Waterman were supporters of this Communist organization.

American Committee for Yugoslav Relief. This organization was cited as "subversive and Communist" by Attorney General Tom Clark. The House Committee on Un-American Activities described the organization as a Communist front whose "collection of funds for 'relief' was only incidental to and a cover for its propaganda activities in behalf of the Communist regime in Yugoslavia." According to the *Daily Worker* of April 26, 1947, Millar Burrows was an endorser of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief.

American Committee for Non-Participation in Japanese Aggression. This Communist organization was closely allied with the American Friends of the Chinese People, cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. The House Committee on Un-American Activities reported as follows: "It is clear that the American Committee for Non-Participation in Japanese Aggression was closely interlocked and interrelated with the American Friends of the Chinese People, the China Aid Council, and the Washington Committee for Aid to China, and that these organizations worked on completely parallel lines and in full cooperation." W. Russell Bowie was a sponsor of this Communist organization.

American Friends of Spanish Democracy. In a special report of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, it is stated that "in 1937-38, the Communist Party threw itself wholeheartedly into the campaign for the support of the Spanish Loyalist cause, recruiting men and organizing multifarious so-called relief organizations . . . such as . . . American Friends of Spanish Democracy." Professor George Dahl was a signer of a letter of this organization, petitioning Congress to lift the embargo on arms shipments to the Spanish loyalists.

American Rescue Ship Mission. This organization was cited as Communist and "a project of the United American Spanish Aid Committee" by Attorney General Tom Clark. The House Committee on Un-American Activities said, in its annual report of 1946, that the American Rescue Ship Mission was "launched in 1940 under false claims as to the amount of money necessary to charter a ship to bring Spanish refugees from Europe to Mexico." Professor Henry J. Cadbury, of the Bible Revision Committee, was a sponsor of this Communist enterprise.

American Round Table on India. This was a Communist propaganda organization which functioned in 1941. Its secretary was Robert Norton, a well-known member of the Communist Party. Its chairman was Guy Emery Shipley, prominent fellow traveler, who has been called "the Red Dean of America." Sidney A. Weston, of the Bible Revision Advisory Council, was a member of the American Round Table on India.

Appeal for Amnesty for Eleven Communist Party Leaders. The title of this Communist project is self-explanatory. Eleven top Communists were convicted for conspiring to advocate the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence and sentenced to prison terms of five years. Fleming James, of the Bible Revision Committee, was a signer of the amnesty appeal for these Communist Party leaders.

Brief Amici Curiae for the Communist Party. In September, 1955, a brief amici curiae was filed on behalf of the Communist Party with the U. S. Supreme Court, in the Party's appeal against the decision of the Subversive Activities Control Board. Three hundred and sixty Communists and fellow travelers signed this brief. Among them was Professor Leroy Waterman of the Bible Revision Committee. It would require several pages merely to list the names of the Communist organizations and enterprises with which Professor Waterman has been affiliated.

Brief Amici Curiae for Morton Sobell. Professor Leroy Waterman, of the Bible Revision Committee, signed this brief which was filed with the U. S. Supreme Court on behalf of Morton Sobell who is now serving a 30-year prison term for Communist espionage, in Alcatraz. Sobell was convicted in the trial of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder. While he was general secretary of the Communist Party, U. S. A., Earl Browder was convicted for perjury in connection with a false passport which he had used. The Communist Party organized one of its biggest propaganda drives during World War II to secure Browder's release from the federal penitentiary in Atlanta. The vehicle of this propaganda was the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder, an organization which has been cited as subversive by the Attorney General of the United States and by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Two of the men officially connected with the



Bible Revision Committee, William Y. Bell and W. Russell Bowie, were supporters of this Communist enterprise to free Browder.

Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact. In a special report on the Communist "peace" offensive, the House Committee on Un-American Activities named this organization as one of the important units of the international "peace" offensive of the Kremlin. Four of the men officially connected with the Bible Revision Committee were affiliated with this committee; namely, George Dahl, E. G. Hoff, Fleming James, and George V. Schick.

Melish Brief Amici Curiae. One of the stormiest episodes in American church history has centered in the person and Communist activities of William Howard Melish, pro-Communist clergyman of Brooklyn, N. Y. On January 11, 1951, a brief amici curiae on behalf of Melish was filed with the U. S. Supreme Court. Among the signers of this brief were W. Russell Bowie, George Dahl, Frederick C. Grant, and Fleming James, all of whom have been officially connected with the Bible Revision Committee. Bowie and Grant were also signers of 1958 brief on behalf of Melish.

The Protestant. Known in its beginning (1938) as the *Protestant Digest*, this magazine was the personal propaganda medium of the pro-Communist clergymen who followed the Kremlin line under the editorial leadership of one Kenneth Leslie. In his book entitled *Apostles of Discord*, Ralph Lord Roy (a left-wing clergyman from Union Theological Seminary) correctly observed that *The Protestant* "carried a strong hint as to its future policy" in its first issue in which Kenneth Leslie wrote as follows: "Is it not possible for both Christians and Communists, instead of condemning each other in their mutual weakness, to contribute the best they have and work for the common good?" That should have been sufficient warning to non-Communist and anti-Communist clergymen to give Leslie's magazine a wide berth. Nevertheless and notwithstanding, this Communist-line monthly magazine was able, at the peak of its influence, to claim the support of several thousand clergymen, including the following men who have been officially connected with the Revised Standard Version of the Bible of the National Council of Churches: John W. Beardslee, Jr., William Y. Bell, W. Russell Bowie, James Moffatt, and Luther A. Weigle.

Fellowship of Reconciliation. This so-called pacifist organization has been characterized by a socialist orientation throughout its history. Approximately three-fourths of its currently listed personnel have been supporters of the Communist-front apparatus. The Fellowship of Reconciliation in the United States is an affiliate of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation which is officially on record as urging its members in the national affiliates to join "political movements which aim at the replacement of private capitalism by a system of collective ownership." William E. Berry, Arlo Ayres Brown, and Henry J. Cadbury have been affiliated with the FOR.

Churchman Associates. This group represents leftwing and pro-Communist clergymen who follow the leadership of the Rev. Guy Emery Shippler, a Protestant Episcopal clergyman whom the *New Leader* has described as "the Red Dean of America." The Churchman Associates is organized to support Shippler's magazine *The Churchman*, a monthly magazine which has been a vehicle for the Kremlin line for many years. The following clergymen who have been officially connected with the Revised Standard Version of the Bible have been affiliated with the Churchman Associates: John W. Beardslee, Jr., W. Russell Bowie, Frederick C. Grant, Robert M. Hopkins, and Paul C. Payne.

National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. This Communist organization was launched at a conference held in Washington, D. C., in June 1940. For some years, it was one of the most important of the units in the Communist-front apparatus. The House Committee on Un-American Activities has the following to say about the NFCL: "There can be no reasonable doubt about the fact that the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties—regardless of its high-sounding name—is one of the viciously subversive organizations of the Communist Party." Attorney General Francis Biddle described the NFCL in the following language: "Part of what Lenin called the solar system of organizations, ostensibly having no connection with the Communist Party, by which Communists attempt to create sympathizers and supporters of their program." The following clergymen connected with the Revised Standard Version of the Bible had affiliations with the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties: William Y. Bell, W. Russell Bowie, Henry J. Cadbury, George Dahl, Frederick C. Grant, and Leroy Waterman.



**Communist and pro-Communist projects which have been supported by men officially connected with the Revised Standard Version of the Bible:**

- (1) American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom—George Dahl and Leroy Waterman
- (2) American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born—W. Russell Bowie, Arlo Ayres Brown, and Leroy Waterman
- (3) American Committee to Save Refugees—W. Russell Bowie and Leroy Waterman
- (4) American Committee for Yugoslav Relief—Millar Burrows
- (5) American Committee for Non-Participation in Japanese Aggression—W. Russell Bowie
- (6) American Friends of Spanish Democracy—George Dahl
- (7) American Rescue Ship Mission — Henry J. Cadbury
- (8) American Round Table on India—Sidney A. Weston
- (9) American Society for Cultural Relations with Italy—W. Russell Bowie
- (10) American Welcoming Committee for World Peace Delegation—George Dahl
- (11) Appeal for Amnesty for Eleven Communist Party Leaders—Fleming James
- (12) Appeal to Guard Civil Rights — Henry J. Cadbury
- (13) Appeal to President Roosevelt for Justice in Browder Case—William Y. Bell
- (14) Bachrach Open Letter to the Attorney General—Fleming James and Leroy Waterman
- (15) Bill of Rights Conference—Fleming James
- (16) Boston Committee Against Jenner—Henry J. Cadbury
- (17) Brief *Amici Curiae* for Communist Party—Leroy Waterman
- (18) Brief *Amici Curiae* for Morton Sobell—Leroy Waterman

- (19) Cable Congratulating Luis Carlos Prestes—William Y. Bell
- (20) Christian Leaders Against Atlantic Pact—W. Russell Bowie and Henry J. Cadbury
- (21) Church Peace Mission Against Nuclear Tests—James Philip Hyatt
- (22) Churchman Associates—J. W. Beardslee, Jr., W. Russell Bowie, Frederick C. Grant, Robert M. Hopkins, and Paul C. Payne
- (23) Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder—William Y. Bell and W. Russell Bowie
- (24) Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges — Frederick C. Grant
- (25) Citizens Committee to Secure Bail for Martin Young—George Dahl, Fleming James, and Leroy Waterman
- (26) Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity—W. Russell Bowie
- (27) Citizens United Against Wood-Rankin Committee—Millar Burrows
- (28) Civil Rights Congress—William Y. Bell and Leroy Waterman
- (29) Committee to End Sedition Laws—Leroy Waterman
- (30) Committee for Equal Justice — William Y. Bell
- (31) Committee for Medical Freedom—Fleming James
- (32) Committee of One Thousand — Fleming James
- (33) Committee for Peaceful Alternatives — George V. Schick
- (34) Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact—George Dahl, E. G. Hoff, Fleming James, and George V. Schick
- (35) Committee of Welcome for the Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson — George Dahl and Fleming James
- (36) Conference on Constitutional Liberties in America—Leroy Waterman

- (37) Conference on Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact—Henry J. Cadbury, George Dahl, E. G. Hoff, Fleming James, and George V. Schick
- (38) Conference on Social Legislation—Henry J. Cadbury
- (39) Congress on Civil Rights—W. Russell Bowie
- (40) Coordinating Committee to Lift the Spanish Embargo—W. Russell Bowie and Luther A. Weigle
- (41) Council on African Affairs—William Y. Bell
- (42) Council Against Intolerance in America—W. Russell Bowie
- (43) Council on Pan American Democracy—Millar Burrows and Leroy Waterman
- (44) Exiled Writers Committee—W. Russell Bowie
- (45) Fellowship of Reconciliation — William E. Berry, Arlo Ayres Brown, and Henry J. Cadbury
- (46) Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights — W. Russell Bowie and Leroy Waterman
- (47) Hiroshima Commemorative Committee—Leroy Waterman
- (48) Interfaith Committee for Peace Action—Fleming James
- (49) International Workers Order — Fleming James and Leroy Waterman
- (50) Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee—W. Russell Bowie and Henry J. Cadbury
- (51) Melish Brief *Amici Curiae* (1950) — W. Russell Bowie, Frederick C. Grant, and Fleming James
- (52) Melish Brief *Amici Curiae* (1951) — W. Russell Bowie, George Dahl, Frederick C. Grant, and Fleming James
- (53) Melish Brief *Amici Curiae* (1958) — W. Russell Bowie and Frederick C. Grant
- (54) Methodist Federation for Social Action — Clarence T. Craig
- (55) Michigan Civil Rights Federation — Leroy Waterman

- (56) Mid-Century Conference for Peace—E. G. Hoff and George V. Schick
- (57) National Citizens Political Action Committee—W. Russell Bowie
- (58) National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism—William Y. Bell, Millar Burrows, and Donald W. Richardson
- (59) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act—W. Russell Bowie, George Dahl, Fleming James, and Leroy Waterman
- (60) National Committee to Repeal the McCarran Acts—Fleming James and Leroy Waterman
- (61) National Committee to Win Amnesty — Fleming James
- (62) National Conference to Defend the Bill of Rights—Fleming James
- (63) National Council of American-Soviet Friendship—Fleming James and Leroy Waterman
- (64) National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions—W. Russell Bowie and Fleming James
- (65) National Federation for Constitutional Liberties—William Y. Bell, W. Russell Bowie, Henry J. Cadbury, George Dahl, Frederick C. Grant, and Leroy Waterman
- (66) National Negro Congress—Marshall A. Talley
- (67) National Religion and Labor Foundation—B. Harvie Branscomb, Willard L. Sperry, and Luther A. Weigle
- (68) North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy—W. Russell Bowie and Luther A. Weigle
- (69) Open Letter for Eisler—Leroy Waterman
- (70) Open Letter on Harry Bridges—W. Russell Bowie, Millar Burrows, George Dahl, and Leroy Waterman
- (71) Open Letter Opposing Military Aid to Spain (1951)—W. Russell Bowie
- (72) Protest Against Massachusetts Investigating Committee—Henry J. Cadbury

- (73) *Protestant, The*—William Y. Bell, W. Russell Bowie, and James Moffatt
- (74) *Protestant Digest*—John W. Beardslee, James Moffatt, and Luther Weigle
- (75) Religious Freedom Committee — Leroy Waterman
- (76) Rosenberg Clemency Appeal — Julius A. Bewer, Robert M. Hopkins, and Willard L. Sperry
- (77) Russian War Relief—Frederick C. Grant
- (78) Schappes Defense Committee — William Y. Bell, W. Russell Bowie, and George Dahl
- (79) Southern Conference Educational Fund—C. J. Gresham
- (80) Spanish Refugee Appeal—Leroy Waterman
- (81) Statement Defending 5th Amendment Witnesses—Henry J. Cadbury
- (82) Statement Endorsing Book by Albert E. Kahn—Henry J. Cadbury
- (83) Statement Endorsing Distribution of Report on Yugoslavia—W. Russell Bowie, Clarence T. Craig, Frederick C. Grant, Fred G. Holloway, Robert M. Hopkins, and Fleming James
- (84) Statement Against "Concentration Camps"—Fleming James
- (85) Union For Concerted Peace Efforts—Charles N. Arbuckle, John W. Martin, John S. Stamm, and Luther A. Weigle
- (86) United Summer Appeal for Smith Act Children—Leroy Waterman
- (87) Veterans of Abraham Lincoln Brigade—W. Russell Bowie and Leroy Waterman
- (88) World Peace Appeal — Henry J. Cadbury and Fleming James
- (89) Washington Committee to Lift Spanish Embargo—W. Russell Bowie
- (90) Yale Petition to Lift Spanish Embargo—George Dahl and Luther A. Weigle

Circuit Riders, Inc.  
18 East Fourth Street  
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 195\_\_

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of 30 of the 95 Men who gave us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible

Ship to:		5	copies	\$1.00
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	50	"	8.00
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☐ Send \_\_\_\_\_ copies to your mailing list. ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed herewith

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Ordered by \_\_\_\_\_

b7c

October 7, 1958

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

At a recent meeting of our local [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] it was brought to our attention by a  
member of the group that the "National Council of Churches"  
has been suspected of un-American activities. Since our  
group is a small part of this organization we should like  
to know if your bureau does not approve of this organization  
and its activities. We are vitally interested in the  
matter and shall truly appreciate a reply from your  
office.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 chf/uf

EX - 132

REC-98

100-50867-318  
13 OCT 21 1958

ack. 10/20/58  
cc: Omaha (w/enc.)  
RWC/lij

2 full copies  
made 10/27/58  
RWC/lij

1 - Mr. Corman

October 20, 1958

REC-98

EX - 132

*b7C*  
[REDACTED] *aka* [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated October 7, 1958, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, I must advise that the function of this Bureau as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of individuals, organizations or publications.

I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]  
OCT 30 1958  
COMM-FBI

1 - Omaha (Enclosure)

NOTE FOR SAC, OMAHA:

There is enclosed for your information one copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent.

(Note continued, page 2)

*Left*  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

52 OCT 23 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

b7C [REDACTED]

NOTE FOR SAC, OMAHA (continued)

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 information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 reflected no information indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

b7C Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the [REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

b7C Correspondent advised at a recent meeting of the [REDACTED] it was brought out that the National Council of Churches was suspected of un-American activities. She asked whether the Bureau does not approve of this organization and its activities.



