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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**HQ FILE: 100-50869**

**SECTION 9**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

## **NOTICE**

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

REC-1

56422

April 28, 1960

416

EX 105

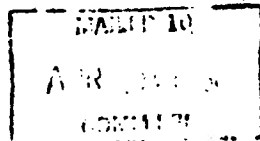
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 18, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

The FBI has from time to time issued various articles and statements concerning the menace of communism. In view of your interest, I am enclosing some of this material which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures - 8

1 - SAC, Pittsburgh (Enclosure)

NOTE TO SAC, PITTSBURGH, PAGE TWO

THF:bgc

(4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW: PAGE TWO

50023

ATTENTION: SAC, PITTSBURGH

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

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party (CP), USA, to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigation of the CP, USA, and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CP, USA, is dictating the policies of the NCCC today. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Communist 'New Look'."
3. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
7. "How to Beat Communism."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is vice-chairman of the Board of Deacons, First Baptist Church of [redacted] and expresses concern over allegations of communist infiltration of the National Council of Churches. He asks "if any, a part of, or a majority of the present or past officers of the Council have been (or are) affiliated with the Communist Party."

[REDACTED]  
April 18, 1960

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

Dear Sir:

As the vice-chairman of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church of [REDACTED] I have been deeply concerned over certain allegations concerning the National Council of Churches and the Communist Party. While our church is not a member of the Council per se we are a member of the American Baptist Convention, which actively participates in the Council.

Knowing your concern about Communism I do not feel it an imposition asking for information about the Council in that connection. I am not particularly desirous of obtaining a list of names - rather I want to know if any, a part of, or a majority of the present or past officers of the Council have been (or are) affiliated with the Communist Party.

Certainly every thinking Christian realizes that Communism and Christianity are antithetical by nature. If there are any connections between the two the witness of Christ is affected adversely. This is my concern as an officer of the church. The American Baptist Convention meets in yearly session in Rochester this year in June. Any information or comments you would care to make would be most beneficial in the instructions our delegates might receive before the Convention starts.

If you will (I'm sure that you can) give me any information on this matter you will have helped the Christian cause that much. If the charges are false then we ought to stand behind the Council - if they are founded in fact then we ought to take such action as we feel necessary under God's leadership.

In closing I want to emphasize that I am writing as an individual, rather than by authority of the church. I am hoping that your reply will give me sufficient information to bring before my fellow Deacons.

Thank you for your consideration.

REC-1  
Very truly yours,  
[REDACTED]

100-5069-416  
18 APR 20 1960

COPIES DESTROYED

REC-54/

April 25, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 12, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Dallas (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, DALLAS

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

NOTE TO DALLAS, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

THF:pw (4) SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

FBI - DALLAS  
REC'D APR 26 1960

APR 20 1960

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE TO DALLAS. CONTINUED

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, (CPUSA), to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CPUSA and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CPUSA is dictating the policies of the NCCC today.  
(100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is desirous of obtaining the true facts concerning recent charges against the NCCC.

350. ROOMS

350 BATHS

# Hotel Scharbauer

COMPLETELY AIR CONDITIONED BY REFRIGERATION

MIDLAND, TEXAS

4/12/68

MRS. RUTH SCHARBAUER, PRES.  
F. W. "FROSTY" BARNETT, MGR.

J. Edgar Hoover  
Dept. J. D. T.  
Washington D. C.

(R) 78-1

I hear Mr. Hoover.

I do not know, if I  
should be writing you on this subject  
Mr. Hoover, but correct information  
is badly needed.

Our church members are divided  
over the National Council of Churches  
and their leader Mr. Halberg.

Neither side seem to be able to  
produce any evidence of authority, at

present. It appears to be a lot of talk and no action.

Both sides with out proof and no action on the part of the other side such statements.

STORAGE GARAGE IN HOTEL BUILDING ENTRANCE DIRECT TO LOBBY

# Hotel Scharbauer

COMPLETELY AIR CONDITIONED BY REFRIGERATION

MIDLAND, TEXAS

MRS. RUTH SCHARBAUER, PRES.  
F. W. "FROSTY" BARNETT, MGR.

I as a citizen, am interested in only one thing, the preservation of our Christian heritage. The teaching of Jesus Christ, and the protection of our American way of life, based on his teaching.

Surely in our vast files of information we have documented evidence of any group that is questioned on its activities, and its goals. If the group is right they should be supported if said group is wrong the public should know, so that we can not be deceived, because facts are not known.

350 ROOMS

350 BATHS

# Hotel Scharbauer

COMPLETELY AIR CONDITIONED BY REFRIGERATION

MIDLAND, TEXAS

MRS. RUTH SCHARBAUER, Pres.  
F. W. "FROSTY" BARNETT, Mgr.

I believe the Scriptures tell us "Know  
The Truth and it shall make you free"  
We must too know the truth, to  
protect what our forefathers left to us so  
we can pass it on to our children.

I am not one of the wasteful  
-thinking citizens who think this generation  
is Gods chosen Generation, and that  
we do not need to protect, what was  
left to us, of which we were supposed  
to be stewards over. I am for passing it  
on to the next generation,

A reply from your dept would be  
greatly appreciated.

Yours truly  
[Redacted Signature]

STORAGE GARAGE IN HOTEL BUILDING ENTRANCE DIRECT TO LOBBY

1 - Mr. Simpson

REC-74 100-50819-414

April 21, 1960

AIRMAIL

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 14, 1960, with its enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

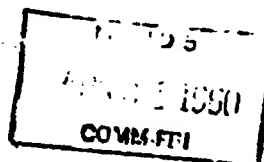
- 1 - New York (Enclosure)
- 1 - Boston (Enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO SACS NEW YORK AND BOSTON, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:kmo (5)

☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



[REDACTED]

ATTENTION: SACs NEW YORK AND BOSTON

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent or the book "Christians and the State." Correspondent enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

[REDACTED]

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party (CP), USA, to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CP, USA, and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CP, USA, is dictating the policies of the NCCC today. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent requests the Bureau's opinion of "Christians and the State" by John C. Bennett. A condensation of two chapters of the book is being distributed by the United Church Women, a department of the NCCC. Correspondent finds no reference in the book to Bennett's connection with the Union Theological Seminary and inquires if she is correct in assuming he is the same one who has been described in the press as being of questionable loyalty.

NOTE ON YELLOW CONTINUED, PAGE THREE

NOTE ON YELLOW CONTINUED:

The self-addressed, stamped envelope furnished by the correspondent is being used in reply. Bulet sent airmail since correspondent furnished airmail stamp.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
April 14, 1960

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

Dear Sir:

I should appreciate your opinion of "Christians and the State" by John C. Bennett, published by Charles Scribner's Sons. A condensation of two of the chapters is being distributed throughout the United States by United Church Women, a department of the National Council of Churches, 475 Fifth Avenue, New York 27, New York. Protestant women are being urged to read the complete book in preparation for their May 6th Fellowship Day, the theme of which is worded - "Citizenship, Free and Responsible".

I find no reference in this booklet to Dr. Bennett being connected with Union Theological Seminary, but am I correct in thinking that he is the same one who has been described in the press as being of questionable loyalty to our country?