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. NEASE *7/1/58*

FROM : L. E. SHORT *7/1/58*

SUBJECT: *C* FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

DATE:

1142 *2013*

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Mohr	_____
Nease	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Clayton	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

*7/1/58*

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 100-50869-3

We are presently in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits presently on hand, in order that we may weed out those which will serve no useful purpose by being retained. Inasmuch as a great many of these bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that you have the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein. A notation as to the decision rendered should be placed on this memorandum, and it should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1113, Identification Building. This memorandum will be filed in the case file.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That the above-listed bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein.

*JWM:gbh*

*Done*

*11/18/58*  
*gt*

*Bulky Exhibit*  
*100-50869-3*  
*be destroyed*

*100-50869-*  
NOT RECORDED  
2 NOV 19 1958

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *12/15/83* BY *SP4 hah/llh*

53 NOV 20 1958  
F 256

*J. W. MARSHALL*  
*4700*

b7C

[Redacted]

Nov. 10-1958.

Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

Do you print a folder  
called — The Federal Council of the  
Churches of Christ in America  
Speaks?

The copy I saw was put out by  
American Women Against Communism  
Inc., with address at 32 Vanderbilt  
Ave., N.Y. When I wrote to them the  
letter was returned saying they were  
not at that address.

tw

I would like something with your  
stamp on to prove that the Council  
is Communist. 100-50769 3/4

REC-128

Lincoln

[Redacted]

CRIME RECORDS  
Nov 11 1958

ALL INFO  
HEREIN

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]

ack 11-18-58  
del  
line copy made  
11-17-58  
b7C

TRUE COPY

b7C [REDACTED]  
Nov. 10 - 1958.

Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Do you print a folder called - The Federal Council  
of the Churches of Christ in America Speaks?

The copy I saw was put out by American Women  
Against Communism Inc., with address at 52 Vanderbilt Ave.  
N. Y. When I wrote to them the letter was returned saying they  
were not at that address.

I would like something with your stamp on to prove  
that the Council is communistic.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]  
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 Kew/uf  
Oct 11-18-54  
mml del  
① m/ [REDACTED]

REC- 35

b7c

100-50869-319

November 19, 1958

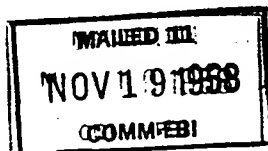
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 10, 1958, has been received, and I want to inform you that the FBI does not put out a folder of the type you mentioned.

Although I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual, I know you will understand the reasons for such a policy and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have information in our files relating to your inquiries.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP8 [signature]

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

DCL:mfz  
(3)

228

Mo/nd

del

b7C

[REDACTED]

November 21, 1958

11-24-58

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

After reading the enclosed article from the Miami Herald of November 22, I can only arrive at one conclusion and that is, that most of the 600 Delegates to the Convention must be Traitors and Communists or Communist sympathizers. Indeed a very sad situation.

Our Government is trying hard to keep the Chinese Reds out of the U. N. and the Churches seem to be working in the opposite direction.

Should not some action be taken by the F. B. I.? I am very much alarmed about this situation.

Respectfully yours

b7C

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/eta/wh

ENCLOSURE

Act

EX-135

1- Miami  
12-2-58

RDS: pwr.

REC-4

100-50869-320

DEC 3 1958

CRIME REC-5-RWC

# The Miami Herald

BE

Saturday, November 22, 1958

No. 355

Florida's Most Complete Newspaper

48th Year

48 Pages

5 Cents

A Latin American Edition is Published Daily

## Let China In U.N. — Churches

### Recognition Also Proposed

CLEVELAND — (AP) — A group of national church leaders Friday urged that steps be taken toward admission of Red China to the U. N. and recognition of Red China by the U. S.

The concluding session of the four-day World Order Study Conference, sponsored by the National Council of Churches, spelled out the policy in a "Message to the Churches."

"Christians should urge reconsideration by our government of its policy in regard to the People's Republic of China (Red China)," said the statement adopted by the conference, the fifth of its kind since 1942.

"While the rights of the people of Taiwan (Formosa) and of Korea should be safeguarded, steps should be taken toward the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in the U. N. and for its recognition by our government.

"Such recognition does not imply approval," the policy statement continued.

The entire statement of policy, covering numerous issues,



National Council of Churches spelled out the policy in a "Message to the Churches."

"Christ should urge reconsideration by our government of its policy in regard to the People's Republic of China (Red China)," said the statement adopted by the conference, the fifth of its kind since 1942.

"While the rights of the people of Taiwan (Formosa) and of Korea should be safeguarded, steps should be taken toward the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in the U. N. and for its recognition by our government.

"Such recognition does not imply approval," the policy statement continued.

The entire statement of policy, covering numerous issues, was adopted unanimously by voice vote by the 600 delegates after a lively discussion, which lasted an hour. There was little opposition to the portion dealing with Red China.

Other matters in the message included how to carry out the U. S. Supreme Court's racial integration decision.

Before debating and adopting its "Message to the Church-

Official reports of four national and four local sections.

These reports are not policy statements, but are study material. They are to be relayed to thousands of Protestant and Orthodox congregations throughout the nation for further study.

Two of the four section reports favor admission of Red China into the U. N., and American recognition of the People's Republic of China.

Another report, submitted by the group studying "the hanging dimension of human rights," advocated the calling of a White House conference whose leaders would attempt to "develop a program whereby, in all parts of our country, steps could be taken faithfully to comply with the Supreme Court decisions, with due recognition of local difficulties and of the need for cooperative and continuous progress."

It said that after many years of growing good will among the races in the U. S., "in parts of the country we now witness a tragic worsening of the situation provoked by propagators of fear, prejudice and hate."

It declared "we believe the time has come for the President to call a White House conference of our national leadership" to "give focus, encouragement, and support to the healing and law abiding forces throughout our nation, our states and our localities."

1 - Mr. Simpson

REC-4

100-50869-320

December 2, 1958

EX-135

B8-1.2

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 24, 1958, with its enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In the event you secure any additional data which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Miami Office located at 3915 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami 52, Florida.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/CLW/MLK

MAILED 21  
DEC - 2 1958  
COMM-FBI

1 - Miami

ATTENTION: SAC, Miami

Correspondent enclosed a clipping from the November 22, 1958, issue of "The Miami Herald," Miami, Florida, captioned "Let China In U.N. -- Churches." This article, with a Cleveland, Ohio, date line, reflected that the World Order Study Conference sponsored by the National Council of Churches had adopted a policy statement which, among numerous other items, urged that steps be taken toward admission of Red China to the United Nations and recognition of Red China by the United States. The policy statement pointed out, however, that such recognition of China by the United States "does not imply approval."

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE TO MIAMI CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW ON PAGE TWO

b7c

[REDACTED]

Note to Miami. Continued

The correspondent is of the opinion that most of the delegates to the conference must be traitors and communists or communist sympathizers and is very much alarmed about the situation.

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 the information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 reflected no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

The above is furnished for your information.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent has expressed his doubts concerning the loyalty of the delegates to the conference and also states that the churches seem to be working in the opposite direction from our Government. He then raises the question "Should not some action be taken by the F.B.I.?" It appears this question is more a statement of his opinion rather than one to which he expects a reply. No attempt is being made, therefore, to explain to the correspondent why the FBI is not investigating this church group.





THE AMERICAN LEGION

# FIRING LINE



Prepared and Distributed By The National Americanism Commission, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana

Subscription rate \$3.00 per year

VOL. NO. VIII, NO. 1

January 1, 1959

## REPORT ON THE CAMPAIGNS TO DESTROY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

With the convening of the First Session of the 86th Congress on January 7, 1959, certain subversive and left-wing organizations in the United States are expected to launch vicious attacks against the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUAC) for the avowed purpose of terminating the Committee's existence. Activities of several of these groups which have been mentioned in previous issues of the Firing Line, while strikingly similar in purpose, do not all reflect origin from a common source.

One of the major organizations initiating an abolition campaign is the left-wing American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and its Southern California affiliate. Foundation for the latest ACLU attack against the HUAC was actually laid on February 19, 1958, when the ACLU's national organization petitioned the Supreme Court of the United States "to rule conclusively that the House Un-American Activities Committee has no right to inquire into a person's political beliefs and associations." The ACLU statement was in support of LLOYD BARENBLATT, a former Vassar College psychology instructor, who appealed a contempt of Congress conviction. BARENBLATT was cited for contempt following his appearance before the HUAC on June 28, 1954, based upon his refusal to answer numerous questions regarding alleged membership and activities in the Communist Party. (See ACLU, "Civil Liberties," March 1958, page 1.)

Following his conviction, BARENBLATT appealed to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. When the Court of Appeals upheld BARENBLATT's conviction in January 1957, he promptly took his case to the Supreme Court. On the basis of the Court's decision in the JOHN T. WATKINS case, the Supreme Court remanded the BARENBLATT case to the Court of Appeals for reconsideration on June 24, 1957. For a second time, the Court of Appeals on January 16, 1958, upheld BARENBLATT's conviction. Shortly after the ruling, the ACLU joined in a second appeal to the Supreme Court on which there has been no decision to date. (See HUAC, Annual Report, 1957, page 10; "The New York Times," 3-31-58, page 16; and "The Washington Daily News," 11-18-58, page 14.)

According to the ACLU, "the significance of the Union's petition (in the BARENBLATT case) lies in its request that the high court rule that its decision last June (17, 1957) in the WATKINS case specifically prohibits inquiry by the Un-American Activities Committee into political beliefs and associations. The WATKINS decision, in a case also supported by the ACLU, reversed a contempt conviction because the witness was not informed of the nature of the inquiry and the 'pertinency' of the questions concerning Communist associations. However, it also criticized the Committee's 'exposure'

of persons accused of Communist ties and the vagueness of the term 'un-American'." In announcing the ACLU had "assumed primary responsibility" for the BARENBLATT case in February 1958, ACLU Executive Director PATRICK MURPHY MALIN "said the Union hoped the Supreme Court would 'finally determine the unconstitutionality of the Committee's (HUAC) mandate'." (See ACLU, "Civil Liberties," March 1958, page 1.)

On July 31, 1956, MALIN stated the ACLU "believes that the letter and spirit of the First Amendment make the mandate of the HUAC unconstitutional or unwise, or both. That has been the Union's belief ever since the Committee was established in the late Nineteen Thirties...So this is the time to urge that no Committee with such a mandate should be appointed when the new Congress convenes next January (1957)." An ACLU brief filed with the Supreme Court on September 6, 1958, on behalf of BARENBLATT directly challenged the authority of the HUAC. The ACLU brief asserted that the HUAC "lacks authority to conduct any investigation or to compel testimony...(and) that the Committee violates due process and unconstitutionally tries to restrain freedom of belief, expression and association protected by the First Amendment." (See "The New York Times," 10-27-58, page C-29.)

#### ENTER ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Supplementing the national ACLU's spearheading attack against the HUAC is the probing flank movements of its Southern California affiliate. The September 1958 issue of The Open Forum, a monthly organ of the Southern California ACLU stated it had filed a \$20,000 damage suit in the Ninth United States District Court charging that the HUAC "is an illegal Committee of Congress." The suit was on behalf of DONALD WHEELDIN and ADMIRAL GEORGE DAWSON, who had been subpoenaed by the HUAC to appear before Committee hearings scheduled to commence on September 2, 1958. The complaint asked the Court to "quash the subpoenas issued to WHEELDIN and DAWSON pending a hearing on the legality" of the HUAC.

According to The Open Forum, WHEELDIN and DAWSON "claim they would be 'publicly accused of disloyalty, adjudged guilty without a hearing, and rendered unemployable' if forced to appear before the Committee. WHEELDIN left the Communist Party because of 'fundamental differences with it,' but would not be a 'cooperative' witness before the Committee. DAWSON also would not be a cooperative witness." It is noteworthy that the September 1, 1958 edition of the National Guardian reflected WHEELDIN was a former employee of the People's World, "the official organ of the Communist Party on the west coast." (See HUAC, Guide To Subversive Organizations and Publications, 1957, page 100.)

The Southern California ACLU, at its Legislative Action Conference held at Baces Hall, 1528 North Vermont, Los Angeles on November 15, 1958, launched a month-long petition campaign urging 17 California Congressmen "to offer at the opening of the 86th Congress a resolution to eliminate the Committee on Un-American Activities from the list of Standing Committee's of the House of Representatives." On the basis of the Southern California ACLU's total membership of 4,000, every member was asked to secure 25 signatures to meet the petition campaign goal of 100,000. ALAN BARTH, who has been an ACLU National Committeeman since 1952, was the keynoter at the aforementioned Conference. Currently on leave as a "chief editorial writer" for the Washington Post and Times Herald, BARTH was identified in the March 15, 1954 Firing Line as a severe critic of the FBI. In addition to "mailing out



petitions to its own members," the National Guardian of November 24, 1958, page 1, reported the Southern California ACLU "has asked other organizations and individuals to do the same." The Los Angeles edition of the People's World, dated November 15, 1958, page 3, stated "one organization to announce immediate support and assistance was the Los Angeles Committee to Preserve American Freedoms (accurately known as the Citizens Committee to Preserve American Freedoms), whose central aim has been the outlawing of the Un-American Committee and similar state inquisitorial Committees." MRS. DOROTHY MARSHALL is the Citizens Committee's Chairman and FRANK WILKINSON is the group's Executive Secretary. (See "The Open Forum," November 1958, page 1.)

Both MRS. MARSHALL and WILKINSON described the Southern California ACLU "petition campaign as 'the most important development in the country' in the move to end the 20-year reign of the un-Americans (HUAC.)" Accompanied by a letter, MRS. MARSHALL reportedly mailed ACLU petitions to "5,000 homes" in that State. In its report entitled, "Operation Abolition," dated November 8, 1957, the HUAC stated the "major adjunct of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (ECLC) in the California area is an organization designating itself as the Citizens Committee to Preserve American Freedoms." Full disclosures concerning the activities of the ECLC, an identified Communist-front, have appeared in recent issues of the Firing Line. (See HUAC, Guide To Subversive Organizations and Publications, 1957, page 38.)

On August 13, 1958, the House of Representatives cited WILKINSON for contempt of Congress and forwarded his case to the Department of Justice for possible prosecution. This action stemmed from WILKINSON's uncooperative appearance before an HUAC hearing in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 30, 1958. WILKINSON has been identified as a member of the Communist Party. HUAC Chairman FRANCIS E. WALTER stated on August 8, 1958, the HUAC "had information that WILKINSON is 'the guiding light' of the ECLC, and had been designated by the Communist Party to manipulate that Committee and some of its affiliated organizations." According to an ECLC mimeographed letterhead, dated August 12, 1958, WILKINSON "amicably" left the employ of the ECLC prior to August 1, 1958, however, "remains a member" of the ECLC's National Council. (See "The Evening Star," Washington, D. C. 8-14-58, page A-21.)

During September 1958, the Southern California ACLU inserted "political advertisements" in five Los Angeles newspapers attacking the HUAC for conducting hearings in that city. The ACLU statement was signed by 98 individuals who urged that letters of protest be sent to Members of Congress. In addition to the ACLU sponsored petitions and letter writing campaigns, the Communist Party and its 600 fronts are obviously very actively engaged in similar projects to attempt to abolish the HUAC during the 86th Congress. It is reliably reported the Communist Party, "making use of their fellow travelers and dupes, plus their 'united front tactic, '...can have 50,000 letters on any issue sent to Capitol Hill or the White House inside of 72 hours." As a Legionnaire or as another patriotic American who has wholeheartedly endorsed the effective anti-subversive efforts of the House Committee on Un-American Activities - What are you going to do to counteract these intensified abolition campaigns?

#### ON THE RELIGIOUS FRONT

Several pronouncements of the Fifth World Order Study Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio, in November 1958 have been strongly repudiated by certain Protestant clergy, laymen and other God-fearing, thinking Americans.

Sponsored by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 600 delegates to the World Order Study Conference unanimously urged that Communist China be granted diplomatic recognition by the United States and admitted to the United Nations. Other statements adopted by the Conference called for "stronger efforts should be made to break through the present stalemate and to find ways of living with the Communist nations. Sometimes this is called 'co-existence,' but we are concerned with something more than the minimum meaning of the word. Our relationship with the Communist nations should combine competition between ways of life with cooperation for limited objectives, our resistance to Communist expansion goes with recognition of the fact that Communist nations as nations, have their own legitimate interests and their own reasonable fears. We should avoid the posture of general hostility to them and cease the practice of continual moral lectures to them by our leaders."

These statements were part of a 5,000-word document entitled, "Message to the Churches." It is interesting to note that the entire statement was prepared by a 23-member Conference Committee "headed" by the REV. DR. JOHN COLEMAN BENNETT, Dean of the Faculty of the undenominational Union Theological Seminary of New York City. Readers will recall that certain views of DR. BENNETT appearing in the August 15, 1958 Firing Line are seemingly similar in vein to some of the aforementioned pronouncements adopted by the World Order Study Conference. At the close of the Conference, REV. DR. EDWIN THEODORE DAHLBERG, President of the National Council of Churches, stated: "It is to be hoped that our Government and the United Nations will take to heart the message and findings of this Conference." A report on DR. DAHLBERG's background was contained in the January 15, 1958 Firing Line. (See "The Evening Star," /Washington, D. C./, 11-22-58, page B-13; "The New York Times," 11-22-58, page C-8; and "Firing Line," 12-1-58.)

On November 22, 1958, both REV. DR. DANIEL A. POLING and REV. DR. NORMAN VINCENT PEALE issued strongly worded statements repudiating the Conference pronouncements regarding Communist China. DR. POLING said he believed "that this action misrepresents my Protestant faith. With every influence that I have, I repudiate it...I maintain that this resolution represents only the men who endorsed it and not the Protestant community of the United States...Certainly the National Council of Churches...must accept full responsibility for this action." DR. PEALE declared he was "one minister who is completely opposed to recognition of Communist China and the admission of that ruthlessly totalitarian government to the councils of nations." According to DR. PEALE, "were this government to recognize Red China, the millions living under Communist tyranny would feel completely abandoned and in despair would give up all hope of resistance. Communist power would sweep over the entire Far East and creep nearer to us across the Pacific." (See "The New York Times," 11-24-58, page C-32; and "The Sunday Star," /Washington, D. C./ 11-23-58, page A-10.)

Speaking before the Conference prior to the adoption of the controversial pronouncements, Methodist Bishop G. BROMLEY OXNAM claimed "too much of our policy is based on fear of Communism rather than faith in freedom - 'let the hysterical stay under the beds as they search for the Communists...'" On December 3, 1958, the General Board of the National Council of Churches disclaimed responsibility for the Conference's resolution in Communist China. (See "Cleveland Plain Dealer," 11-19-58; and "The New York Times," 12-4-58, page C-19.)

HELP BUILD SUBSCRIPTIONS. INTEREST YOUR FRIENDS IN THE FIRING LINE.

b7C

[REDACTED]

28<sup>th</sup> 1958

Mr J Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25 D C

Dear Mr Hoover:

Will you please send  
me a list of the Church  
Ministers in the National Council  
of Churches who are members  
of Communist front organizations.  
Also a list of Ministers who  
are Professors and Teachers in  
Church seminaries and  
universities who belong to  
Communist front organizations

ack let  
1/7/59  
I. Houston  
(enc)  
RDS/

REC-94

100-50869-321

18 JAN 8 1959

CONTAINED

112/4

I am a member of a Protestant  
(Presbyterian) Church - and so am  
distressed over the literature which  
as Sunday School lessons etc.  
that are coming from the National  
Council of Churches - I don't  
believe the majority of the members  
is aware of what is going on.

I have given the book "Collectivism  
in the Churches" by Edgar C Bundy  
to many of my friends in hopes  
that they too will become alarmed  
and want to do something about it.  
Some doubt that the listings from  
the F. B. I. are authentic - and  
also question the sincerity of the  
author - Will you please comment  
on Mr Bundy's book.

Best wishes -

Sincerely,

b7C

MAILED

TRUE COPY

b7C  
[REDACTED]

Dec 26th 1958

Mr J Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25 D C

Dear Mr. Hoover;

Will you please send me a list of the church Ministers in the National Council of Churches who are Members of Communist front organizations. Also a list of Ministers who are Professors and teachers in our Church Seminaries and Universities who belong to Communist front organizations.

I am a member of a Protestant (Presbyterian) Church - and I am distressed over the literature such as Sunday School lessons etc that are coming from the National Council of Churches - I don't believe the majority of the members is aware of what is going on.

I have given the book "Collectivism in the Churches" by Edgar C Bundy to many of my friends in hopes that they too will become alarmed and want to do something about it - Some doubt that the listings from the F.B.I. are authentic - and also question the sincerity of the author - Will you please comment on Mr Bundys' Book.

Best wishes -

Sincerely,  
b7C  
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SPH/clw/jp  
TRUE COPY

1 - Mr. Simpson

January 7, 1959

EX - 133  
b7C  
REC-94  
100-50869-321

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [signature]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated December 28, 1958, has been received and the motive which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of service, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Also, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request for information.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

The FBI does not maintain a list of organizations such as you have mentioned in your letter. The Internal Security Division of the Department of Justice, however, does maintain a list of organizations which have been designated by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450 (the Federal Employees Security Order). It is suggested that you may desire to obtain this list of organizations by submitting your request to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Houston (See note, page 2) (Enclosure)

See note on yellow, page 2.

RDS:bam (4)

MAILED IN  
JAN 7 - 1959  
COMM-FBI

JAN 5 10 12 AM '59



b7C  
[REDACTED]

ATTENTION: SAC, Houston

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

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 the information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 reflected no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

Edgar C. Bundy is a lecturer who tours the country speaking on communism before church and patriotic groups. He claims to have formerly been an Air Force intelligence officer.

b2  
[REDACTED]

The Bureau receives numerous inquiries concerning his current activities. His book "Collectivism in the Churches" has been previously brought to the Bureau's attention. It contains numerous allegations that the National Council of Churches was heavily infiltrated by communists and other un-American groups. (62-104576)

The above is furnished for your information.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent requests list of ministers in National Council of Churches who are members of communist front organizations and a list of ministers in church seminaries who are also members of communist front organizations. She also requests the Director comment concerning the above book by Bundy. Correspondent implies there is some question in her mind as to the authenticity of "listings from the F.B.I." It is not clear from her letter whether she is referring to the Attorney General's list or some listing in Bundy's book and, if the latter, she does not indicate to what portion of the book she refers. The book contains no list identified as "from the F.B.I."

**TRUE COPY**

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
February 1, 1959  
National Council of Churches  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I do hope this reaches you personally and that you can give us some much needed advice & facts.

b7C  
I am a member of the First Presbyterian Church [REDACTED] and have we had troubles. We've lost our minister [REDACTED] in spite of a large majority rule to keep him. He was fired by our presbytery without our ever being told why and we've asked. The most we can get is that it's just best he's out of here. Ministerial Relations of our presbytery is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] teaching the ten commandments are outmoded in our modern age. He definitely acts like a communist and is rumored as one.

b7C  
[REDACTED] and the congregation both had an appeal into Synod against Presbytery but Presbytery told us unless [REDACTED] dropped his they wouldn't release his papers and he wouldn't be able to get a church. [REDACTED] from our Synod, urged us to drop ours too. We've written to general assembly and have had letters back these things couldn't be done but it all has been done and no one will help us.

We've very recently read alot of literature on the National Council of Churchs. Most of it is written by the American Council of Churches stating that the N.C.C. is infiltrated with communists and being used by them and for their advantage.

My questions are:

1. Are these things true? Do many of our leaders in the N.C.C. belong to red fronts?
2. How about the American Council of Churches, Is it infiltrated with Reds too?
3. How can we as small people; but citizens and Christians very much concerned over this dreadful thing best help fight against [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

**TRUE COPY**

100-50861-  
NOT RECORDED  
191 FEB 13 1959

TRUE COPY

4. Would we do better to pull out of the N.C.C. and give our support to the A.C.C. or what can we do?

If these things are true of the N.C.C. I just can't as a disciple of Christ's go along with these things in our church. We're all so disturbed.

b7C  
There has been some talk of starting the Bible Presbyterian or Congregational Church and having [redacted] come back to help us and be our pastor. He is a definite leader and preaches very strong against communism besides being a good christian and preaching salvation through Jesus Christ which I always thought all ministers did.

It's all so involved it's hard to know where to start or stop but sincerely hope you will be able to give us an immediate reply and thank you for taking time to consider our questions & confusion.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]  
b7C

TRUE COPY

1 - Mr. Simpson

February 10, 1959

100-50469-

b7c  
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 1, 1959, has been received, and the motive which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

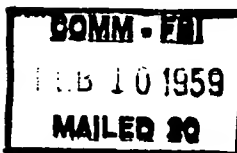
While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. Furthermore, information in the files of the FBI is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to furnish you information concerning the organizations you mentioned.

I would also like to advise that I do not believe it would be proper for me as Director of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency, to recommend a course of action to be followed by members of your church.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



1 - Butte (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, Butte

Enclosed for your information is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent or the individuals mentioned in her letter. (Note to SAC, continued, page 2)

See Note on Yellow, page 2

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

REC'D-READING RM  
FBI  
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY 9846/ELH/du

b7C

Note to Butte, Continued

The American Council of Churches has not been investigated by the Bureau. Bufiles reflect that we have had cordial relations with this organization in the past and considerable correspondence of a cordial nature with its various officers. (94-37557)

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 the information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 reflected no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent discusses a controversy in her church over the recent dismissal of the pastor. She claims she can get no information from the presbytery as to the reasons he was fired. She also refers to literature issued by the American Council of Churches which alleges the National Council of Churches is infiltrated with communists. She requests to be advised whether this allegation is true, whether many leaders of the National Council of Churches belong to Red fronts, whether the American Council of Churches is infiltrated with Reds, how her group can help fight against it and whether she and her friends should pull out of the ~~Federal~~ National Council of Churches. She also mentions that they are considering establishing a separate church.

Although we have not investigated either the National Council of Churches or the American Council of Churches, it is not believed we should so advise the correspondent due to the controversial nature of the National Council of Churches and many allegations that some of its officers have had CP front associations. The Bureau should not become involved in this local church controversy and it is believed a files confidential reply will best serve the Bureau's interest in this matter since the correspondent will probably use the Bureau's letter in the local controversy.

February 18, 1959  
b7C [REDACTED]

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am sure you are well aware of the left-  
ist and pro-communist literature in churches  
today. However, I have watched the youth groups  
develop and read some of the literature carefully  
and I am convinced an extremely sinister thing  
has already been spawned in America. The  
diabolic cleverness and thoroughness of the  
conspiracy is alarming.

Did we learn nothing from the Nazi youth  
movements?

REC-4 100-55869-322

Please read these ~~excerpts~~ carefully,  
even if you have already read a great deal  
of church literature.

23 MAR 2 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6/15/83 BY SP-6/BJP

ENCLOSURE ENCL. ATTACHED  
ack'd  
2/27/59  
1-CE (Enc) & SS/ham  
b7C

ORIGINAL FILED  
100-55869-322



COPY

b7C February 18, 1959  
[REDACTED]

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am sure you are well aware of the leftist and pro-communist literature in churches today. However, I have watched the youth groups develop and read some of the literature carefully and I am convinced an extremely sinister thing has already been spawned in America. The diabolic cleverness and thoroughness of the conspiracy is alarming.

Did we learn nothing from the Nazi youth movements?

Please read these excerpts carefully even if you have already read a great deal of church literature.

Sincerely,

s/  
[REDACTED]  
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 edw/ep

COPY

REPRODUCED FROM THE  
OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

YOUTH LITERATURE FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

1. Seeks to destroy the respect of children for the guidance of their parents, replacing such guidance with a false sense of independent decision, which is in reality decision molded by the radical teachings of this literature and its proponents.
  2. Seeks to destroy national pride and patriotism and urges the acceptance only of world citizenship.
  3. Propagandizes for disarmament even though other countries remain fully armed.
  4. Seeks to discredit respect for and dignity of the colored race by propagandizing for complete, radical social integration, which naturally would lead to intermarriage, family disunity in both races and demoralization of the country at this time.
  5. Seeks to put a new connotation on the word "Christian". In youth literature it is becoming to mean membership in a movement rather than Christ like.
  6. Some Methodist literature advocates clever and sacrilegious methods of extracting money from youth groups, capitalizing on youthful emotions and spiritual idealism. (Methodist Youth Fund Pledge Service, by Rowena Ferguson, Methodist Youth Fund, P.O. box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn. Form No. 2458-B)
- 

Walter Reuther gave \$200,000.00 of United-Automobile-Workers-Union money to the National Council of Churches for "religious and economic education". Reuther is documented as atheistic and pro-communistic in ideology, holding beliefs which hardly seem compatible with high religious motives for such a gift. (Walter Reuther, by Eldorous L. Dayton, Devin-Adair Co., New York 10, N. Y.)

Mr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, President of the National Council of Churches, has been documented as pro-communistic in his sympathies by participation in a number of communist-front movements, (cited as subversive by the House UnAmerican Activities Committee in 1942 and the Attorney General of the United States in 1947 and 1948). Human Events, Vol. XIV, No. 50, 12/14/57

"World Order Study" sponsored by National Council of Churches passed unanimous resolution for recognition of Red China and its admission to United Nations. (Daniel A. Poling, Christian Herald, Nov. 30, 1958)

(2)  
E X C E R P T S

"Junior high years--when we start untying apron strings and making more of four own decisions--are critical years. Now we begin disputing our parents' authority. They seem so old-fashioned. Indeed we are amazed at how little they know and how far behind the times they are! So often we resent the slightest suggestion they make. We fly into sudden tantrums because we are so little understood, or stamp our feet and storm out of the room." §

"Now of course it is true that parents do belong to another generation. They often find it difficult to keep up with the whirling kaleidoscope of youth life. And it is often hard for them to realize that their children are not children any more and need more freedom."(1)

.....

"Dear Rod:

Don't let things get you down, Rod. All of us do things we do not mean to do and you will be no exception. Just take it on the chin in your usual good spirit and you will find that things will work out eventually between you and your parents. Probably they are as amazed at you as you are at them. Remember they have been used to having a little boy around the house and now that you are a six footer they have to learn all over how to live with their new son. You must give them a shock every time they look at you. You have to learn to live with them too. Remember that you want to grow up as soon as you can and assume adult independence and responsibilities. But, whether they understand it or not, they have the problem of knowing when they should make decisions for you and when they should expect you to make your own. Try to understand that."

With love,

Aunt Judy."

"Dear, Dear Aunt Judy:

".....I may add that I am having a wonderful time at camp. And you ought to be honored indeed. Yours is the only letter I have written since I arrived. I sent Mom a bunch of post cards that I wrote before coming up."

Rod.

"Dear Aunt Judy:

"I forgot to tell you that Lucy's sister got married Monday. When I marry I'm going to run away to skip all the fuss."

Rod."

"Dear Aunt Judy:

".....I sure appreciate all the letters you have written me. It still seems a long way around to answer some of the questions I have asked. I started all this. You warned me. It's not that I'm tired of reading so much but, well, I just don't have any time any more. Mother says I must get some sleep. And, anyway I think Mom's been going through my things. She and Dad think something is up. They act as if they think I've gotten into some awful trouble and am writing you about it."

Rod."

"Dear Aunt Judy:

Nobody yet but Mr. Carlow (Church School Teacher) knows I have been writing to you. But we found that some of the other kids have the same questions. 'Your aunt's correspondence with you will be our secret, Rod,' Mr. Carlow said to me one day when we went on a fishing trip together."

Rod." (2)

#### AN ACT OF FORGIVENESS

"Leader: Let us lift up before God those who have hurt us in days that are past--parents who have not trusted us and teachers who have accused us falsely.

Response: O God, forgive those who have offended us.

Leader: Friends who have called us names and spread false rumors about us.

Response: O God, forgive those who have offended us.

Leader: Companions who have forsaken us without cause and poisoned the hearts of others with hatefulness.

Response: O God, forgive those who have offended us.

Leader: Bullies who have bruised us in flesh and spirit.

Response: O God, forgive those who have offended us.

Leader: The enemies of our nation and our religion.

Response: O God, forgive those who have offended us.

Leader: The thoughtless who have unconsciously hurt us and the indifferent who have ignored us.

Response: O God, we forgive all these who have wronged us and we ask thee to forgive them too. Help us to blot these offenses out of our memories.