An early reply will be appreciated, since I am Publicity Chairman for our local Council of Church Women, as well as holding an office in our State Council. 67-414

REC-74  
Very truly yours,  
[REDACTED]

1 - Mr. Farrow

April 26, 1960

REC-75

129

413

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 19, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

The FBI has issued, from time to time, various statements and items of literature concerning the growing menace of communism to this country. I am enclosing some of this material which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (8)

1 - Richmond (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO RICHMOND, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE THREE

THF:pw (4)

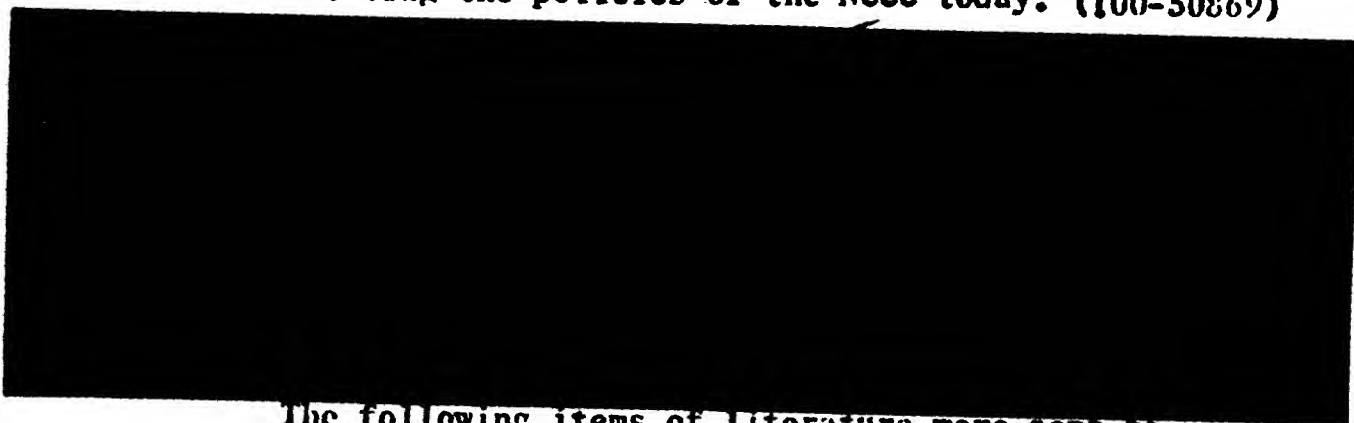
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENTION: SAC, RICHMOND**

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

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, (CPUSA), to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CPUSA and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CPUSA is dictating the policies of the NCCC today. (100-50869)



The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, CPUSA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Communist 'New Look.'"
3. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
7. "How to Beat Communism."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent requests information concerning the "Infiltration of Communism in the National Council of Churches." He requests the names of members of the Revisory Board which prepared the New Standard Revised Bible. He states that according to Captain Edgar C. Bundy, each of these individuals was "in some way entangled with Communism." It is believed that the above letter of acknowledgment will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

Correspondent was not addressed as "Reverend" because of insufficient information reflecting his status.

[REDACTED]

April 19, 1960

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

Dear Sir

I hardly know how to ask but will you give me some information on the Infiltration of Communism in the National Council of Churches I am an Independent Gospel Minister,

I resigned the Christian Deciple Bro, hood Church in 1952 because they excepted the New Standard Revised Bible

would you also send me the Names of each member that was on the Revisory Board of this New Bible, according to Captian Edgar, C, Bundy Captian of U.S. Air force Reserve Each each Man that was on the ~~Revisory~~ Revisory Board was in some way entangled with Communism

I would like also to have some information on the Air Force Manual

hoping to hear from you real soon

Thanks to you

I remain yours Very Truly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-75

APR 22 1960

APR 27 1960

413

1 - Mr. Farrow

REC-53

April 22, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

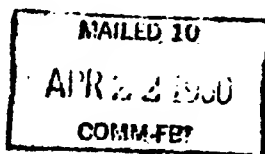
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In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly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

The FBI has issued, from time to time, various statements and items of literature concerning the growing menace of communism to this country. I am enclosing some of this material which may be of interest to you.

I want to thank you most cordially for your kind personal remarks, and I trust that the work of the FBI will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (8)

1 - Kansas City, (enclosure)  
SEE NOTE TO KANSAS CITY, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

APR 28 1960

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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

**ATTENTION: SAC, KANSAS CITY**

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

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, (CPUSA), to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CPUSA and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CPUSA is dictating the policies of the NCCC today. (100-50869)

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4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
7. "How to Beat Communism."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent states he is a Bible student who has become increasingly interested in the menace of communism and its infiltration of our churches. His concern has been "especially sparked by the Air Force manual which cited the National Council of Churches as being subversive and infiltrated with Communists." Correspondent requests a list of reliable and trustworthy sources of information on the communist menace. In view of the highly controversial nature of this topic, it is believed that the above reply best serves the Bureau's interests.

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

April 12, 1960  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am a Bible student in a small denominational college in the midwest. My home is in California. I am preparing to be a minister of God's Word; a preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

During the past year I have become increasingly interested in the menace of Communism and it's infiltration into our churches. My concern has been especially sparked by the Air Force manual which cited the National Council of Churches as being subversive and infiltrated with Communists. The denomination to which I belong is not a member of the N.C.C. I feel, however, that what effects one member of the body of Christ, effects the other members as well.

I am now studying this problem with much interest. I have been reading the works of many men and organizations which claim to be, and appear to be, fighting for freedom, democracy, and Christianity. Among those from whom I have taken information are; Herbert A. Phillips, Edward Frederick Weber, The Georgia Commission on Education, Dr. Billy James Harris, Noel Smith, J.E. Matthews, The American Mercury Magazine, Dr. C. W. Burpo, Manning Johnson, and others including various government publications.

The problem which I have come up against is this; who can we trust? I can not possibly do all of the extensive research which these men have done. I have to trust in someone for a reliable source of information.

This brings me to the point of this letter. I would be gratefully pleased if you would send me a list of reliable and trustworthy source of information. I realize you are extremely busy so perhaps one of your secretaries could make the list for me. I would also appreciate any additional information which you may send.

I am certainly grateful that we still have some faithful Christian men, such as yourself, in many of our responsible positions of government. I am praying for you, your work, and the future of our country.

Yours co-laborer for Christ  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

EX-12  
APR 15 1960  
PROC.

412  
578

1 - Mr. Simpson

April 22, 1960

REC-16  
EX-105

411

Dear [REDACTED]

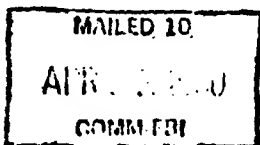
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While I am precluded from furnishing the information you have requested, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



Enclosures (8)

1 - Kansas City (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO KANSAS CITY, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4) SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Hagan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Hosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62 APR 29 1960

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

**ATTENTION: SAC, KANSAS CITY**

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

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, (CPUSA), to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CPUSA and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CPUSA is dictating the policies of the NCCC today. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

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3. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
4. "How to Beat Communism."
5. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communist 'New Look.'"
7. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent requested any information we are able to furnish him concerning communists in protestant churches and especially the NCCC and desires documented evidence that some of the leaders of the NCCC are pro-communist. He is a lay leader in the Methodist Church and wants to try to have the church withdraw from the NCCC.

Since correspondent desires to obtain information from the FBI to use in his campaign against the NCCC, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

April 14, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This is the first time I have ever tried anything like this and I hardly know how to go about asking for what I want, or if you can give me what I want.

I would like any information that you are able to give me on the infiltration of Communism into our Protestant Churches, especially our interest in the National Council of Churches. What I would like to have is documented evidence that some of the members of the National Council of Churches are pro-communist or are communist front organizations.

I am a lay leader in our local Methodist Church and I am a member of the National Council of Churches. I have been asked to try and get some information at its annual meeting in Denver this summer, to withdraw from the National Council of Churches.

I realize the importance of a one man campaign, but I sincerely believe that Communism will only be won once they know the truth and the truth can only be supplied by organizations like the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I know, Sir, how busy you are but any information you can give me and any light you can shed on this subject will certainly be appreciated.