A Unison Prayer:

Almighty and eternal God, we ask thee, also, to forgive us our sins. As we have forgiven those who have hurt us, so we ask thee to forgive the hurt that we have caused others. Forgive us especially for the duties we have shirked and the good we have left undone. Forgive us for the unkind words we have spoken and the unworthy thoughts we have welcomed. Forgive the resentment we have felt at deserved rebuke, and forgive the excuses we have made for ourselves but have been unwilling to allow for others. We ask thee to honor the honesty of our sorrow for our sins. Amen."(4)

"Jesus made a statement which is even more dramatic than Paul's comment: 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother.....and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.' (Luke 14:26) In other words, loyalty to Christ and his cause ought to be stronger loyalty than that to family and parents. The word translated 'hate' goes back to the Aramic word meaning 'love less'. Matthew's version of the saying helps us see this. 'He who loves father and mother more than me is not worthy of me....'(Matthew 10:37) This saying in its Biblical setting has wider application than to the parent-teenager situation, the principle it emphasizes can be applied to this situation. You have a God-given responsibility to grow toward Christian maturity. If certain attitudes toward your parents and certain patterns of relationship prevent growing up, then you need to change these attitudes and patterns."

"In most families these changes in relationships are taken in stride. There is some tension but growth takes place. Teen-agers and parents alike come to accept and appreciate more mature relationships. There are a few homes, however, where the relation between parents and teen-agers is so unwholesome that the teen-ager must either give in, and remain immature, or openly revolt. In these extreme cases the divine demand that persons grow up is such that revolt is preferred to submission."



## COMMENT

(These excerpts emphasize and encourage widening of any gulf which may exist between parents and youths, or may promote or suggest the idea that a gulf exists when none actually does. If there is any merit in these teachings they should be directed to parents and not to youths.)

.....

".....We seem to feel that we cannot trust God with our personal lives; yet we continue to scheme to 'get to the top'. 'God helps those who help themselves' we say; but this may be just the opposite of the truth." (7)

.....

"We cannot trust God in international affairs it seems. We are lost we think unless we have more atom bombs, and longer range guns, and more soldiers than anybody else in the world. Actually this is the thing that makes everybody afraid of us and brings the threat of war nearer." (1)

.....

"We live in stirring days. Choices made today may determine your own future, and the future of our nation and the world. Will we have a secure economic order, or some rich and many very, very poor?" (1)

.....

"Nations as well as individuals have to face the consequences of their sins. If a nation is far more interested in getting rich than it is in the fact that people are suffering all over the world; if a nation supports policies of discrimination which deny the aspirations for freedom that people have; if it treats other people as inferior and boasts of its own achievements; if it exploits the natural resources of the world, paying low wages and getting rich at other people's expense, then it has only itself to blame if it loses the friendship of the peoples of the world."

"The troubles that come to us nationally are the direct result of our national wrongdoing, just as the troubles that come to us individually are often the result of our personal wrongdoing. It is in this sense that the prophets said that God judges and punishes people."

.....

"When we honestly try to obey God as we understand him, there is hope that our society will grow toward security and stability. No

society without religion has ever endured for very long. Nations must have SPIRITUAL defenses. So often we tend to think of defense only in terms of the ability to annihilate other peoples." (1)

.....

"ONE OF THE BEST DEFENSES OF A NATION IS FRIENDS" We do not make friends by trying to force others to be military allies and refusing to help them unless they are. But we could build friendship by sympathizing with the problems of other peoples and helping them. Lifting the economic level of the world's poor makes friends." (1)

.....

"First we must recognize when we start looking for God's hand in world history, that God cares absolutely nothing about national pride. It makes no difference to him that our pride is humiliated by Russian prowess. It is not a foregone conclusion in God's mind that we are always right."

"The Hebrews were God's chosen people, but that did not mean they always got their way, or that God invariably favored them. God's purposes go very much deeper than any nationalistic ends."

"If we want to think God's thoughts after him in regard to human affairs, then we may have to think in other than conventionally 'patriotic' terms." We may have to probe deeper to find God's purposes in terms of basic human welfare, in terms of the aspirations of hitherto oppressed peoples, in terms of the little peoples instead of the big ones, and of peace rather than the arts of war. "

"GOD IS CONCERNED ENOUGH ABOUT HUMAN AFFAIRS TO BE ABLE TO WAIT. He does not save us from the consequences of our wrongdoing. He does not force his way upon us, but he expects us, finally, to learn."

"When we see our country going blindly down the road to mass preparation for war, blustering and threatening on the assumption that if we make ourselves sound terrible enough, everybody will get out of our way, we want to cry out, 'Stop, stop!' Don't you see what you are doing? Don't you see that by making everybody afraid of you you make everybody hate you? Some day we may have to make good these threats. "O God", we want to cry out 'save us from ourselves!' But God doesn't. We have to make our own mistakes and learn our own lessons. Having put all our eggs in the military basket, the time will come when we shall have to take some of them out again, and recognize the importance of such things as economic aid."

".....As long as the way of selfishness guides our political thinking God lets us do so."

"Therefore, because we are Christian young people, let us dare to think and act differently in regard to world affairs from those who think in purely pagan terms. God cannot have his better world unless there those who are willing to put themselves into his hands, to think differently and live differently, FOR HIM." (1)

.....

".....Some of us Americans are so proud of ourselves that we won't trust many other nations in the world. And we may find ourselves out on a limb some day because of it." (2)

( COMMENT

(All of these statements and insinuations are false and grossly treasonable. No nation in the world is more desirous of peace and world disarmament, nor has been more generous in giving economic aid to underprivileged nations than has the United States of America.)

.....

"Finally, there is the question of fellowship. We know the fellowship of common interest in our school's athletic prowess, or in rapture over a popular movie star. But suppose we were really gripped by the character, ideals, and purposes of Jesus and our M Y F set out to make a contribution to the coming of Jesus' spirit into our community life. Suppose it did come to seem to us a matter of life or death that in some area of our community life, where the principles of Jesus do not reign, they should begin to reign."

"To a Christian group which would embark on such an adventure, there would come a fellowship that would be deeper than any fellowship of our lives. Beside this your concern for football or the gang's hangout would seem insipid. Sharing in a flaming Christian crusade is an unforgettable experience of close fellowship."

"This also is true. The church will only achieve the consciousness that God is working through it--not hovering on the outskirts of it-- when it becomes a committed Christian fellowship. It must take positive Christian positions on the major issues of the day. It must be convinced that there is a way of Christ for America, and must dedicate itself to discovering that way. When Christ is alive in our midst we have power. When we disregard him we are powerless." (1)

*"What do I do when my standards come in conflict with what others expect me to do? When my government asks me to prepare to die?"* (3)

"It is difficult to say or do what you feel you must when you know that others will disagree with you, or that dire consequences may result. That's the job which devoted Christians have today. Sometimes the modern minister must play the part of the prophet." (2)

.....

".....It suggests a sort of all-out, radically different way of living, Rod, to which none of us measures up. No longer is it enough to sit in class and decide what is right or wrong and leave the matter there. No longer can the church preach about (or teach about) injustice to our fellow men and do nothing about the injustices. Decisions and discussions mean nothing unless we move out as a group, or as individuals dedicated to doing God's will." (2)

.....

"...Dear Rod:

".....Now, as you are beginning to hammer out your thinking in your group..... I will conclude my long letters with this one."

From Aunt Judy." (2)

.....

"Dear Aunt Judy:

"Last Sunday all the members of our class sat together for communion at church. Then on Monday every last one of us withdrew from a school social club that had excluded foreigners, Jews and Negroes. We are going to organize another one that doesn't exclude anyone because of race or creed. For you see our church is not exclusive nor is our church school class. Several of the guys have withdrawn their application for a camp that had the reputation for accepting only the 'right guys! They are applying for our church camp."

From Rod." (2)

.....

"If you are a girl you have more curves, your hips and breasts have developed, your shoulders are broader, you are conscious of more hair on your body, and perhaps there is a little down on your upper lip. Your facial features are larger and more adultish. In overaall appearance you look more like a woman. You look more feminine than you did as a child."

"But there are changes that have come about during the teen years that you don't notice in a photograph. You have probably cut your wisdom teeth. If you are a girl, your voice has probably taken a deep-

er tone, and you likely have started menstruating. If you are a boy, your voice has become masculine, and you probably have had nocturnal emissions(in your sleep when you have discharged semen)." (3)

## COMMENT

(This excerpt is not sex instruction since it is assumed the youths already are aware of the knowledge presented. If sex instruction has a place in church literature it should be in adult literature instructing the parents in correct ways of teaching the child. The National Council of Churches is weakening home ties by advocating the usurpation of prerogatives of the home and demanding too much of the youths' time which is needed in the home for good parent-child relationships. There are exceptions(and these cases should be treated individually) but most homes supply these relationships.

Churches should cherish, help preserve, and build family ties--not weaken them.)

.....

".....I've started reading about Solomon(and his many wives!!). No wonder they called him wise. Heh, Heh, that's a joke." (2)

.....

"A church youth group spent several weeks of research and discussion on this question, 'How does the Bible help us discover what is right and what is wrong to do?'"

"The chief conclusion of the group was that the Bible emphasizes moral conduct based on a point of view about life, rather than a set of specific do's and don'ts. The point of view includes the belief that this is God's world and that he is working in it toward certain divine purposes. Anything the individual does that contributes to these divine purposes is morally right, and anything he does that interferes with these purposes is morally wrong. These young people worked out this statement to summarize their thinking: (COMMENT: the end justifies the means.)

"There are at least two things that have eternal value--personality and fellowship between persons. Anything I do that helps personality--my own and others'--become better and more Christian, is right, and anything I do that strengthens Christian fellowship between persons including fellowship with God, is good; and anything I do that weakens fellowship is evil."

"The group also worked out some questions to help them apply these basic principles to specific situations like those reported earlier in this chapter. They felt it might help a young person come to a decision about the rightness or wrongness of a given act if he asked the following questions:

Will doing this help me become a better person, or will it interfere with my becoming a better person?

Will doing this help the other person or persons involved become a better person or persons? Will it interfere?

Will doing this help people I may not know, but who will be indirectly affected by this act become better persons? Will it interfere?

Will doing this help forward God's purpose in the world? Will it work against God's purpose?

Will doing this improve my relationships with other persons? Will it worsen my relationships?

Will doing this strengthen my sense of God's presence and my feeling of fellowship with God?

"This approach to deciding right and wrong conduct is a long way from the rigid set of rules some people try to find in the Bible. In the Old Testament there are some important conduct codes. The Ten Commandments is one of these, that at first glance, look like a set of specific do's and don'ts. When you look more closely you discover they are statements of universal principles phrased to make it easy to apply the principles to the demands of life in a given culture." ③

#### COMMENT

(The Ten Commandments are fundamental moral truths which never change with time or place, nor should they be reinterpreted by faddist sociologists.)

- (1) Lessons for Intermediates, Oct., Nov., Dec., 1958  
Vol. 17, No. 4, Methodist Publishing Co.  
201 Eighth Ave. So., Nashville 3, Tenn.
- (2) How God Works, Vol. 9, Part 4, Bethany Youth Books, Christian Board of Publication, Series Two, St. Louis, Missouri
- (3) Choose Life, by Robt. Powell (book planned for individual reading by youth readers) Methodist Publishing Co.  
201 Eighth Ave., Nashville 3, Tenn.
- (4) Roundtable, Vol. 8, No. 2, Dec. 1958, Methodist Publishing Co. 201 Eighth Ave. South, Nashville 3, Tenn.

§ Underlining applied.



1 Mr. Simpson

February 27, 1959

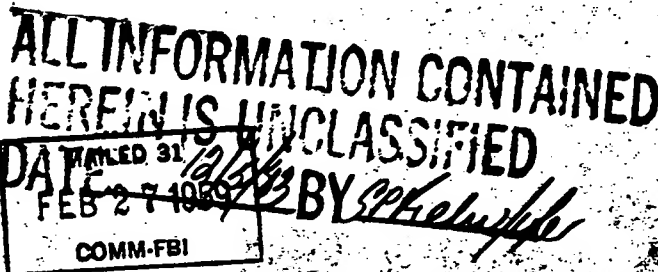
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 18, 1959, with its enclosure, has been received and the motive which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In the event you obtain additional data which you believe to be of interest to the FBI, you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Charlotte Office located at 1700 Johnston Building, Charlotte 2, North Carolina.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



1 - Charlotte (Enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, Charlotte

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

Enclosed with her letter was a ten-page document allegedly containing excerpts from literature issued by the National Council of Churches with various comments tending

See note on yellow, page 2.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

RDS:bam  
(4)

57 MAR 5 1959

b7c  
[REDACTED]

to establish that the literature of this church group seeks to destroy respect of children for their parents, seeks to destroy national pride and patriotism, contains propaganda for disarmament and contains propaganda for radical socialist integration. The document does not identify the organization or individual responsible for its preparation.

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 the information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 reflected no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with this group. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent states she has watched youth groups develop and is convinced an extremely sinister thing is being spawned in this country. She thinks the cleverness and thoroughness of the conspiracy is alarming and asks, "Did we learn nothing from the Nazi youth movements?" She requests that the enclosures to her letter be carefully read.

The above noted inquiry appears to be more in the nature of an observation on the part of the correspondent rather than a question to which she expects a reply from the Bureau.

b7C

February 20, 1959.

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

(4)

Dear Sir:

A few years ago, when the Committee For a Million was circulating petitions for the signatures of citizens, who wished to protest against the possible recognition of Communist China, and its admission to the United Nations, I secured one hundred signatures.

Recently I was shocked when I read the enclosed article. I have heard occasionally that Communists in this country were trying to work their way into the churches.

A friend lent me a clipping from The Portland, Maine, Sunday Telegram of Jan. 18. A reporter gave an account of an interview

with Dr. Hsu and wife of Ellsworth, Maine, and it opened my eyes. I hope you may be interested to obtain a copy of the paper and read it.

Actin let

3/2/59 1 - Boston  
RDS/Gam

Very truly yours

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/15/83 BY SP4/BJH

EX-135

REC-44

100

50869

323

MAR 3 1959

CR

3/18

## Cleveland Conference Asks U. S. to Move Toward Recognition of Communist China

**M**ORE than 600 clergymen and lay church members, organized as the Fifth World Order Study Conference, met in Cleveland, Ohio, November 18, and three days later landed in the headlines of the press of the nation by advocating unanimously that the government of the United States reconsider its China policy and take steps "toward the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in the UN and for its recognition by our government."

The conference convened at the call

of the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches, but members emphasized that the group spoke for itself alone and not for the council. Press releases, however, went out on National Council of Churches stationery, and editors across the nation were understandably confused.

A strongly-worded message containing the China recommendation was written by the conference and unanimously adopted after several attempts at amendment failed. It will be submitted to the



Greeting Secretary of State Pres. Edwin T. Dahlberg

council's constituent denounce its policy-making generally further study.

**CRITICISM** and disclaimers by Protestant leaders appeared immediately in the press. Tyng's charge by U.S. Senate Clerk Erick Brown Harris that the conference had "trotted on horse."

**BECAUSE** of the Church recommendations of the conference largely overlooked. The church step-by-step disarmament agreement; suspension of

## Planning for Rio

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ENCLOSURE

100 - 50869 - 323

As the Editor Sees It

## **The Cart Before the Horse?**

**A** CONFERENCE at Cleveland of 600 churchmen (see story page 5) has urged unanimously that "steps should be taken toward the inclusion of the People's Republic of China in the UN and for its recognition by our government."

To us this appears to be putting the cart before the horse in the interests of an expedient internationalism. The prior questions, for which no convincing answers have yet been given the American people, are these:

(1) Is *de facto* control of territory the principle requisite for the recognition of a government (as the British have long contended), or is the manner of coming to power and the subsequent use of this power also a concern of the recognizing nation?

(2) Is responsible conduct in the family of nations a requisite for admission to the United Nations, or can a nation which is currently firing its guns (the Formosa Straits) and which still stands in unrepentant defiance (the Korean invasion) of the United Nations be admitted simply on the strength of its size and the size of its friends?

(3) Why should the China situation be resolved as a special case apart from other *de facto* governments which are not recognized by the U.S. (East Germany, for instance) or seated in the United Nations while other less noisy but more law abiding governments stand outside in the cold and wait?

The conference—which met at the call of the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches—did not speak for the council or its constituent denominations, but individuals representing denominations appeared ready to answer the above questions in the light of a specific situation relating to the People's Republic of China. We believe that the questions ought to be answered on their own merits first, and the China problem dealt with in sequence in the light of their ultimate resolution.

We can stand a great deal more American diplomacy based on consistent principle and a lot less fashioned out of emotional expediency.

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DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 elu/ul

ENCLOSURE

50869-323

COPY

b7C

February 20, 1959.

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

Dear Sir:

A few years ago, when the Committee For A Million was circulating petitions for the signatures of citizens, who wished to protest against the possible recognition of Communist China; and its admission to the United Nations, I secured one hundred signatures.

Recently I was shocked when I read the enclosed article. I have heard occasionally that Communists in this country were trying to work their way into the churches.

A friend lent me a clipping from The Portland, Maine, Sunday Telegram of Jan. 18. A reporter gave an account of an interview with Dr. Hsu and wife of Ellsworth, Maine, and it opened my eyes. I hope you may be interested to obtain a copy of the paper and read it.

Very truly yours

b7C

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DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 haw/pfr

COPY



1 - Mr. Stinson

March 2, 1959

REC-44/00-50869-323

EX-135

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 20, 1959, with its enclosures, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In the event you obtain any additional data which you believe to be of interest to the FBI, you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Boston Office located at 470 Atlantic Avenue, Boston 10, Massachusetts.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/5/83 BY SP4 CLK/lt

1 - Boston (Enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, Boston

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's letter. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent or the "Committee for a Million" mentioned in her letter.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

See 58 MAR 9 1959  
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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAILED 2  
MAR 2 - 1959

b7c  
[REDACTED]

Enclosed with correspondent's letter were two newspaper clippings from an unidentified newspaper but possibly clipped from some Sunday magazine supplement. One clipping is entitled "Cleveland Conference Asks U. S. to Move Toward Recognition of Communist China" and refers to a convention in Cleveland called by the National Council of Churches which advocated that the United States reconsider its Chinese policy and take steps to recognize China and to admit it to the United Nations. The other clipping was an editorial captioned "The Cart Before the Horse?" and pertained to the same subject matter.

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 information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 reflected no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

This data is furnished for your information only.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent advises a few years ago she assisted in circulating a petition for the "Committee for a Millinn" which protested the possible recognition of China. She is now shocked to read that the National Council of Churches has advocated recognition of China and its admission into the United Nations. She calls this matter to the attention of the Bureau but makes no request for information from the Bureau.

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
March 3, 1959

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

Dear Sir:

I wish in part to apologize for writing you. I know that there is much that occupies your mind and time; however, I find that it has become necessary for me to obtain some information if such is available.

The information I seek concerns itself only with the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. I believe this to be the correct name.

First, I should like to know if any of the following hold offices in the National Council of Churches:

Oxnam, Sockman, Adams, Barnes, Bowie, Boyd, Cavert, Dahlberg, Darsie, Douglas, Harrison, Johnson, Landis, Neme, Weigle, Taft, Flemming, Horton, Holt, and Dun. Unfortunately I do not have any of the first names or initials of the foregoing.

Second, I should like to know if your department considers the National Council of Churches of Christ as Communistic - or if you consider any of its various departments as Communistic.

Third, I should like to know if your department considers any of the foregoing men mentioned as members of the Communist party?

Fourth, I should like to know if any of the following organizations are considered as Communistic:

The Julius Rosenwald Fund, the Arbuckle-Jameson Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, the Lewis J. and Mary E. Horowitz Foundation, Inc., The Henry Luce Foundation, Inc., The Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Inc., the Bulova Foundation for the Department of Race Relations, the Adeline and Carl Loeb Foundation ~~xxxxxxDepartmentxxxxxx~~, the Gastonia-Jewish Welfare Fund.

The questions arise from a book "Collectivism in the Churches" by Edgar C. Bundy, The Church League of America, 1407 Hill Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois. The first three question come from chapter 5, and the fourth comes from chapter 4 pages 40 and 41.

If the information requested is available to the public I should very much desire it. I wish to thank you for your time and trouble in this matter.

Yours in Christ,  
[REDACTED]  
b7C [REDACTED]

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DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 Kew/gh

REC-58

EX-101

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March 12, 1959

EX-101

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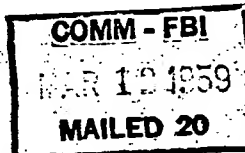
Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of March 3, 1959, containing your inquiries regarding the National Council of Churches of Christ in America and officers of that organization.

While I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to making evaluations or clearances of individuals, publications or organizations. Furnishing data of the type you requested would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the groups and individuals you named; therefore, I am unable to be of assistance to you. I do hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire in our files.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. We have received ~~numbered~~ inquiries of a similar nature relating to the National Council of Churches and some of the members he named, and they have been given a reply similar to this one. We know Edgar C. Bundy as a violent anticommunist writer who is extreme in his comments and takes considerable literary license in his remarks regarding persons he believes to be communists.

JK:blr  
(3)

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY [signature]  
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Olson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Loach \_\_\_\_\_  
Guire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holoman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 12 10 45 AM '59  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

March 14, 1959

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
F.B.I. Director

Dear Sir:

Please accept my sincerest thanks for the frankness and clarity of your statement made in the F.B.I.'s Law Enforcement Bulletin, on "Delinquent Parents", reported in our local newspaper.

The purpose of my writing is to get as complete a report on the history and activities of the National Council of Christian Churches as possible.

1. Was the Federal Council of Churches ever considered a "Communist Front?"
2. Who were the men then, or, and, who are they now if any, who have totalitarian or theologically and philosophically naturalistic views?
3. What are factual findings on the National Council of Churches?
4. What is your personal conviction, please?

I am raising these questions out of personal concern and considerable public interest.

Thank you most kindly for your information.

Sincerely,

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/15/88 BY SP4/MLJ/MLJ

ACK.  
1-OKlahoma City a/cencl  
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100-50809-3

REC-44

5/28/59

- Mr. Simpson

135

March 23, 1959

REC-44

100-50869-325

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 14, 1959, has been received, and the motive which prompted your communication is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Furthermore, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request for information.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

I am indeed grateful for your kind comments concerning my article in the March, 1959, issue of the "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin."

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Oklahoma City (enclosure)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ SEE NOTE TO OKLAHOMA CITY, PAGE TWO

Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW 2 PAGE TWO

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TELETYPE UNIT

Mar 23 12 55 PM '59  
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FBI



b7C  
[REDACTED]  
ATTENTION: SAC, Oklahoma City

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication.  
Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

④ Bufiles contain some derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this information came from rival church groups. Inquiry limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 revealed no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with this group. The Bureau receives numerous inquiries from correspondents inquiring whether this organization is communistic. (100-50869)

The above is furnished for your information only.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent expresses his thanks for the Director's frank statement in the "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin" on "Delinquent Parents," reported in his local newspaper (He has reference to the Director's editorial in the March, 1959, issue of the "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin"). He requested to be advised if the Federal Council of Churches was ever considered a communist front, the identity of the men in the organization who have totalitarian views, the "factual findings" on the National Council of Churches and information as to the Director's "personal convictions."

Due to the numerous similar requests concerning the National Council of Churches and the fact it is becoming a rather controversial organization among church groups, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

b7C  
[REDACTED]

March 16, 1959

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

There has been a stream of slanderous material coming to my attention charging the National Council of Churches in the U.S.A. with communistic tendencies, etc. Since many of our churches are involved in co-operative work through the National Council of Churches, I wonder if you could give me the result of your findings in this area:

1. Is the leadership of the National Council of Churches under suspicion by your department, either as a whole or as individuals?
2. Have the investigations concerning Communism and the Communist Party and its members revealed affiliations with such on the part of the leaders of the National Council?

While there is a delicate shading of church and state relationship involved here, however, the findings of your office, either in favor of or against the above mentioned matters, would be of help to me and the leaders of our congregation in the future.

We have no desire to be affiliated with any organization affiliated with the Communist Party. On the other hand, we do not propose to be victims of a smear campaign, which would do tremendous damage to innocent parties. We need to know the truth in the matter and I believe that you have at your disposal some facts that we ought to know.

REC-75

With every good wish, I remain

11 MAR 24 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/...

ACK.

1-Jacksonville

3-23-59

RDS:pw

Sincerely yours,

b7C  
[REDACTED]

1 Mr. Simpson

REC-75

100-50864-326

March 23, 1959

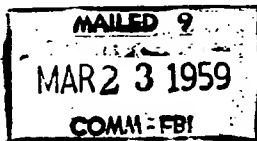
b7c  
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 16, 1959, has been received, and the motive which prompted your communication is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. Furthermore, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Jacksonville (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, Jacksonville

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE TO JACKSONVILLE, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

50 MAR 30 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4/che/SP1/che

MAR 23 3 02 PM '59  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

b7C

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO JACKSONVILLE, CONTINUED

Bufiles contain some derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this information came from rival church groups. Inquiry limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 revealed no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. The Bureau receives numerous inquiries from correspondents whether this organization is communistic. (100-58869)

The above is furnished for your information only.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent has received considerable material charging the National Council of Churches with communist tendencies. He inquires whether the leadership of the organization is under suspicion by the FBI and whether our investigations have revealed any communist affiliation on the part of the leaders of the organization.

Due to the numerous similar requests regarding the National Council of Churches and the fact that it is becoming a rather controversial organization among church groups, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

Federal Council of Churches

~~Handwritten signature~~ 4-1

3  
Churches all over our United States  
have joined the ~~Inter~~ Federal Council.  
We will be glad to hear from  
you. I am to report in a meeting  
later this month. Thank you.

[Redacted]

REC-46 b7C

E. 100-50867-7329 [Redacted]

23 APR 14 1959

J. Edgar Hoover  
Dear Sir:

Since  
ack 4-10-59 I am a representative from  
our Church, interested in the World Day  
of Prayer, May Fellowship Day and such.

CRIME REC. 4-11-59

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/5/83 BY SP4/MLW/PL

2  
at the World Day of Prayer meeting,  
the offering is sent away. I think  
to New York.

My problem in this is we have  
heard that is Communism. I trust  
in the Federal Council of Churches.  
I believe that is the only way  
from this only way.

If this is true, let me  
know, and we don't want to put one  
cent on the American Commission.

If, the Federal Council of Churches  
or of Communism, there must be  
some change made in many.

MR. JONES  
APR 9 10 02 AM '59  
RECEIVED  
FBI  
DEPT OF JUSTICE



April 10, 1959

100-50869-327

EX-102

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 7, 1959, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any organization, publication or individual. Furnishing data of the type you desire would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the group in question, and I am unable to answer your inquiry. No inference, of course, should be drawn either that we do or that we do not have information in our files pertaining to the subject of your communication.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

APR 10 5 03 PM '59  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/83 BY [REDACTED]  
APR 10 1959  
GMM:FBI

DCL:mm  
(3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

APR 10 2 48 PM '59  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI  
REC'D-MAIL ROOM

APR 10 2 10 PM '59

APR 10 1959  
FBI  
REC'D-MAIL ROOM

89

REC'D-MAIL ROOM

W. J. Jones

del

April 24, 1959

Dear Sir:

I am a member of the Church of the Brethren which is a member of the National Council of Churches. I would like to know at any time the National Council officials or head members have sided with or helped any Communist member or nations, or have done anything shady that might look like they might have. This problem has been bugging on my mind for some time. I would appreciate an answer.

Thank you

[Redacted signature block]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/5/82 BY SP-1/1/82

ack 4-29-59  
WCL EX-102

REC-53

100-50164-328

11 APR 30 1959

[Handwritten initials]

April 29, 1959

REC-5300-50869-328

EX-102 b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 24, 1959, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any organization, publication or individual. Furnishing data of the type you requested would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the group in question, and I am unable to answer your inquiry. I hope you will not infer from my inability to be of aid either that we do or that we do not have information in our files along the lines you mentioned.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/5/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

APR 29 1959

COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Interdenominational

NOTE: Because of the great dissension concerning the National Council of Churches, above acknowledgment has been forwarded in the past in response to similar inquiries. Spelling of last name verified by telephone directory check.

FBI

100-44111

DCL:fc  
(3)

66 MAY 5 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

b7C [REDACTED]

5/6/59

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

[REDACTED]

There has been quite a little comment in the daily papers and  
the magazines regarding the stand taken several months ago by the  
National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. with reference to Red China.

At the time it was stated that the National Council of Churches represented  
39,000,000 Protestants, and the Council was in favor of admitting Red China to  
the United Nations.

I happen to be a protestant and a member of the [REDACTED] Presbyterian  
Church of this city. At this time and for the past 36 years I have been a  
member of the Session, which is the governing body of our church. Our Church along  
with many others contribute each year to the support of the National Council of  
Churches of Christ in U S A.

In the minds of many of us there are doubts regarding this organization and  
we are wondering if the National Council of Churches of Christ In USA is in any way  
tainted with communism or if it has shown sympathies in that direction. If so, the  
least we could do would be to withdraw our support.

Believing that you have all of the facts pertaining to the National Council of  
Churches of Christ in USA, if you could see your way clear to do so, we would  
appreciate your advising if this organization is regarded by you; (1) as Communistic,  
(2) associated with organizations that are known to be communistic, or (3) has  
this organization on its working or advisory staff men and or women who are  
recognized or suspected as communists. Information of any kind that you might give  
to us us, will be appreciated.

Our country is now at the cross-roads and it behooves every patriotic  
American to stand up and be counted.

Thanking you in advance for your kindness, I am,

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED] EX-113

REC-39

100-50869-329

MAY 15 1959

ack 5-13-59  
DCL

REC-39

May 13, 1959

REC-39

100-50864-3 29

ELL-X3

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated May 6, 1959, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any organization, publication or individual. Furnishing data of the type you requested would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the group you named, and I cannot be of help to you. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to your inquiries.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

RECEIVED  
MAY 13 11 44 AM '59  
FBI

DC L:jab  
(3)

*gab*

MAILED 19  
MAY 13 1959  
COMM-FBI

*[Handwritten signature]*

- Tolson
- Belmont
- DeLoach
- McGuire
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan

*[Handwritten signature]*  
FBI - [REDACTED]  
REC'D [REDACTED]

RECEIVED  
MAY 13 4 11 PM '59  
FBI

b7C [REDACTED]

May 18, 1959

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Attention: Mr. Hoover  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

In a recent letter, which you duly answered, I inquired concerning the National Council of Churches.

From your letter I realized that I had raised my questions in a way that made it impossible for you to answer, especially when I asked your opinion.

Please permit me to re-phrase my question and I will deeply appreciate your answer. "Has the Federal Council or any one of it's members, or the National Council and any of it's present members ever been publicly indicted, and, or, convicted of subversive activities?"

Hoping to hear from you,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/16/88 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

Ack  
1-00 wjenc  
5-27-59  
RDS:pw.

I am sincerely yours,

b7C [REDACTED]

18 MAY 21 1959



1 - K Simpson

RA

100-50869-330

REC-20

May 27, 1959

b7C

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated May 18, 1959, has been received.

While I fully appreciate your interest as well as your consideration in rephrasing your question, I am, nevertheless, precluded from responding. As you were informed in my letter of March 23, 1959, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation promulgated by the Department of Justice. I sincerely regret, therefore, that I am unable to be of service by providing the information you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECEIVED - 10720M

MAY 27 4 34 PM '59

FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM

MAY 27 12 01 PM '59

MAILED 5  
MAY 27 1959  
COMM-FBI

1 - Oklahoma City (enclosure)

ATTENTION: OKLAHOMA CITY

Enclosed is one copy of correspondent's communication. You are referred to Bulet to [REDACTED] dated March 23, 1959, a copy of which was designated for your office.

- Tolson
- Belmont
- DeLoach
- McGuire
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

SEE NO. 52 ON WILSON STORAGE PAGE TWO  
RDS:pw:rmw (49) JUN 2 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4 [signature]

b7C

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent's letter 3-14-59 requested to be advised if the National Council of Churches was ever considered a communist front, the identity of the men in the organization who have totalitarian views, the "factual findings" on the organization and information as to the Director's "personal convictions." Bulet 3-23-59 advised him the Bureau could not evaluate or comment upon the integrity or character of any individual, organization or publication and information in the files of the FBI is confidential.

Correspondent now writes that he realizes his first letter has raised questions in a way which made it impossible for the Bureau to answer. He now requests to be advised whether the Federal Council of Churches or any one of its members, or the National Council of Churches and any of its present members have ever been publicly indicted or convicted of subversive activities.