Thank you for your time, Sir.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

Act  
1. K. W. [unclear]  
4-22-60

PDS / [unclear]

REC-16

05

APR 25 1960

1 - Mr. Farrow

REC-74

100-50869-410

April 21, 1960

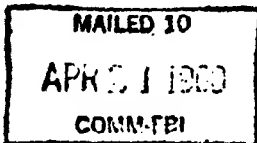
Dear [REDACTED]:

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

While I am precluded from furnishing the information you requested, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (8)

1 - Springfield (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, SPRINGFIELD

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

NOTE TO SPRINGFIELD, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

THF:pw (4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

52 APR 27 1960

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

**NOTE TO SPRINGFIELD. CONTINUED**

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, (CPUSA), to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CPUSA and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CPUSA is dictating the policies of the NCCC today. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Communist 'New Look.'"
3. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
7. "How to Beat Communism."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent states that as a result of the Air Force Manual incident, the question of communist infiltration in the NCCC has been brought into the limelight. He states that he finds opinions on both sides and both sides providing facts to substantiate their claims. He asks the question "Has the National Council been invaded or not." Due to the controversial nature of this topic, it is believed that the above reply will best serve the Bureau's interests.

WLB SO 2 37 1960

ERT: [unclear]  
MCC: [unclear]

[REDACTED]  
April 12, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently, as a result of the Air Force manual incident, the question of Communist infiltration into the National Council of Churches has come into the limelight. This, however, was not the first time I had heard this accusation.

I have heard from several sources that such a situation existed and that the President of the organization has allowed his name to be associated with questionable groups.

However, now that the subject is under fire, we find opinions on both sides and with both sides providing facts to substantiate their claims. The Official Board of our particular church has gone on record as withholding support from the National Council of Churches until such time as they have exonerated themselves from these claims or corrected them. We have had communications from the Foundation for Economic Education, Church League of America, Washington News Syndicate, and others, stating that at least Socialistic tendencies or affiliations, in some cases Communistic affiliations, have existed in the past and some even presently within the leadership of the National Council. On the other hand, the Council and many cooperating denominations deny this vigorously.

My question, and most likely, many other people's question-- Who is right?

There is no question in my mind but what the unsuspecting Churches of America would be an ideal nesting place for Communism. But, has the National Council been invaded or not.

I felt that with your attitude towards Communism, and your thorough knowledge of where it lurks, you would be able to answer this question better than anyone else. If it is possible to do so, and the information is not of a confidential nature, could you give me what information you might have available which will answer this question once and for all.

Thanking you very sincerely, I remain

Very truly yours,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

REC-74

APR 22 1960

410



UNITED STATES

DOCUMENT

## Memo.

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 4/19/60

FROM : SAC, Indianapolis (62-1344)

SUBJECT: AIR FORCE TRAINING MANUAL,  
Student Text NR 45-0050,  
INCA. V, Vol. 7  
Information Concerning

Complainant

Re Director's letter to  
Christian Church,  
dated 4/8/60.

On 4/15/60 SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] at which time [redacted] was informed that the FBI had never issued a statement pertaining to the subversive affiliation of some of the translators of the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible as contained in the Air Force Training Manual "Individual and Group Defense." [redacted] was further advised of the confidential nature of this matter to the FBI. It was further explained to [redacted] the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication, or organization. [redacted] was further informed of the fact the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

[redacted] explained that his reason for communicating with the FBI concerning this matter was based upon statements made to him by a member of his church congregation following a sermon given by him to his church congregation at the Christian Church, [redacted] the latter part of March, 1960. [redacted] stated that during his sermon he had read to the congregation a letter from the National Council of Churches of Christ concerning this matter. [redacted] stated that [redacted] who resides [redacted] had suggested openly to the position taken by the National Council of Churches of Christ. [redacted] stated he subsequently entered

3 - Bureau  
2 - Indianapolis

REC-21

JCH/szm  
(5)

20 APR 21 1960

57 APR 27 1960

EXP-PROC

12 62-1344

into a conversation with [REDACTED] at which time he stated that [REDACTED] told him the material concerning the subversive affiliation of 30 or 35 members of a group of some 95 translators of the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible, which is discussed in the Air Force Training Manual, was material supplied from the files of the FBI. He stated that he did not consider the statement made by [REDACTED] as being correct, and it was obvious from his discussion of the matter with [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] accepted the material as set forth in the Air Force Training Manual to be completely accurate and above reproach.

[REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] is a very influential member of the Church congregation. It was pointed out to [REDACTED] that his cooperation in disclosing the identity of [REDACTED] was appreciated as it was desirable to bring to attention of [REDACTED] the inaccurate statement made by him regarding the material set forth in the Air Force Training Manual as being furnished from the files of the FBI.

[REDACTED] stated that it was his desire to also contact [REDACTED] to advise him of the fact that his statement, with respect to the material set forth in the Air Force Training Manual, was based on information from the files of the FBI, was an inaccurate statement and that he had corresponded with the FBI concerning this matter.

[REDACTED] is a student attending theological school of the Christian Church in [REDACTED] and is employed as a pastor of the [REDACTED] Church. [REDACTED] appears to be sincere and obviously concerned regarding the statement made by [REDACTED] to the effect that information contained in the Air Force Training Manual was based on information from FBI files.

LWD

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana: UACB, [REDACTED] will be interviewed and the inaccurate statement allegedly made by him brought to his attention. The Bureau will be advised of results of interview.

April 15, 1960

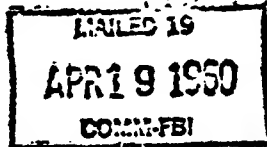
100-50869-

AIRMAIL

Dear [REDACTED]

I was glad to receive your letter of April 11 enclosing the correspondence with Senators Bush and Mundt.

I found your enclosures very interesting. With regard to your inquiry, Senator Bush has not spoken to me personally about this matter but has written me just recently about getting together. I am unable to make satisfactory arrangements to do so at this time because of out of town commitments. Inasmuch as the letters you enclosed are undoubtedly of value to you, I am returning them as enclosures to this letter.



With kind regards,

Sincerely,  
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE [REDACTED] is on the Special Correspondents' List. The letters he enclosed concern his charges and a reply from Senator Bush relative to the National Council of Churches (NCC). Bush takes the position, as he has apparently done publicly, that the Air Force Manual contained unsubstantiated charges and was not checked for accuracy. In Senator Mundt's letter to [REDACTED] he mentions that [REDACTED] has described the complacency of Bush and further that Mundt suggested to Bush that he have a "heart-to-heart" talk with J. Edgar Hoover about the whole business of communist activity and techniques in America." There is no indication that Senator Bush has spoken to the Director about the NCC or the Air Force Manual; however, a DeLoach to Mohr memo dated 2-24-60 reflects that Bush's secretary called the Bureau on 2-22-60 and explained that Bush had made a press release on 2-20-60 relative to the fact that there were no subversives in the NCC and

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ELC:jcs/mm/blj/4

NOTE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

67 ADD 91 1000

NOTE CONTINUED: describing the Air Force Manual as "outrageous." The secretary further explained that Bush was getting a number of letters and telegrams protesting his stand and she desired to obtain information from the Bureau which would, in some manner, substantiate the Senator's position. She was told our files were confidential and the Director noted, "Right. The Senator got himself into this position and will have to get himself out. H." In view of the recent controversy relative to the NCC and the Air Force Manual, it is deemed appropriate to make comments along this line in this letter to [REDACTED]

[Redacted]

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Parsons
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Malone
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. W. J. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Ingram
- Miss Gandy

April 11th. 1960.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF  
CHRIST IN AMERICA

Dear Edgar:

I am enclosing a letter which is partially self-explanatory. Some time ago I was astounded to read that Sen. Prescott Bush of Connecticut had attacked the writer of the Airforce Manual with regard to Subversion in the Clergy. I wrote to the Senator enclosing material clearly showing that the Communists had not overlooked the Clergy in their efforts to hoodwink the American public. I could not believe that a United States Senator in 1960 could have been so naive. (Am enclosing his letter as well).