The Federal Council of Churches was later incorporated into the National Council of Churches. In recent years we have received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the group, and the organization has become an extremely controversial matter among various church groups. We have not investigated this organization; however, we did make some inquiries of informants in New York City in 1950 which did not reveal any communist or subversive influences on the part of persons affiliated with the organization at that time.

Due to the extremely broad nature of correspondent's inquiries and the controversial nature of the National Council of Churches, it is believed desirable to reiterate the confidential nature of Bufiles.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 5/29/59

FROM : Legat, Tokyo (105-1021)

SUBJECT: CHICOM INFILTRATION OF  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
IS - CH

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4/ctm/du

Enclosures (b)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.Classified by SP4/ctm/du  
Declassify on: OADR

REC-44

2 JUN 1959

F310  
57 JUN 24 1959 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EXP. PROC.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 7, 1959

FROM : J. P. MOHR

SUBJECT: THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

In scanning the Congressional Record for Wednesday, May 6, 1959, the following item contained therein pertaining to the FBI has been marked for your attention.

Pages 6798-6801, Congressman Williams, (D) Mississippi, pointed out that "Circuit Riders, Inc., has performed a great public service by analyzing the left-wing front affiliations of those in attendance at the Fifth World Order Study Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio, November 18-21, 1958, under the auspices of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America." Mr. Williams went on to state "Because many innocent persons are quite often taken in by organizations with high-sounding labels and purportedly lofty purposes, I think it appropriate to incorporate in the Record the Circuit Riders' analysis of the aforementioned group. Perhaps it will serve to enlighten Americans to the true purpose of organizations such as the one discussed therein." It is stated in this analysis "Among the thousands of Protestant clergymen who have joined or otherwise supported the long list of Communist peace fronts during the past 40 years, one name stands out above all the others; namely, A. J. Muste. - - - Two years ago, A. J. Muste got up a delegation for the purpose of observing the procedures of the Communist Party's 16th national convention, February 9-12, 1957. The press was barred from the deliberations of the leading Communists, but Muste and his fellow observers were cordially welcomed. - - - The work of the Muste delegation drew the following comment from Mr. J. Edgar Hoover: 'The Communists boasted of having impartial observers cover the convention. However, most of these so-called impartial observers were handpicked before the convention started and were reportedly headed by A. J. Muste, who has long fronted for Communists. Muste's report on the convention was biased and distorted.'" Page 6800

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/6/83 BY SP-1/BJL/97

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Tolson  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. M. A. Jones  
PGT:vcs/mic  
(6)

66 MAY 25 1959

1 - Mr. Belmont

NOT RECORDED

126 MAY 20 1959

ENCLOSURE

EC-75

66-1731-1645

MAY 14 1959

66-1731-375

ORIGINAL FILED IN 66-1731-

b7c

b7c May 16th, 1959.

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

Dear Sir:

In the course of the last few months controversies have come up in our church group. I have become completely confused and believe a few answers from you will help direct my thinking and actions in ways which will tend to preserve our beloved American way of life.

We, me and my family, are followers of the Congregational Church; my husband is a veteran of world war I; we are long time members of the American Legion and Auxiliary; have worked in local groups, such as Girl scouts, Boy scouts and Parent Teacher Association; our daughter is a government employee in Washington and our son is just completing a four enlistment in the United States Navy. We all love our present American form of government and are ready to defend it against anything or anyone trying to exchange our way of life for communism.

We, of our church, are without a minister just now, and in the process of getting a new one. We have been getting literature through the church office, advising us to stop supporting the National Council of Churches which it is claimed sprung up after the Federal Council of Churches ended December 1, 1950, and the former is endeavoring to undermine our American way of life we so much enjoy.

Our literature mentioned above is coming from the American Council of Christian Churches, 15 Park Row, New York, 38, N. Y.; the Christian Beacon, published in Collingswood, N. J.; The Tacoma Bible Presbyterian Church, Division Avenue & 3rd Street, Tacoma 3, Washington, and The Wiring Line, published by the American Legion Committee.

I have been receiving and reading regularly Social Action, the United Church Herald and ~~Community~~ Community all of which are published by United Church of Christ, which is the outcome of a merger of the Congregational Christian churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Churches. I have just returned from a Conference of ~~United~~ Congregational Churches.

ACK

Butte Wenc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Churches held in Glendale, Montana, from May 11 to 14. In these publications and at this conference, it seems to me, our attention is continually directed along the lines of the program recommended by the National Council of Churches. Our main speaker at the Conference was Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, Secy. World Council of Churches, retired.

I cannot go along with their recommendation of recognizing red China, and disposition of the problems of the Jewish people, as well as other political issues which I believe are out of line for church work. There are many other people in our church who are looking for answers to the same questions that I am. Our people in this Livingston church are in danger of becoming divided.

Can you advise what course to follow that will be most effective in preserving our precious American heritage? Is the American Council of Christian Churches a dependable source of information, and the American Legion publication?

sincerely yours,

b7c -



- Mr. Simpson

100-50869-

May 27, 1959

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated May 16, 1959, has been received, and the motive which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. Furthermore, information in the files of the FBI is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to furnish you information concerning the organizations you mentioned.

I would also like to advise that I do not believe it would be proper for me as Director of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency, to recommend a course of action to be followed by members of your church.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5

MAY 27 1959

COMM-FBI

1 - Butte (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO BUTTE, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

53 JUN 2 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4 [signature]

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FBI  
READING ROOM

MAY 27 11 23 AM '59

RECEIVED - 10720H

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 94-37557-1

b7C

[REDACTED]

ATTENTION: SAC, BUTTE

Enclosed for your information is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

The American Council of Churches has not been investigated by the Bureau. Bufiles reveal that we have had cordial relations with this organization in the past and considerable correspondence of a cordial nature with its various officers. (94-37557)

Bufiles reveal certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. However, much of the information came from rival church groups. Investigation limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 revealed no information indicating any communist or subversive influence on the part of any persons affiliated with the group. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent advises that her church is in the process of getting a new minister. They have been receiving literature which criticizes the National Council of Churches for undermining the American way of life. Much of this literature is coming from the American Council of Churches, other church organizations and the American Legion publication, the "Firing Line." She and other members of the church are confused and are looking to the Bureau for assistance. She requests to be advised of the course to follow that will be most effective in preserving our American heritage. She also inquires whether the American Council of Churches and the American Legion publication are dependable sources of information.

b7C

[REDACTED]

June 3, 1959.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.

Dear Sir:

I don't know whether you give out information to private citizens or not but I would like this cleared up for me.

In Apr. "The Church Woman", I noticed and read sermon by Edmund T. Dahlberg.

Previously I had seen in another magazine where he was quite a supporter of Harry Bridges. (against him being deported) also three other top Communist leaders in U.S.A.

I can't recall their names for when I wrote into the "Church Woman" I enclosed clipping and they did not return it. I am enclosing letter I received from them also the one from National Council of Churches of Christ in U.S.A.

I would also like to know if the C. C. of C. C. is a Communist Organization. REC-23 100-50869-324

EX-136

23 JUN 12 1959

I would also like to know about Karl Barth, [REDACTED] Langford and Paul [REDACTED] who gave sermons in [REDACTED].

ENCLOSURE  
4- [REDACTED]  
Net [REDACTED]  
(Net [REDACTED])

ack 4/11/59 DCL

CRIME RECORDS

Crossroads (a Presbyterian Sunday School Lesson Leaf) for study instead of a lesson to be studied from the Bible. I have seen their names connected with Communist activities. I am a Sunday School teacher for an adult class and I have refused to teach from these sermons until I have the truth about this so I would appreciate it very much if you would clear me up on these men.

Thank you so much.

Yours truly

b7c

Enclosure  
letters, magazine article and self addressed stamped envelope.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/14/83 BY SP4/CLW/STW

REC- 23

100-56869-332

June 11, 1959

EX-136  
b7C

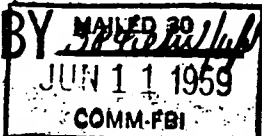
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated June 3, 1959, with enclosures, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any individual, organization or publication. Furnishing data of the type you desire would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the persons and group you named, and I am unable to help you. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have in our files the specific information you desire. Your enclosures are being returned.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/16/83



Sincerely yours,  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (4)

Self-addressed envelope (too small to utilize)

Cipping entitled "The Churches and the National Conscience" by Edwin T. Dahlberg from "The Church Woman" April, 1959.

Letter to correspondent dated 4-10-59 from "The Church Woman"

Letter to [REDACTED] dated 4-22-59 from the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

NOTE: Numerous citizen inquiries are received relative to persons affiliated with the Federal Council of Churches and replies similar to above have been

DCL:cfm given in the past. BH 27

7/29 (3) 4

JUN 18 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DEPT OF JUSTICE

FBI

FD-302

7-44 (2-25-55)

SAC, Legal Attache, Tokyo (105-1021)

June 17, 1959

Director, FBI (100-50869)

CHICOM INFILTRATION OF  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
IS - CH

REGISTERED MAIL

Attached is the translation which you requested by letter  
dated 5/29/59.

The contents thereof, where pertinent, must be reported  
under appropriate captions and afforded whatever investigative  
attention is necessary.

Disposition of the foreign language material submitted in  
this connection is set forth below:

Returned herewith.

1 - [redacted] (sent direct)

ENCLOSURE  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure 8-1

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit without enclosure (route through for review)

MAIL ROOM

62 JUN 24 1959 F310

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP8 BLS/PLK  
NOT RECORDED  
10 JUN 22 1959



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by SP4 chh/hk  
Declassify on: OADR 12/6/83

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

Page 1

[REDACTED] (c)

b1 [REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4 chh/hk

b7c  
TRANSLATED BY  
[REDACTED]  
June 17, 1959

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Page II

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b1

(c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]  
b7C  
[REDACTED]

June 11, 1959

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

b7C [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and I am writing to you for some advice  
if it is permissible for you to give it to me.

During the past couple of months the members of the  
official board of First Christian have been receiving  
literature, from the Circuit Riders of Cincinnati, Ohio,  
with information claiming that the National Council of  
the Churches of Christ is a communist front organization.

Now, the problem is this - we support the National Council  
of Churches and since this information has been circulated  
it is causing quite a discussion among our members and  
could result in a division among us. If the National Coun-  
cil is subversive I think our people should know it; if it  
is not, what is the purpose and motive of the Circuit Riders?  
According to the National Council they are not subversive.  
How am I to know who and what to believe? Where can I go to  
get the most authoritative information?

If you can help me I would appreciate it.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/23 BY SP4 hwp/afw

b7C  
Sincerely  
[REDACTED]

REC-91

EX-113

100-50867-233

11 JUN 19 1959

ACK.  
Houston  
6-18-59  
RDS: pur

5-120  
[REDACTED]

1 - Mr. Simpson

June 18, 1959

REC-97 100-50869-333

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated June 11, 1959, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. Furthermore, information in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request for information concerning the organizations you mentioned.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

I am also unable to suggest with whom you may correspond to secure the desired information.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 4

JUN 18 1959

COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Houston (SEE NOTE TO HOUSTON, PAGE TWO)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

50 JUN 23 1959

MAIL ROOM

Tolson  
Belmont  
DeLoach  
McGuire  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/16/83 BY SP4/edh/ld

RECEIVED  
JUN 18 1959  
FBI

RECEIVED - 106204

10 25 AM '59

REC'D DEPT. OF JUSTICE

b7C  
[REDACTED]  
ATTENTION: SAC. HOUSTON  
[REDACTED]

She states that during the past several months, the church has received literature from Circuit Riders, Cincinnati, Ohio, alleging that the National Council of Churches (NCC) is a communist front. This information is causing discussions among the church members and correspondent feels that if the NCC is subversive, the church members should know it and, if not, she inquires as to the purpose and motive of Circuit Riders. She states the NCC claims it is not subversive and, therefore, how is she to know whom and what to believe. She inquires where she can get the most authoritative information.

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent. Circuit Riders is an organization of laymen in the Methodist Church whose objective is to combat communism in the Methodist Church. Its executive director is M. G. Loman with whom the Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations for several years. (62-99405)

In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and the organization has become an extremely controversial one among various church groups. We have not investigated the organization; however, we did make inquiries of informants in New York City in 1950 which did not reveal any communist or subversive influences on the part of persons affiliated with the organization at that time. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Due to numerous similar inquiries received concerning the NCC and the fact it is becoming a controversial organization among church groups, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-50869)

DATE: 6/30/59

FROM : Legat, Tokyo (105-1021)

SUBJECT: CHICOM INFILTRATION OF  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
IS - CH

Remylet 5/29/59.

b1

b1

-P-

b7c

cc: 66-33

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.Classified by SP4 elw/lup  
Declassify on: OADR

REC-23

EX 109

100-50869-334

JUL 6 1959

JUL 5 2 52 PM '59

BOUCH NAIR

NAT. &amp;

CONFIDENTIAL

b7c

112

67 JUL 14 1959



b7C

[REDACTED]

June 21, 1959

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

*8 -*

Gentlemen:

I wonder if you would be kind enough to send me what information you may have on the status of an organization known as, The National Council of Churches of Christ U.S.A. This organization was formally known as, The Federal Council of Churches of Christ, U.S.A. It has been headed by a Baptist preacher, Dahlberg.

Do you have a list of the subversive organizations in our country?

I would appreciate any information you may have in regard to these persons.

Sincerely,

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7C  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SPK/eh/jup

REC-71

*EW*  
100-50869-335

JUL 6 1959

CRIME REC

*2-7-59  
DCX*

July 2, 1959

REC-74

100-56869-335

b7C

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked June 24, 1959, has been received.

For your information, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to making evaluations of individuals, publications or organizations. Furnishing data of the type you requested would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the organization you named; therefore, I am unable to answer your inquiry. Please do not infer in this connection either that the files of the FBI do or do not contain the information you desire.

If you would like to secure a copy of the list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450, your request should be submitted to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

MAILED 5  
JUL 2 1959  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Numerous citizen inquiries have been received concerning the National and Federal Councils of Churches of Christ, and above reply has been forwarded in the past.

DCL:dm

(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/23 BY SP4hbf/f

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

July 21, 1959

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
4936 30th Place  
Washington, D. C.

Re: National Council of Churches  
and its principal leaders

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The official board of our church has moved to investigate and obtain accurate information regarding the character of the National Council of Churches and its leaders. Please supply us with information you have regarding this organization and the people who are presently directing its affairs. We are much concerned about the questionable activities of both the organization and its leaders. A statement of opinion from you would be much valued.

Also we would like to know the character and classification of Circuit Riders, Inc., 18 E. Fourth St., Cincinnati 2, Ohio, which is the source of some disturbing information, obtained by one of our members, contained in their books known as Recognize Red China? and A Compilation of Public Records 2109 Methodist Ministers.

Please furnish us with your bulletins which list and qualify organizations and activities as to their character. We will pay for these, of course, if required.

REC-98 100-50869-320

Yours very truly,

23 JUL 31 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4/bw/pe

30-59 b7C

July 30, 1959

REC-96

100-50869-334

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated July 21, 1959, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any individual, organization, or publication. Furnishing data of the type you desire would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the groups you named; therefore, I am unable to answer your inquiries. Please do not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have in our files the specific information you desire.

If you would like to secure a copy of the list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450, your request should be submitted to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 10

JUL 30 1959

COMM-FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with [REDACTED]  
(See next page for rest of Bureau note)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

BDA:jep  
(3)

**BUREAU NOTE (CONTINUED)**

b7c [REDACTED] and no record on the [REDACTED] Files reflect that the Circuit Riders is an organization of laymen from the Methodist Church whose objective is to combat communism in the church. The executive director is Mr. M. G. Lowman with whom the Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations for several years. (62-99405)

We have not investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, inquiries of informants in New York City in 1950 did not reveal any communistic or subversive influence at that time. (100-50869)

National Council of the Churches of Christ

in the United States of America



WASHINGTON OFFICE

122 MARYLAND AVENUE, N. E.  
WASHINGTON 2, D. C.

August 14, 1959

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The Washington Office Committee of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. is happy to place in your hands a new folder which we hope will help you in utilizing the liaison and information services made available by this Office.

In addition to our own Office Staff, you will note the listing of the Divisions, General Departments and Executives of the National Council with continuing interests in many aspects of the life and work of the U. S. Government.

Please call on us for any service we may be able to render, addressing your inquiries to our Director, Fred S. Buschmeyer, at the above address.

Cordially,

*Arthur S. Flemming*  
Arthur S. Flemming  
Chairman

ENCLOSURE  
ENCL. ATTACHED

D.C.

*fill action 8/14/59*

REC-100-50869-33

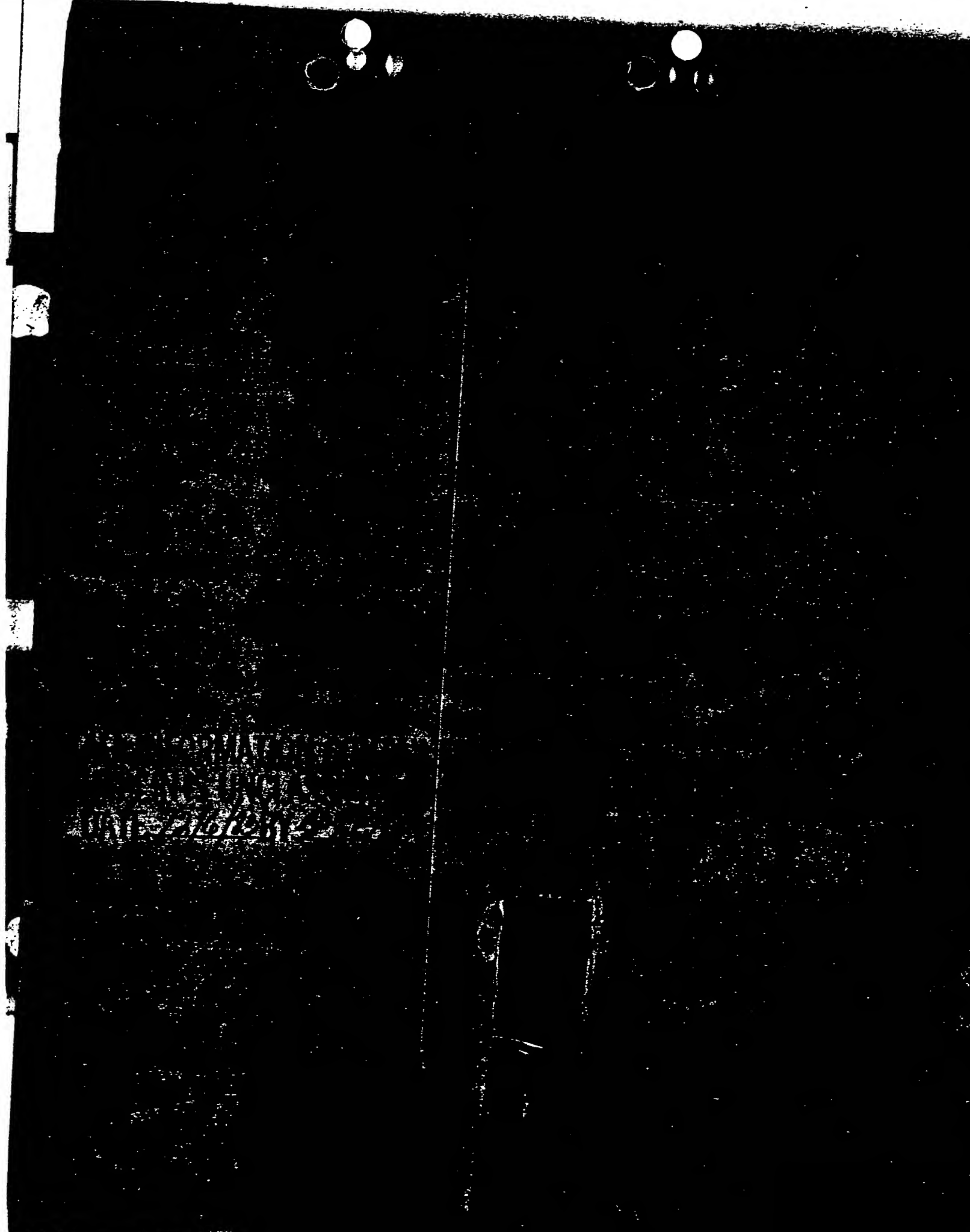
23 AUG 19 1959

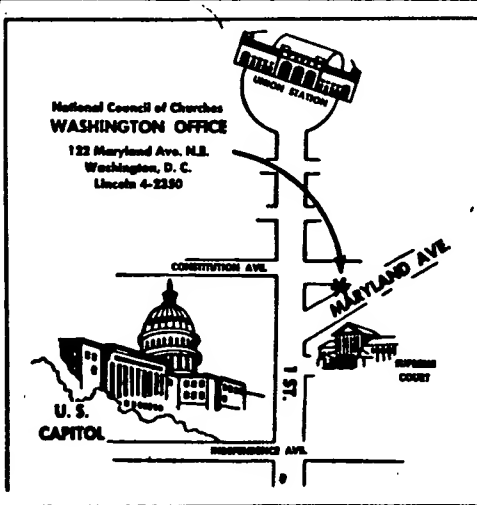
UNTAILED  
FILED

60 AUG 21 1959









## WASHINGTON COMMITTEE OFFICERS

The Hon. Arthur S. Flemming, Chairman

The Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Vice Chairman

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: The Rev. Edwin T. Dahlberg, Missouri

Vice Presidents at Large:

- ✓ His Grace Athenagoras, Massachusetts
- ✓ Mrs. Guy A. Benchoff, Virginia
- ✓ Arthur Gardiner Coons, California
- Francis S. Harmon, New York
- Charles C. Parlin, New Jersey
- ✓ Julian Smith, Illinois
- ✓ Charles P. Taft, Ohio
- ✓ Mrs. Theodore O. Wedel, Washington, D. C.

Vice Presidents for Divisions:

- ✓ Bishop Reuben H. Mueller, Indiana
- ✓ Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Washington, D. C.
- ✓ The Rev. Virgil A. Sly, Indiana
- ✓ The Rev. Willard M. Wickizer, Indiana

Treasurer:

- ✓ Charles E. Wilson, New York

Recording Secretary:

- ✓ The Rev. Norman J. Baugher, Illinois

## MEMBER CHURCHES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

### Baptist

- American Baptist Convention
- National Baptist Convention of America
- National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc.
- Seventh Day Baptist General Conference

### Brethren, Church of the

Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ), International Convention

### Eastern Churches

- Armenian Church of North America, Diocese
- Greek Archdiocese of North and South America
- Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America
- Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America
- Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church
- Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church
- Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America

### Evangelical United Brethren Church

### Friends

- Five Years Meeting of Friends
- Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

### Lutheran

- Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church
- American Evangelical Lutheran Church
- United Lutheran Church in America

### Methodist

- The Methodist Church
- African Methodist Episcopal Church
- African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
- Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

### Moravian

- Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum)
- Evangelical Unity of Czech Moravian Brethren in North America

### Polish National Catholic Church of America

### Presbyterian

- Presbyterian Church in the U. S.
- United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

### Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America

### Reformed

- Hungarian Reformed Church in America
- Reformed Church in America

### United Church of Christ

- (General Council of Congregational Christian Churches; Evangelical and Reformed Church)

*These denominations represent a total membership of approximately 39,000,000 persons.*

# The WASHINGTON OFFICE of the NATIONAL COUNCIL of CHURCHES OF CHRIST in the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



122 MARYLAND AVENUE, N. E.  
WASHINGTON 2, D. C.  
LINCOLN 4-2350

## SERVICES

of the

## WASHINGTON STAFF



### CONSTITUENT DENOMINATIONS NATIONAL COUNCIL STAFF

Information Concerning Congressional  
and Other Governmental Activities;  
Consultation and Coordination.

### CONGRESS and EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS and AGENCIES

Information Concerning the Churches:  
Their Organization and Programs;  
Liaison Arrangements.

### NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS and the GENERAL PUBLIC

Information About the Council  
and Denominations;  
Cooperation.

## WASHINGTON OFFICE STAFF

122 MARYLAND AVENUE, N.E., WASHINGTON 2, D. C.

LINCOLN 4-2350

*General Director*, THE REV. FRED S. BUSCHMEYER

*Associate Director* for consultative liaison services between the Churches,  
the Council, and the Federal Government, JAMES A. HAMILTON

*Assistant Director* for gathering and editing legislative information, MISS NADINE BLAIR

## NATIONAL COUNCIL STAFF WITH GOVERNMENTAL INTERESTS

NEW YORK, N. Y.

*General Secretary*, The Rev. Roy G. Ross,  
297 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-5000

*Associate General Secretary*, R. H. Edwin Espy

*Associate General Secretary*, James W. Wine

*Assistant General Secretary*, The Rev. Fred S. Buschmeyer,  
Washington Office

*Christian Education*, The Rev. Gerald E. Knoff,  
257 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-6407

*Religion & Public Education*, Rolfe Lanier Hunt  
*Higher Education*, The Rev. Hubert C. Noble

*Christian Life & Work*, C. Arild Olsen,  
297 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-5000

*International Affairs*, The Rev. Kenneth L. Maxwell  
*Pastoral Services*, The Rev. Mark Shedron  
*Racial & Cultural Relations*, The Rev. J. Oscar Lee  
*Social Welfare*, The Rev. William J. Villaume  
*Church & Economic Life*, The Rev. Cameron P. Hall  
*Religious Liberty*, The Rev. Claud Nelson

*Foreign Missions*, The Rev. Luther A. Gotwald,  
156 Fifth Avenue, Chelsea 2-3230

*Africa*, The Rev. Theodore L. Tucker  
*Far East*, The Rev. Wallace C. Merwin  
*Latin America*, The Rev. Howard W. Yoder  
*Southern Asia & Near East*,  
The Rev. Emil W. Menzel

*Overseas Union Churches*, The Rev. Raymond Gray

*Home Missions*, The Rev. Jon L. Regier,  
257 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-6407

*Town & Country Church*, Mrs. Ruth Robinson  
*Urban Church*, The Rev. Meryl H. Ruoss  
*Church Building*, The Rev. S. Turner Ritenour  
*Indian Work*, The Rev. E. Russell Carter  
*Migrant Work*, Edith E. Lowry

*United Church Men*, Mr. Samuel J. Patterson, Jr.,  
257 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-6407

*United Church Women*, Mrs. W. Murdoch MacLeod,  
175 Fifth Avenue, Algonquin 4-7110

*World Relations*, Mrs. Howard G. Hymer  
*Social Relations*, Eleanor French

*Evangelism*, The Rev. Harold H. McConnell,  
297 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-7128

*National Parks*, The Rev. Warren W. Ost

*Church World Service*, The Rev. R. Norris Wilson,  
215 Fourth Avenue, Spring 7-6300

*Public Relations*, Gilbert E. Blackford  
*Immigration Service*, A. Roland Elliott

*Broadcasting & Film Commission*, The Rev. S. Franklin  
Mack, 220 Fifth Avenue, Oregon 9-2968

*Bureau of Research & Survey*, The Rev. Lauris B. Whitman,  
297 Fourth Avenue, Oregon 4-5000

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-50869)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 8/24/59

FROM : Legat, Tokyo (105-1021)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~SUBJECT: CHICOM INFILTRATION OF  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
IS - CH

Reurlet 6/30/59.

-P-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Classified by SP4 elu/lu  
Declassify on: OADR 12/6/83

REC-53

100-50869-338

18 AUG 27 1959

SEP 2 1959

BONCH RAIL

SEP 2 1959

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7C ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
NAT. SEC.

b7c

[REDACTED]  
August 12, 1959

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I write to you not only as  
Chief of the F.B.I. but also as a  
fellow Presbyterian.

There has been quite a bit  
of discussion in our Church recently  
concerning the Nation Council of  
Churches. The General Assembly of  
the Presbyterian Church, U. S., voted  
to remain in the Council, at least  
for another year.

REC-105 100-50869-339

EX 101

4 AUG 26 1959

The question is: Are some  
of the organizations the  
supports of Communism?  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/6/83 BY SP4/BJL/STP  
A.K. Jones  
1-5A-34-59 RDB/pw



I have been told by reliable church people that it is true and by others, just as reliable, that it is not true.

Even though we have a small church, approx. 40 members, it has been a question raised time and again. The only reliable place I knew to seek this information was from you.

As a mother, Sunday School teacher, active W.O.C. member and just plain 100% American, I would appreciate any information concerning Communist organizations to beware of. Is there such a list available to the public?

A great many people think that because we are such a small community, approx. 120, we need have no fear of infiltration by any communists.

3.  
b7C I am program chairman for  
my church, [REDACTED]  
and in starting to make plans  
for 1960 I would like to bring  
a program on the dangers of Communism,  
to try to get the group to think  
about this National problem.

Can you help me?

May the Lord not cease to  
favour you with strength and  
courage and may it be His  
will that you have a long life  
ahead of you, for service to Him,  
and to your Nation.

Sincerely yours,

b7C [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I - Mr. Simpson

REC-105

EX 101

100-50869-339

August 24, 1959

Informant

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked August 15, 1959, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of service, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your request for information concerning the organization you mentioned.

The FBI does not prepare or maintain lists of organizations such as you desire. The Un-American Activities Committee of the United States House of Representatives, however, has prepared and released a pamphlet in which are listed groups and periodicals which have been cited by various state and Federal agencies. This pamphlet, entitled "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," may be purchased for thirty-five cents per copy by communicating directly with the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Corner North Capitol and D Streets, Northwest, Washington 25, D. C.

It will not be possible for me to recommend or assist in the preparation of a program on the dangers of communism for presentation to your church group. I am,

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_

1 San Antonio

RDS:pw (4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

AUG 24 1 02 PM '59

b7c  
[REDACTED]  
however, enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of assistance to you.

Your kind personal remarks are indeed gratifying, and I trust that we in the FBI will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (7)

ATTENTION: SAC, SAN ANTONIO

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent. Correspondent requested to be advised if the National Council of Churches supports communist-backed organizations and where she can obtain a list of communist organizations. She also requested assistance in the preparation of a program on the dangers of communism to be presented to her church group. She closed her letter with a prayer that the Director may enjoy a long life for continued service to God and the nation.

The Bureau has conducted no active investigation of the National Council of Churches; however, inquiries limited to contacts with informants in New York City in 1950 failed to disclose any communist or subversive influences on the part of any persons affiliated with the council. The Bureau receives numerous inquiries from individuals whether the organization is communistic. (100-58869)

The enclosures to Bulet to the correspondent consist of the following publications:

1. "Communism in the U.S.A."
2. Reprint from "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin," April, 1959
3. "What You Can Do To Fight Communism And Preserve America"
4. "Statement of J. Edgar Hoover, Director, FBI"

b7C

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO SAN ANTONIO. CONTINUED

5. "God or Chaos?"
6. "Address of J. Edgar Hoover, Director, FBI,  
Before the National Convention of the American  
Legion, Atlantic City, New Jersey, September 19,  
1957"
7. "God and Country or Communism?"



TRUE COPY

b7c  
[REDACTED]  
August 12, 1959

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I write to you not only as Chief of the F.B.I. but also as a fellow Presbyterian.

There has been quite a bit of discussion in our Church recently concerning the Nation Council of Churches. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., voted to remain in the Council, at least for another year.

The question is, "Are some of the organizations the council supports Communist backed?" I have been told by reliable church people that it's true and by others, just as reliable, that it is not true.

Even though we have a small church, apx. 40 members, it has been a question raised time and again. The only reliable place I knew to seek this information was from you.

As a mother, Sunday School teacher, active W.O.C. member and just plain 100% American, I would appreciate any information concerning Communist organizations to beware of. Is there such a list available to the public?

A great many people think that because we are such a small community, apx 120, we need have no fear of infiltration by any communists.

b7c I am program chairman for my church, [REDACTED] and in starting to make plans for 1960 I would like to bring a program on the dangers of communism, to try to get the group to think about this National problem.

Can you help me?

May the Lord not cease to favour you with strength and courage and may it be His will that you have a long life ahead of you, for service to Him, and to your Nation.

Sincerely yours,  
b7c /s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4/AL/11



b7C

[REDACTED]

September 14, 1959

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Can you tell me whether or not the "National Council of Churches" and/or the "World Council of Churches" have been the subject of any investigation by your bureau as to their relation to Communism?

I am not asking for any details which you might not be in position to give, but would just like to know whether or not this question has been raised in connection with either of these organizations.

I am enclosing a copy of this letter and would deeply appreciate it if you would turn the copy over to the Agency in Washington, whose address I do not have, charged with investigating any and all Unamerican activities, for their help in this matter.

Incidentally and to both of you, this inquiry has to do only with whether or not these agencies merit the support of the church of which I am a member, and has nothing whatever to do with any question other than that.