*Don R. [unclear]*  
*M. A. [unclear]*

I am writing to see if he has called on you for information.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

100-50869-

NOT RECORDED  
 149 APR 20 1960  
 FBI - NEW YORK

3 ENCLOSURE

*ackd 4-15-60*  
*SLK*  
*4-15-60*  
*4-15-60*

APR 13 11 00 AM '60  
 FBI - NEW YORK  
 RECEIVED  
 APR 13 6 00 PM '60  
 FBI - NEW YORK  
 RECEIVED  
 APR 13 6 00 PM '60  
 FBI - NEW YORK

*(Handwritten initials)*  
*Edgar*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-50869-25

1 -  
April 13, 1960

REC-20 - 53869-407

117

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

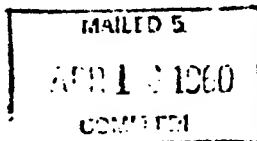
Your letter dated April 6, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

While I am precluded from furnishing the information you have requested, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



Enclosures (8)

1 - Oklahoma City (enclosure)  
SEE NOTE TO OKLAHOMA CITY, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE THREE

WGS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENTION: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY**

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

*(National Council of the Churches)*  
The Air Force Manual was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) that the Manual linked communism with the United States churches. The Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the NCCC has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party (CP), USA, to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CP, USA, and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CP, USA, is dictating the policies of the NCCC today.

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
3. "Communist 'New Look.'"
4. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "How to Beat Communism."
7. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is writing in behalf of some of the members of her church who are concerned about the charge in the Air Force Manual that the NCCC is communistic. She states that one member has dropped out of the church because of this and others are spreading this information to the extent the correspondent feels it will be detrimental to her church. She inquires as to the accuracy of the charge that the NCCC is communistic.

TRUE COPY

Also writing to  
House of un-American Activities

April 6, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

One of the ladies of our church sent a letter to another member saying, "she couldn't worship in our church any more because the committee on un-American activities in Washington, D. C. and the United States Air Force have found the National Council of Churches to be Communistic and our church (Christian or Disciples of Christ) is affiliated with National Council of Churches. The United Christian Missionary Society is a main organization connected with National Council and I just can't go ahead giving my money and support to the communist."

She even went on to say, "the Revised Bible from which our new minister has been using to preach from is sponsored by National Council."

This lady is completely convinced of what she is saying is true but she and several other people have been repeating the same story. This in time will hurt our church. I'm sure if our church is connected with this, it is only innocently - if this information is true. It is these people that are spreading the stories we wish to convince.

We would like to know if her information is accurate?

It seems impossible that in a town the size of [redacted] population around three hundred, could be touched by such a thing. I'm sure this is exactly the sort of thing the communist delight in stirring up.

Any information concerning this matter, you could give us, would be greatly appreciated. Please answer as quickly as possible.

Yours truly,

Some of the Members of the  
[redacted] Christian Church

Answer to:

[redacted]

TRUE COPY

407

Also writing to  
House of Un-American Activities April 6, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

One of the ladies of our church  
sent a letter to another member  
saying "she could not worship  
our church any more because  
the committee on un-American  
activities in Washington, D.C.  
and the United States Air Force  
have found the National Council  
of Churches to be Communist and  
our church (Christian or Disciples  
of Christ) is affiliated with  
National Council of Churches. The  
United Christian Missionary Society

REC-117  
APR 13 1950  
EX-117  
REC-20  
100-50869-467  
APR 8 1950  
CRIME-REC-1

is a union organization connected  
with National Council and I  
just can't go ahead giving my  
money and support to the  
Communist.

She even went on to say, "The  
Revised Bible from which our  
our minister has been using  
to preach from is sponsored  
by National Council."

This lady is completely convinced  
of what she is saying is true but  
she and several other people have  
been repeating the same story. This  
in time will hurt our church. I  
am sure if our church is connected  
with this, it is only innocently  
so. The information is true. It  
is these people that are spreading  
the stories we ~~wish~~ to convince.

He would like to know if her information is accurate?

It seems impossible that in a town the size of [REDACTED] population around three hundred, could be touched by such a thing. I'm sure this is exactly the sort of thing the communist delight in stirring up.

Any information concerning this matter, you could give us, would be greatly appreciated. Please answer as quickly as possible.

Yours truly,

Some of the Members  
of the [REDACTED]  
Christian Church

answer to:  
[REDACTED]

Simpson

April 14, 1960

REC-87

100-200000-405

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 4, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is appreciated.

In response to your inquiries, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

It is indeed gratifying to receive your kind personal remarks, and I trust that the work of this Bureau will always merit your support.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - San Antonio (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO SAN ANTONIO, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

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

62 APR 20 1960


TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**ATTENTION: SAC, SAN ANTONIO**

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

The Air Force Manual referred to by the correspondent was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) that the Manual linked communism with churches in the United States. The Air Force subsequently withdrew this Manual.

For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the NCCC has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, (CPUSA) to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the CPUSA and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the CPUSA is dictating the policies of the NCCC today.



**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent states that since the Air Force Manual brought the issue of communism in churches before the American people, he has tried to stand for the truth and reveal the facts to his people from the pulpit. After a recent lecture by Bundy, a certain minister ridiculed Bundy stating there had been no convictions of individuals in the NCCC and these persons should be considered innocent until proven guilty. Correspondent, therefore, requests the Bureau furnish him information concerning individuals in the NCCC and the names of any found guilty in court. He

**NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED, PAGE THREE**

NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED

inquires that if these men in the NCCC are guilty, why can't they be brought to trial. Correspondent expressed his confidence in the Director and his work and prays that God gives the Director wisdom as he leads in this important fight.

April 4, 1960

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

Dear Sir;

I have always believed that communism had as its goal to take over the churches in America, in their usual manner. I have never doubted the testimony of your dept. or the Un-American Activities Committee. Since the Air Reserve Center Training Manual has brought this issue before the American people, I have tried to stand for the truth as I believe it and reveal these facts to my people from the pulpit.

A few nights ago, <sup>NY</sup> Mayor Edgar Bunday spoke in a local church and I encouraged my people to attend the meeting. A few days later a certain Methodist minister, during the Sunday morning worship service in his church, ridiculed men like Mayor Bunday, and sent letters to all of his members accusing them of causing a fuss over nothing.

He stated in his letter that there were no convictions, and that these men, in the National Council of Churches, were innocent until proved guilty. I would like to have information concerning these men, and names of those who have been found guilty, in court. If these men are guilty why can't they be brought to trial. I have confidence in you and in your work and I want all the information that I can obtain so that I can warn my people.

It is so easy for the American people to accept all these wolves in sheep clothing. I have never been affiliated with the N.A.A.C.P. and will never be. Praying that God will give you wisdom as you lead in this important fight, and that our people will come to a place that they will not close their eyes to the truth. I really believe our greatest foe is the internal foe.

Sincerely,

REC 87

APR 15 1960

1 - Mr. Shaw

April 12, 1960

[REDACTED]  
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 4, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

The FBI has issued, from time to time, various statements and items of literature concerning the menace of communism to this country. I am enclosing some of this material, which may be of interest to you.

MAILED 5

APR 12 1960

COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (8)

1 - Kansas City (Enclosure) (See note, page two)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE THREE

WGS:kmo (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

APR 12 1960

ORIGINAL FILE IN 62-203-1

**ATTENTION: SAC, KANSAS CITY**

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

The Navy Manual referred to by the correspondent apparently refers to the Air Force Manual which was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) that the Manual linked communism with the United States churches. The Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. For a number of years allegations have been made by a number of people, including some clergymen, to the effect that the NCCC has been infiltrated by communists. Although we have never conducted an investigation of the NCCC, as such, we have kept abreast of the efforts of the Communist Party, USA, to infiltrate this organization through our over-all investigations of the Communist Party, USA, and communist efforts to infiltrate mass-type organizations. It does not appear from the information we have developed that the Communist Party, USA, is dictating the policies of the NCCC today.