Also, tell me whether or not your records show this question having been raised about the "Federal Council of Churches", who superseded the National Council.

Cordially,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

W

AIR MAIL

REC- 42

100-50869-310

18 SEP 21 1959

EX-100  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

9-17-59

REC-42

September 17, 1959

REC-42 100-50869-340

100  
b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated September 14, 1959, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I wish to advise that the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any organization, publication or individual. Information in our files, furthermore, is confidential and available for official use only. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiries.

Enclosed is material which outlines the responsibilities of the FBI, together with some other publications of possible interest to you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY [signature]  
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

**Enclosures (8)**

Director's speech 6-16-59

The Story of the FBI

God and Country or Communism?

Struggle on a New Plane

What You Can Do To Fight Communism

NOTE: Above reply has been given in the past in response to similar inquiries since the Bureau did make limited investigation concerning the group in question several years ago.

DCL:blb

(3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_

Communist "New Look"

Director's statement 3-26-47

Services of the FBI

E S I  
DIRECTOR

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-23155-1

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. McGuire  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

29 September 1959

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
9th St. and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Alarmed by the recent allegations made against the National Council of Churches, the [redacted] resolved to "Make a study of the National Council of Churches." In response to that resolution [redacted] appointed a committee to accomplish this purpose.

As chairman of that committee I am writing to ask if you will confirm or deny the allegations of un-American tendencies in the National Council of Churches or in any of its directing officials.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

EXP. PROC.  
SEP 30 1959

REC- 15 100-50869-341

EX - 136

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/4/83 BY SP4/che/jaw

ACK.  
1- NF w/enc  
10-5-59  
RDS/pwr

57620

1 - Mr. Simpson

October 8, 1959

ST REC-15  
esa 100-50869-341

EX-136

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated September 29, 1959, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any publication, individual or organization. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comment upon the organization you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Norfolk (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, NORFOLK

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the National Council of Churches (NCC) and this organization has become an extremely controversial one among various church groups. We have not investigated the NCC; however, we did make inquiries of informants in New York City in 1940 and did not develop any indication of communist or subversive influences on the part of persons affiliated with the organization at that time.

(100-50869)

33 OCT 9 1959 SEE NOTE ON YELLOW/EDGAR HOVER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/11/83 BY [REDACTED]

Tolson  
Belmont  
DeLoach  
McGuire  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Holloman

REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI  
OCT 5 11 50 AM '59

RECEIVED - OCT 20 1959

b7c

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

b7c

Correspondent advises that [REDACTED] (apparently of the Episcopalian Church) had appointed a committee to make a study of the NCC. As chairman of this committee, correspondent requests Bureau to confirm or deny "the allegations of un-American tendencies in the National Council of Churches or in any of its directing officials." Due to the numerous similar inquiries received concerning the NCC and the fact that it is becoming a controversial organization among church groups, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau. This reply is similar in nature to replies furnished to similar requests in the past.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

X TO : Director, FBI (100-50869)

DATE: 10/19/59

✓ FROM : Legat, Tokyo (105-1021)

SUBJECT: CHICOM INFILTRATION OF  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
IS - CH

Remylet 8/24/59.

b7D  
b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

b1

b7D  
b1  
Classified by SP46/ky  
Declassify on: OADR  
2/2/83

3-59

82 NOV 4 1959  
b7C (3) place cc in 100-40

place cc in 105-76896

REC-12

EX 100

23 OCT 22 1959

b7C

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-40-100-7114

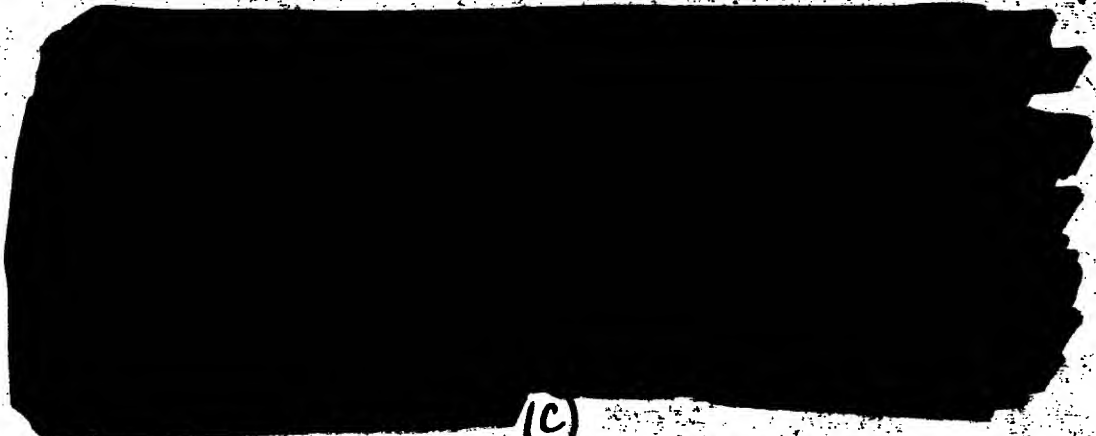
100-50869-342



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Tokyo 105-1021

b1

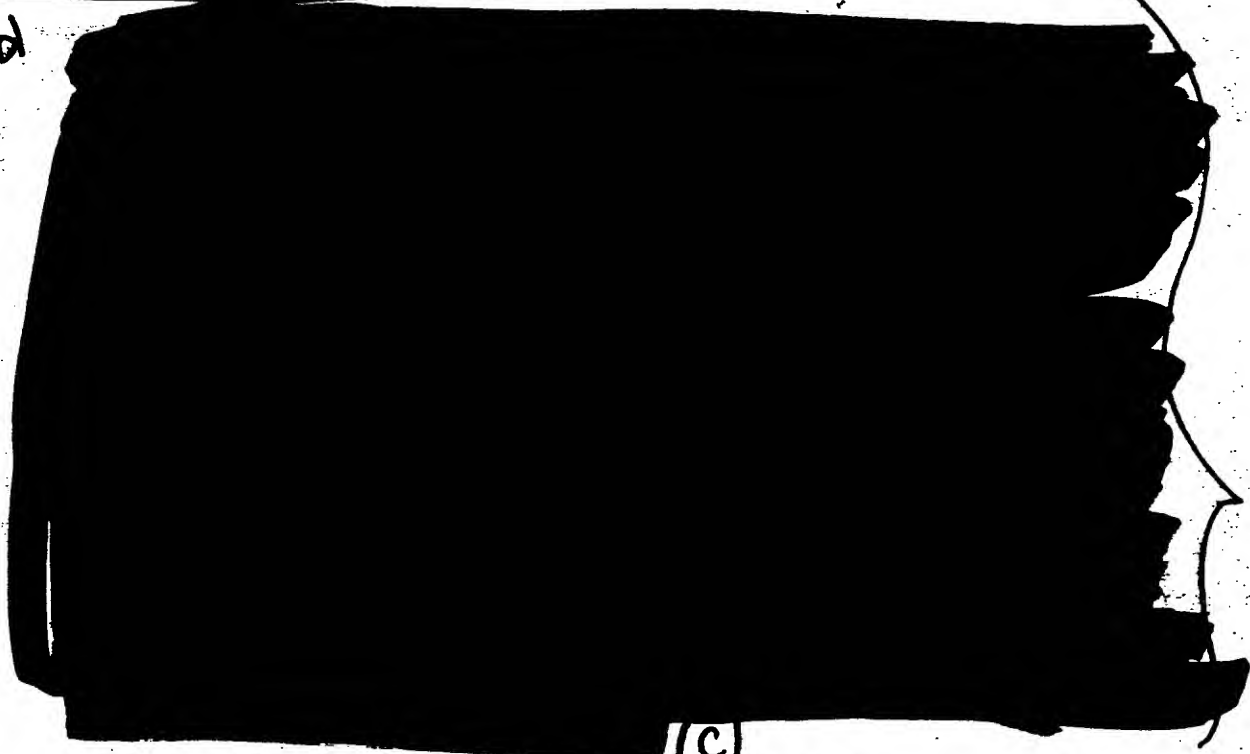


(c)

b1  
b7D



b1



(c)

b1



(c)

Tokyo 105-1021

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1

[REDACTED]

RUC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7C

[REDACTED]

Nov. 18, 1959

Dear Sirs;

We have been told that you have a list of known Communists in the churches and the National Council of Churches available to those who request it. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES wish to have this in-

formation if it is available. May we commend you on both this undercover work and your information given concerning juvenile delinquency.

send to:

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

ack 11-30-59 RDS: knco

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/6/83 BY [REDACTED]

b7C

TRUE COPY

b7C [REDACTED]  
Nov. 18, 1959

Dear Sirs;

We have been told that you have a list of known communists in the churches and the National Council of Churches available to those who request it.

We wish to have this information if it is available.

May we commend you on both this undercover work and your information given concerning juvenile delinquency.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ b7C  
[REDACTED]

send to:  
b7C [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY 984 alw/jde

November 30, 1959

EX 100

REC-4

100-50869-343

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 18, 1959, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI has not prepared and released for distribution a list of the type you mentioned. For your information, data in the files of the FBI is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. It, therefore, is not within my authority to comply with your request.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this regulation and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

I have noted your kind personal remarks and they are indeed gratifying.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 8

NOV 30 1959

COMM-FBI

Rw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/14/83 BY SP4/ab/ab

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Omaha

SEE NOTE TO SAC, OMAHA, PAGE TWO

RDS:kmo

(4)

53 DEC 9 1959

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOV 30 7 38 PM '59

REC'D-READING ROOM

REC'D W/IN ROOM

NOV 30 1959

NOV 30

b7c  
[REDACTED]  
ATTENTION: SAC, OMAHA

Correspondent advised she had been told that the Bureau has a list of known communists in the churches and the National Council of Churches (NCC) available to those who request it. She, therefore, requested such a list be furnished her if it is available. She also commended the Director "both on this undercover work and your information given concerning juvenile delinquency."

In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and this organization has become a controversial one among various church groups. We have not investigated the NCC; however, we did make inquiries of informants in New York City in 1950 and did not develop any indication of communist or subversive influences on the part of persons affiliated with the organization at that time. (100-50869)



Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. McGuire	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Parsons	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Holloman	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*W.S.*

Nov 30, 1959 ✓

THE F B I  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

GENTLEMEN,

SOME FIFTEEN OR LESS YEARS AGO, THE DEPARTMENT WROTE A LETTER TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA, SIGNED BY MR HOOVER, SAYING THAT HE OR THE F B I HAD NEVER SAID OR WRITTEN ANYTHING THAT WOULD HAVE CAST A SHADOW OF SUBVERSIVENESS ON THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. THE BUREAU'S LETTER WAS IN ANSWER TO CERTAIN FANATICAL GROUPS WHICH HAD QUOTED MR HOOVER COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTEXT.

THESE FANATICAL GROUPS CONTINUE THEIR HARASSMENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, AND I HAVE QUOTED THE LETTER MENTIONED ABOVE MANY TIMES.

AS ONE WHO BELIEVES IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW OF MORE RECENT DATE IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY REASON FOR THE BUREAU TO CHANGE ITS STATEMENT THAT NEITHER IT NOR MR HOOVER HAS ANY REVEALABLE EVIDENCE THAT THERE IS COMMUNISM, HINT OF COMMUNISM OR OTHER SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS IN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL'S PROGRAM OR LEADING PERSONNEL.

THANKING YOU FOR THIS INFORMATION I REMAIN

YOURS SINCERELY

REC-11

100-50869-344

EX-117

DEC 11 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4

*ack. 12-8-59*  
*NFL: jif*

*8-RK*

EXP. PROC  
DEC 3 1959

REC- 11/30-50869-344

December 8, 1959

EX-117

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of November 30, 1959, and your interest in writing is indeed appreciated.

The letter you mentioned is probably identical with my communication of February 3, 1951, which was published by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America in their booklet entitled "Plain Facts about the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A." My letter referred to quotations taken out of context from my statement before the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives on March 26, 1947, and I stated that neither on that occasion nor at any other time have I made any statements criticizing the Federal Council of Churches or the National Council of Churches. I am enclosing, for your information, a reprint of my remarks of March 26, 1947, before the above-mentioned Committee.

With regard to your request for an evaluation of the National Council of Churches and its officers, I must advise that the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing observations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any publication, individual or organization. I know you understand my position.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

(See Note next page)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/6/83 BY SP4/11

DEC 8 4 19 PM '59  
REC'D-READING ROOM

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7C

**NOTE:** There is no record in Bufiles concerning [REDACTED]  
No active investigation has been conducted concerning the National Council of Churches; however, inquiries were made of informants in New York City in 1950 which did not disclose any communist or subversive influences on the part of persons affiliated with the Council. The Director's letter of 2-3-51, which is mentioned above, was directed to Mr. E. L. Repass of the Norfolk and Western Railway, Roanoke, Virginia, in answer to his letter of 1-26-51 which quoted the Director out of context. (100-50869-242, 191)

b7C [REDACTED]  
December 8, 1959

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

b7C Dear Mr. Hoover:

We, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are young ministerial students at [REDACTED]

Having recently heard Rev. Billy James Hargis, of Christain Crusade, speak, we have become alarmed at the condition of our country and the way communism is taking over.

We would appreciate very much if you would send us facts on the following, the way that they pertain to Communism:

- (1) The National Council of Churches.
- (2) The Revised Standard Version of the Bible.
- (3) The Supreme Court.
- (4) Television, has it helped our nation? Increased or decreased juvenile delinquency? Helped or lowered our educational system?

Please send us any other information that we as ministers should present to the people in this day.

Also, we would like to know if there are any communists in the Congregational Methodist Church, as that is our denomination.

We hope this will not inconvenience you, but we are concerned, and want to present the information you send us to our classes and our people. We will appreciate any information you can send us as to what WE can do to try to save our nation from Communism.

EX 109

Sincerely, REC-50

100-50869-34  
10 DEC 21 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/16/89 BY SP5/BJH/ldh  
COPIES DESTROYED

28 JAN 9 1974  
Ack 12-18-59  
RDS:kmw  
b7C [REDACTED]  
5780

mpson

CONFIDENTIAL

December 18, 1959

EX-109  
REC-5  
b7c

100-50869-345

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated December 9, 1959, also signed by [Redacted] has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of service, the function of the FBI as a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. Furthermore, information in the files of the FBI is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret, therefore, that I am unable to comply with your requests. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this regulation and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

Classified by SP-1  
Declassify on: OADR  
12/6/83

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

FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM

DEC 18 10 42 AM '59

There are enclosed, however, several items of literature available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

DEC 18 1959  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson
- Belmont
- DeLoach
- McGuire
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

Enclosures (9)

SEE NOTE TO SAC, SAN ANTONIO PAGE TWO

CONFIDENTIAL

SEE NOTE TO SAC, SAN ANTONIO PAGE THREE



b7C  
[REDACTED]  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

ATTENTION: SAC, SAN ANTONIO

b7C  
Enclosed is a copy of correspondents' communication.  
Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning [REDACTED]  
and [REDACTED]

b1  
[REDACTED]  
The Bureau has in recent years received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the National Council of Churches (NCC) and this organization has become an extremely controversial one among various church groups. We have not investigated the NCC, however, we did make inquiries of informants in New York City in 1950 and did not develop any indication of communist or subversive influence on the part of the persons affiliated with the organization at that time. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondents as enclosures to Bulet:

1. "Juvenile Delinquency." Reprint from the Syracuse Law Review, Spring, 1953.
2. "The Rectangular Screen and Delinquency."
3. "What Can We Do About 'Delinquency'?"
4. "Counterattack on Juvenile Delinquency."
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "The American Ideal." Address of J. Edgar Hoover at Freedoms Foundation Annual Awards
7. "Communism and the College Student."
8. Reprint from the "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin," April, 1959.
9. "What You Can Do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."

**CONFIDENTIAL**



b7C  
[REDACTED]  
NOTE ON YELLOW:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Correspondents advised they are young ministerial students of the Congregational Methodist Church and after hearing Hargis lecture, have become alarmed at the way communism is taking over. They request they be sent facts on the NCC, the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, the Supreme Court and television concerning the "way that they pertain to Communism." With respect to television, they inquire if it has increased or decreased juvenile delinquency and helped or lowered our educational system. They further request any information that they, as ministers, should present to the people and whether there are any communists in the Congregational Methodist Church.

In view of the extremely broad and very general nature of their requests, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