The following items of literature were furnished to the correspondent:

1. Statement by Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
3. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
4. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "How to Beat Communism."
7. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is an Elder in his church, which supports the NCCC. He inquires as to whether he can depend upon the statement in the service manual with regard to communists being in the NCCC. He feels that the statement in the manual is sound but desires that we give him the final word. In view of the extremely controversial nature of correspondent's inquiry, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
April 4 1960

Mr. Hoover;

I am an Elder in my Church and my Church does support the National Council of Churches. Are you permitted to tell me how much I can depend upon the statement made recently by the Navy in their manual in regard to Communist in this organization. I do not want to be a party to supporting this or any other Organization which is in any way controlled by Communists.

In asking you for this information it will be only for the purpose of doing all I can to have my Church with draw from supporting such a group. I want to be sure and since our navy has made this report it upsets me and I can't help but feel it is sound, but I wish you would inform me as a final word in making up my mind.

Yours Confidently.

/s/ [REDACTED]

100-100000  
NOT RECORDED  
149 APR 14 1960

TRUE COPY

ORIGINAL FILE IN 100-100000-1

April 12, 1960

REC-54

50-67-404

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of April 6, 1960, and appreciate your interest in writing me.

While I would like to be of assistance in response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal government and furnishing data of this type would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the group you named. Please do not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have in our files the specific information you desire.

In view of your concern about communism, I am enclosing some material which you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)

Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality

3-1-60 LEB Introduction

Statement concerning 17th National Convention, CP, USA

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

ELC:cfn/hmm (3)

MAILED 4  
APR 12 1960  
FBI-WASH  
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**NOTE:** The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections with the National Council of Churches and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization. More recently, the incident relative to the Air Force manual has caused even more controversy, and for this reason, a "files confidential" reply is deemed appropriate. The district superintendents of The Methodist Church are ministers.

April 6, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am District Superintendent of the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] of the Methodist Church. This  
geographic area includes a large part of the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

The recent publicity given the Air Force Technical Manual, especially the references or charges made to the National Council of Churches has caused no little unrest and concern among our people. Therefore, will you please answer the following questions concerning so called communistic tendencies which may or may not be found in the National Council of Churches: (1) Does the Federal Bureau of Investigation consider the National Council of Churches Communistic in nature? (2) Do you have listed at the present time, or has the Federal Bureau of Investigation ever listed the National Council of Churches as a subversive organization?

Your immediate reply will be appreciated.

Yours truly,  
[REDACTED]

54

9 APR 12 1960

CRIMINAL  
[REDACTED]

EXP. 1000  
APR 7 1960

404

- Mr. Shaw

April 5, 1960

REC-17

403

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 28, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

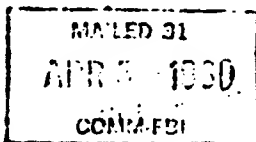
In response to your inquiries, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

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

I am, however, enclosing some literature available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



52 APR 15 1960 (8)

1 - Springfield (Enclosure) (See note page two)  
SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

WCS:kmo (4)

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

[REDACTED]

ATTENTION: SAC, SPRINGFIELD

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable information of a derogatory nature concerning the correspondent.

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups.

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement by J. Edgar Hoover Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, U.S.A., December 10-13, 1959.
2. "God and Country or Communism?"
3. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
4. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
5. "Where Do We Stand Today With Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
7. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
8. "How to Beat Communism."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] He is concerned about the recent accusations against the NCCC and requested he be furnished a report containing factual evidence of subversive activity in the NCCC as well as an over-all evaluation of the NCCC. In view of the extremely controversial nature of correspondent's inquiry, it is believed above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

March 27, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

The recent accusations against the National Council of Churches have been of great concern to me. I would appreciate a report from your office containing the factual evidence of subversive activity in this organization and your personal opinion evaluating the overall worth of this organization.

A reply to the above query at your earliest convenience would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

REC-416

403

5 APR 18 1960

COPIES DESTROYED

10-1-5-60 (10-1-5-60 - 8)  
1-4-1-60 (10-1-5-60 - 8)  
COPIES DESTROYED

April 8, 1960

REC-53

100-50769-402

8-2

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 31, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

While I am precluded from furnishing you the information you have requested, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

APR 10 1960

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures - 8

4-10-60

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

1 - Oklahoma City (Enclosure) (See Note for SAC, Oklahoma City on Page Two)

WGS:mpp (4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

Note for SAC, Oklahoma City:

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bureau files contain no identifiable data concerning her.

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants, but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups.

(100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent.

1. Statement by Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
3. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
4. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "How to Beat Communism."
7. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent inquires as to whether the NCCC is communistic. She requested that we give her a statement concerning communist work in churches so she could convince her daughter who is active in the Methodist Church of the true picture of communist infiltration of the churches.

[REDACTED]  
March 31 - 60

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writting to you in regard to the National Council of Churches. Some say it is of the communist. Is that true? Also the United Nation.

My daughter is a great worker in the Methodist Church. I am afraid the work she doing is not good because it is connected with the National Council Church.

Not long ago she was sent to New York, now in July they are sending her to Atlanta City, N.J. on same mission. I have talked to her but she wont listen to me said I didn't know what I was talking about.

Maybe if you would send a statement about the communist work in churches she would listen. I want to get her out before she gets in any deeper. I know the National Churches are in most of the churches. The Quarterly the Methodist Churches use are printed by National Council of Churches. I dont want no part of it as any thing connected with communist. Please help me. I know you know the inside dope of there work.

/s/ You Truly  
[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY



The next letter to me said  
I didn't know what I was  
talking about.

May be if you would send a  
statement about the Communist  
work in churches it would  
help me. I want to get the  
facts straight in any degree.  
I know the National Church.

as the part of the church.  
The majority of Methodist  
churches are printed by  
National Council of Churches.  
I don't want to put it as  
any thing connected with  
Communism. Please help me.  
I know you know the inside.

hope of this work.

Yours Truly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : *LB* SAC, SAN ANTONIO (100-0)

DATE: APR 5 1960

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
(Recent Accusations in Air Force  
Training Manual)

REC-48

Antonio office, received a copy of a "statement made to the Harlandale Methodist Church, San Antonio, Texas" by the Rev. SEABORN M. KIKER, Pastor, on Sunday, March 20, 1960. This statement is attached herewith for the Bureau's information.

The statement deals with the recent accusations made against the National Council of Churches which was precipitated by an Air Force Training Manual, the subject of recent publicity. In this statement Rev. KIKER quotes an editorial from the Texas Christian Advocate, which is the Texas Methodist publication. The statement defends the National Council of Churches, its officials, and various high officials of the Methodist Church in Texas. It makes reference to the FBI on page 3 and points out the FBI maintains each letter sent to it whether the letter is from a sensible person or some crack-pot, and that the late Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY collected letters and material in his files but published indiscriminate lists of people accused according to "the evidence" that he had in his files.

The article points out the dangers involved where accusations of the type made by MC CARTHY were based upon information that had not been thoroughly investigated, appraised and analyzed.

The article concludes that matters of Communism should be investigated and handled by proper and responsible agencies of the Government.

2 Bureau (Enc. 1)  
1 San Antonio  
LB:JMW  
(3)

APR 8 1960

50867-401

EXP. PROC. APR 6 1960

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

9 APR 14 1960

F B I

Date: 4/4/60

Trans: the following in

(Type in plain text or code)

Via                      AIRTEL

**AIR MAIL - REGISTERED**

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-dead)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION INTO  
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
IS - C

Remyairtel, 4/1/60

request) [redacted] conceal identity at his [redacted]  
[redacted] Congregational Church, [redacted]  
[redacted]; who has furnished reliable information in  
the past on 4/2/69 provided copies of "The Pink Sheet" [redacted]

Six copies of letterhead memorandum with attached pink sheets are furnished to the Bureau for information and possible dissemination. Los Angeles Office has made dissemination on a local level to OSI, FIO, and RO II.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 12)  
1 - San Francisco (Info)(Enc. 2)  
1 - San Diego (Info)(Enc. 2)(REGULAR MAIL)  
1 - Los Angeles

TWC:slb  
(6)

AAB(-60017);  
 AGENCY 6.2; 003; OSI  
 REQ REC'D  
 DATE 4-7-60  
 HOW FORM A-5  
 BY JTH:mtf

18 APR 6 1960

**Approved:**

**Sent**

Special Agent in Charge

LA 100-dead

One copy of letterhead memorandum with attached pink slip is being furnished to the San Francisco and San Diego Offices for information.



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Los Angeles, California

April 4, 1960

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

A source who has furnished reliable information in  
the past has provided copies of the attached "The Pink Sheet".

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and  
is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be  
distributed outside your agency.

1 - 4707-1-1100  
ENCLOSURE

THE PINK SHEET C. Walberg Editor and Publisher P.O. Box 1 Redondo Beach, Calif.  
 DISTRIBUTED FREELY as full are provided to a RADIO MINISTER supporting (Mark 9:41)  
 CUP OF COLD WATER MINISTERS Shipping useful discarded to overseas missions."  
 \*\*\*\*\*

A TWICE A DAY RADIO FELLOWSHIP:

KGER 1390 kc. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 5:45 TO 6:00 A.M. "A MORNING CHALLENGE"

KBBI - FM 107.5 MONDAY THRU SATURDAY 6:15 TO 6:30 P.M. "AN EVENING CHALLENGE"

A DAILY RADIO PROGRAM IN SAN FRANCISCO:

KGO 810 kc. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 5:45 TO 6:00 A.M. "MORNING CHALLENGE" (50,000 watts)

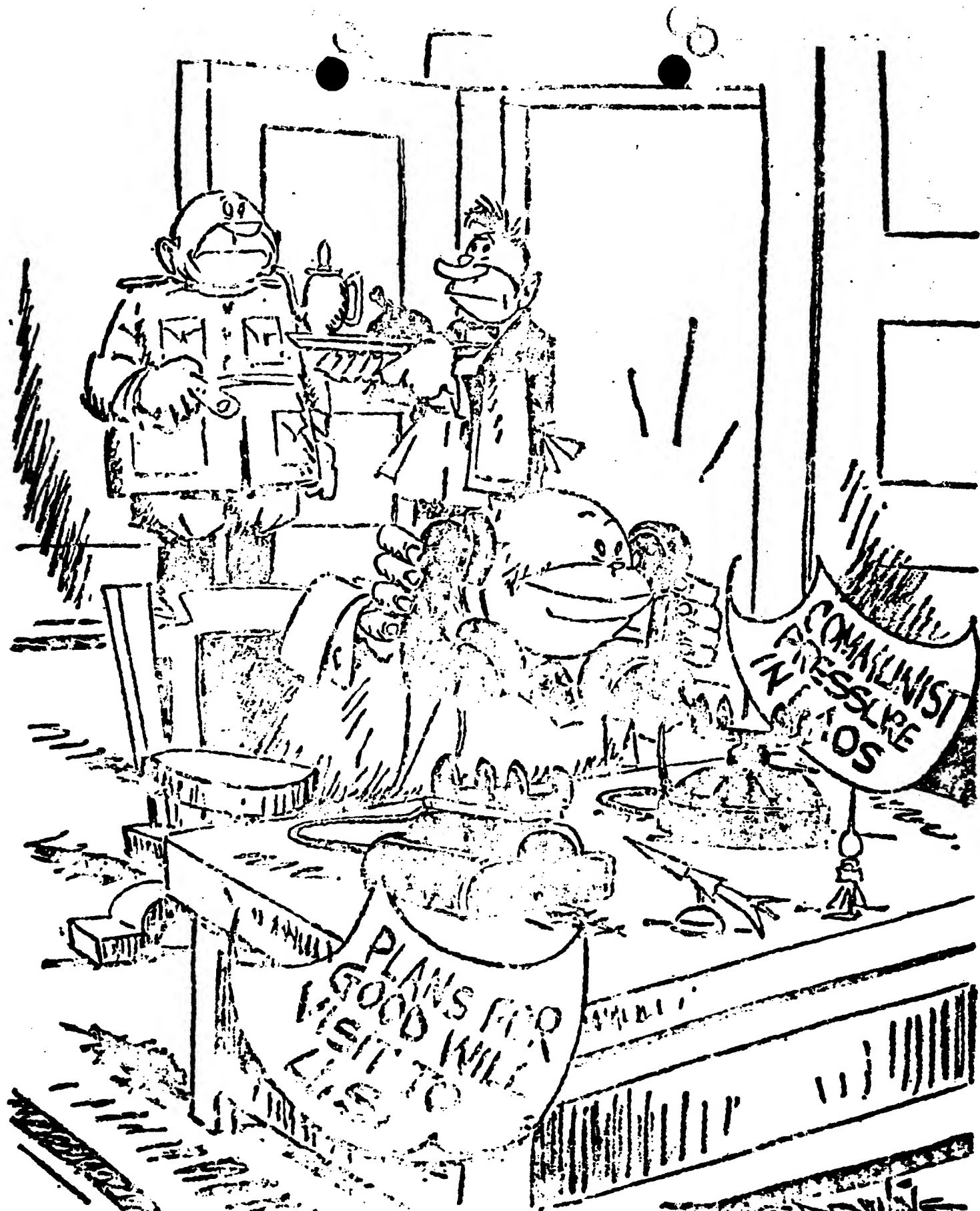
\*\*\*\*\*

THE AIR FORCE MANUALS: Certain training manuals by the U.S. Air Force stirred up quite a storm. The first was a "Manual for 'Airmen Aides' who serve as orderlies for generals. It told how the enlisted men should go about mixing alcoholic drinks for officers' cocktail parties. That brought a lively reaction from religious and temperance leaders who wanted to know why public taxes should be used to train bartenders. No sooner had this offensive manual been withdrawn by the Pentagon than another came to light. It was a training book for mess attendants and it actually contained some recipes recommended for use in making potent cocktails. It also gave the mess attendants some advice on how to keep the airmen from getting too drunk! This is strange training, indeed, to be given under the guise of "military necessity." But the manual that made front page news day after day was an Air Force training manual with a section on how to safeguard military information and how to recognize subversive techniques. It contained a statement that Communists and Communist fellow-travelers and sympathizers have successfully infiltrated into American churches. "It is known that even the pastors of certain of our churches are card-carrying Communists," it said. "The National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. officially sponsored the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Of the 95 persons who served in this project, 30 have been affiliated with pro-Communist fronts, projects, and publications...." This, of course, brought heated denials from the National Council of Churches, and strong demands that the Manual be withdrawn. However, the Chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee objected to its withdrawal. He insisted there were grounds for the charges. One of the many Washington people to raise his voice on the issue was Clyde W. Taylor, secretary for public affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals. He said the political activities of liberal theologians is the natural result of their basic belief in the goodness of man. He

in the fact that liberal churchmen do not believe in the depravity of human nature and the need of the New Birth. They believe that all man needs is better social and economic conditions. That is why they embrace socialist schemes. "While it is perhaps true that they have not adopted Marxist-Leninist thinking in its entirety, there has been a tendency to promote a social gospel which has been related at points to the objectives of international communism," he said. He declared that the public is so confused over the issue that the only sensible thing to do is "to lay all the facts on the table in such a way that they may be studied in their theological, political, and social perspective." No doubt Dr. Taylor is right. Liberal theology is what draws some clergymen into pro-Communist fronts, projects and publications. "If they had stuck to their calling and preached the simple Gospel of Christ they never would have been entangled in Questionable Associations. What America needs is the message of personal salvation through the New Birth. No Christian who preaches the individual's need of repentance and cleansing from sin through the precious blood of Christ will ever be tolerated in Red-tinged organizations."

THE REV. FRANK B. HAUBLEN, pastor of Lima, Ohio West High Evangelical United Brethren Church for 11 years, resigned because of "the gradual infiltration of subversive affiliations in the National Council of Churches." He said, "My conscience will not let me continue to pastor a church affiliated with the National Council of Churches." CAROL BAYNE, EX-COMMUNIST PARTY- MEMBER: "I was instructed that I would have to join a church youth group, or a church, and become active in the work." Question to EARL WEND, FORMER HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY:

I gather in your position as a functionary of the Communist Party it was your feeling you could put ministers to a much better use if they were not members of the Communist Party. What do you say?



IF WISHING CAN MAKE IT SO

April 6, 1960

REC-13

399

EX 105

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated April 1, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In view of the contents of your letter, I am instructing the Special Agent in Charge of our Indianapolis Office to have an Agent contact you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 8

APR - 8 1960

COMM-FBI

2 - Indianapolis (Enclosures - 2)

ATTENTION: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS

Enclosed are two copies of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

The Air Force Manual was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) that linked communism with the United States churches. The

NOTE TO SAC, INDIANAPOLIS, CONTINUED, PAGE TWOMAIL ROOM ☐TELETYPE UNIT ☐

GG:PMW (1) SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

APR 8 4 56 PM '60

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE TO SAC, INDIANAPOLIS, CONTINUED:

Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCCC; however, we have, in the past, checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-6969)

You are instructed to have an Agent promptly contact the correspondent. He should be informed that the FBI has never issued a statement pertaining to the matter he mentioned in his communication. Correspondent should be advised of the confidential nature of our files and the fact that our jurisdiction and responsibilities do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization and that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

Correspondent should be advised that we would be very appreciative if he could advise us the source of his information so that we might bring the inaccurate statement to the attention of the appropriate individual.

The results of this interview should be promptly submitted to the Bureau under the appropriate caption with reference made to this communication.

NOTE OF NEWBORN:

Correspondent stated he has heard that the material concerning the subversive affiliations of some of the translators of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible contained in the New York Manual came from the files of the FBI and inquires as to the validity of this statement.

(Note continued on page three)

[REDACTED]

(Note on yellow continued from page two)

Due to the controversial nature of the issue raised by correspondent and since he may use any letter of reply furnished him in furtherance of this issue, it is felt that the best interests of the Bureau can be served through personal contact with correspondent.

[REDACTED]  
April 1, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have heard it stated that the material concerning the subversive affiliation of some of the translators of the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible contained in the Air Force Training Manual "Individual and Group Defense" came from the files of the FBI. Is this statement true? To the best of my knowledge the manual in question is the Student Text NR 45-0050, INCR. V, Vol.7. Since the authority of your files is claimed for this manual by its supporters, will you please verify or deny the validity of this claim particularly in reference to the translators mentioned above.

Thank you very much for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

REC-13

100-1-399

*Eddy*

Mr. Shaw

April 7, 1960

100-35

100-35-398

Dear [REDACTED]:

Your letter dated March 31, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

This Bureau has not issued any material on the subject matter you mentioned; however, in an effort to be of assistance, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

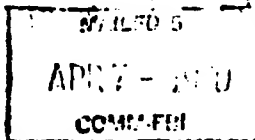
Enclosures - 8

1 - Dallas

(See Note for SAC, Dallas on Page Two)

son \_\_\_\_\_  
Marr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

WGS:mpp  
(4)



MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐


**Note for SAC, Dallas:**

Bureau files contain no information identifiable with correspondent. Correspondent requested that he be furnished information pertaining to communist infiltration of churches, especially the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC).

The Bureau has never investigated the NCCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants, but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years, the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were furnished the correspondent.

1. Statement by Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
3. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
4. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "How to Beat Communism."
7. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
8. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."


  
March 31, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Please send me what information you have on Communist  
infiltration of churches, especially the National or Federal Council  
of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

Yours truly,



16 MAR 31 1960

398

07/11/77  
1-11-11  
1-15-11



April 7, 1960

397

REC-2 [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of March 31, 1960, and appreciate your interest in writing me.

While I would like to be of assistance to you in response to your request, we do not have any material on the topics you mentioned available for distribution. In view of your concern about communism, I am sending you some material which you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
3-1-60 LEB Introduction  
God and Country or Communism  
What You Can Do About Communism  
Statement re 17th National Convention, CP, USA

NCTE: [REDACTED]

MAILED 8  
APR - 7 1960  
COMM-FBI

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

ELG:cm/gct (3)

NOTE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE


MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

1 out  
4-14-60  
H. J.

[Handwritten signature]

APR 7 3 32 PM '60

NOTE: (continued)

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches as such, however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communist influenced the policies of this organization. We have received numerous inquiries in recent years concerning this council and other church councils and the topic has become somewhat controversial, and the recent incident involving the Air Force manual has caused even greater controversy.

[REDACTED]

3-31-60

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

Dear Sir:

The Bureau records will reflect that my service ended on November 15, 1944.

I am interested in obtaining interesting case write ups regarding confidence schemes in the United States between the years of 1940 and 1945. Five or six of these write ups would be sufficient.

I also need interesting case write ups regarding communist infiltration of Christian Organizations in the United States. If available, I would like to have any write ups regarding infiltration of the National Council of Church's.

Yours very truly,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC-25

397

8 1950

REC

1 - Mr. Shaw

REC-16 100-50007 395  
April 6, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 25, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiries, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances. I am, therefore, precluded from furnishing the type of information you have requested.

This Bureau, however, has issued from time to time various statements and items of literature concerning the growing menace of communism to this country. I am enclosing some of this material which I trust will be of assistance to you. I would also like to refer you to my book, "Masters of Deceit," published in 1958 by Henry Holt and Company, New York City. This book may possibly be obtained through your local library.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures: (8)

1 - Chicago (Enclosure) (See note page two)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

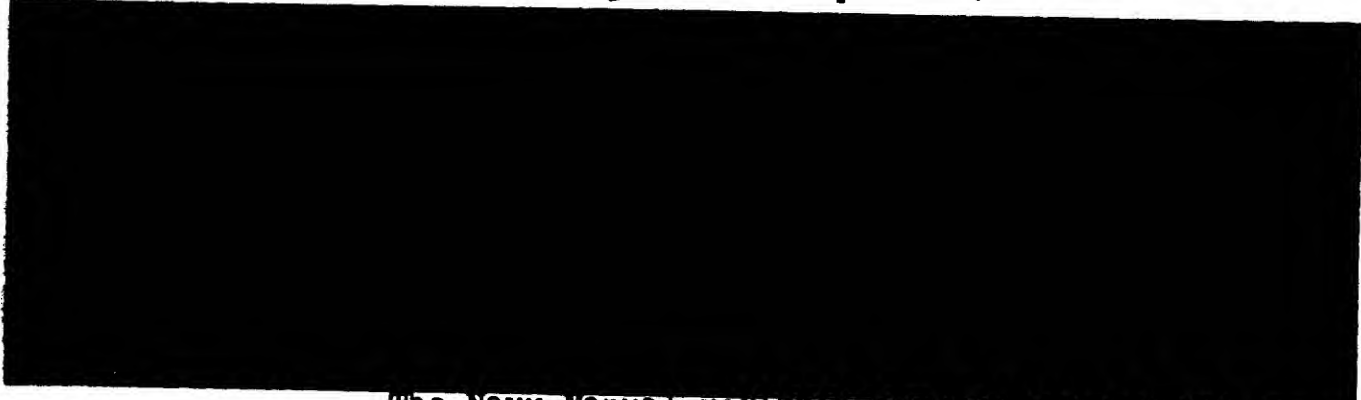
WGS:kmd (4)

51 APR 11 1960 TELETYPE UNIT ☐

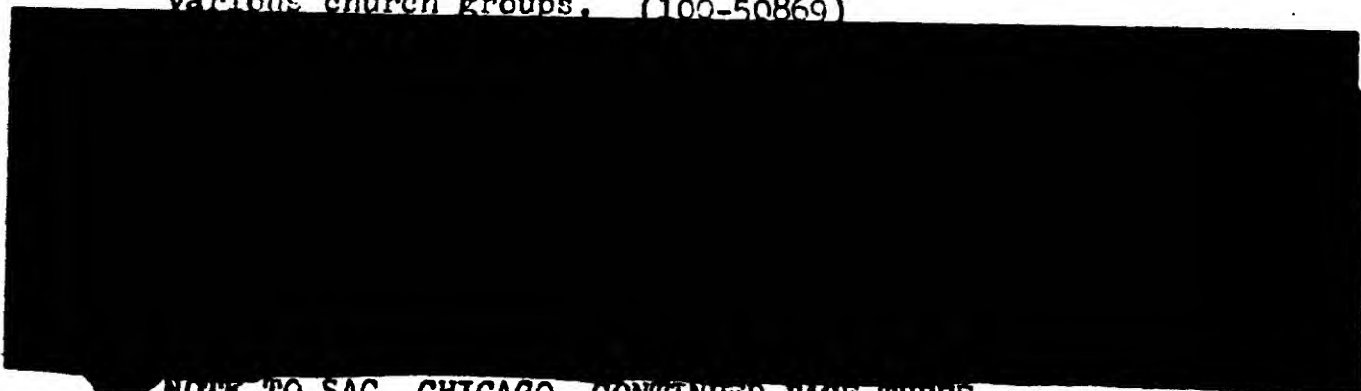
Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_ 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

  
ATTENTION: SAC, CHICAGO

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



The Navy Manual referred to by correspondent apparently refers to the Air Force Manual which was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) that the Manual linked communism with the United States churches. The Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)



NOTE TO SAC, CHICAGO, CONTINUED PAGE THREE

**NOTE TO SAC, CHICAGO CONTINUED:**

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement by Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, U. S. A., December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
3. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
4. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "How to Beat Communism."
7. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
8. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent heard Major Bundy speak on the radio and sent for literature. She states literature pertained to the service manuals' reference to communism in the churches as well as alleged communist affiliation on the part of several leaders of the NCCC. She inquires if the literature is authentic and also inquires as to whether we have any literature on that subject matter and whether we could suggest any reading material.

March 2, 1960

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

Gentlemen:

What does a citizen do in a state of complete confusion, such as the following?

I heard Major Bundy from the Church League of America, Wheaton, Illinois on the radio. After hearing it I sent for literature. The subject was the Navy Manual which made reference to Communism in the churches. This led to the National Council of Churches and the communist association against a number of the council's leaders. Now our church has dealings and literature from them: Could the Church League of America be right and our church wrong?

Also in the literature for the Church League of America, a John E. Bennett was mentioned. Could it be possible for a man such as this to have Communist learnings?

I hope you will be able to clear up these matters in my mind. Do you have any literature available on this subject? Can you suggest any reading material? I would deeply appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

REC-16

100-50869-395

6 APR 7 1960

CRIME REC-1

Ask 4-6060 (encls-8)

UNITED STATES

DOCUMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/6/60

FROM : SAC, SAVANNAH (62-998)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Re Bureau letter dated 3/21/60.

On 3/24/60, enclosures in referenced letter were delivered in person by SA [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was advised that the FBI has been charged by Presidential directives and Federal Statutes with the responsibility for the investigation of matters relating to the internal security of this country and with the correlation of such information with other interested governmental agencies and that the FBI cannot advise her concerning her contemplated endeavors.

[REDACTED] stated that she was highly honored that an agent had been designated to deliver the enclosures personally.

[REDACTED] appeared to be interested in the matter at hand and was somewhat disturbed at the apathy of the people toward what she called the infiltration by liberal groups into the operation and policy of the churches.

RUC

2 Bureau  
1 Savannah

RFM:lpc  
(3)

REC-64

64 APR 14 1960

INT. SEC.

FBI

Date: 4/1/60

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-DEAD)

RE: COMMUNIST-INFILTRATION INTO  
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

[REDACTED] (conceal at her request),  
who has furnished reliable information in the past, the wife  
of a retired officer of the [REDACTED] New York.

[REDACTED] voluntarily furnished the Los Angeles Office mimeographed  
copies of a two-page legal-size mailing to be addressed  
4/4/60 to approximately 4,000 in the lists of the "Network of  
Patriotic Letter-Writers," Box 2003D, Pasadena, Calif.  
The sheets are captioned "Air Force Manual Tells The Truth  
Reveals Communist Infiltration into the National Council  
of Churches"; "To Church Members Who Help Support the  
National Council of Churches--yet have no voice in the  
Board's policies--does not this documentation show That  
An Influence Is At Work, That is Serving the Communists?"

The first document leads off with a quotation  
from Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER, Head of the FBI, concerning the  
strategy of Communists to cloak their activities behind  
unsuspecting religious organizations and urges individuals  
to deny support of the NCC until the church withdraws from  
the Council; and urges an immediate investigation of the NCC  
through writing FRANCIS E. WALTER, <sup>HCUA</sup>Chairman and also  
congressmen and senators. The second sheet sets out in  
tabulated form "Objectives of the National Council of  
Churches" and "Objectives of the Communist Party" and gives  
documentation from various published sources on 18 points  
of alleged comparison.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc.18)(RM)
- 1 - San Francisco (Info)(Enc.3)(RM)
- 1 - San Diego (Info)(Enc.3)(REC-76)
- 1 - Los Angeles

AGENCY AAG(6-6501; 6-2; 6-5; 6-5)

REC. REC'D

DATE FORW.

HOW FORW.

BY

4-5-60

A.S.

BY

J. H. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

:CJW

12 APR 4 1960

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

APR 12 1960

UNREC COPY AND COPY ATTACHED BY 62-105272

LA 100-DEAD

[REDACTED] indicated that an additional 2,000 copies would be mailed about 4/4/60 by Reverend C. T. WAYLBERG, PO Box 190, Redondo Beach, Calif., to persons on mailing list of WAYLBERG's "Christian Anti-Communist Radio Fellowship," which list comprises persons who have responded over the past 2½ years to WAYLBERG's broadcasts at 5:45 a.m., five days a week over KGER, a radio station, Long Beach, Calif.

[REDACTED] described herself as [REDACTED] of the "Network of Patriotic Letter-Writers," which [REDACTED] consisting of about two dozen volunteer, patriotic, anti-Communist, women, friends, and neighbors of [REDACTED]. The group's purpose, according to [REDACTED] is to counter left wing, Communist and pro-Communist elements in the U. S., known to seize issues of public interest and mass extensive letter writing campaigns to the press and appropriate legislative figures locally and nationally.

[REDACTED] said her "Network" zealously studies, "Letters to the Editor" columns of community and metropolitan press in Los Angeles and seizes opportunities to reply constructively and in opposition to patent Communist-line letters to the editor. [REDACTED] said that such activity by her friends is supplemented from time to time with mailings such as the enclosed.

Six letterhead memorandum with attachment of instant sheets are furnished the Bureau for information and possible dissemination and one copy of each sheet is furnished San Francisco and San Diego Offices for information. Dissemination of this information has been made to OSI, RO2, and FIO at Los Angeles.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Los Angeles, California

April 1, 1960

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that during the first week of April, 1960 about 4,000 copies of the attached sheets will be mailed mainly in the Los Angeles area and as well to points outside of California. The source advised that this is a mailing of the "Network of Patriotic Letter-Writers," which source described as a small group of volunteer, patriotic friends and neighbors who meet regularly to counter left wing, Communist and pro-Communist elements in the United States known to seize issues of public interest and mass extensive letter writing campaigns to the press and appropriate legislative figures locally and nationally.

The source stated that additionally it is expected about the same time another 2,000 copies of the attached sheets will be mailed to individuals who have responded over the past two and one half years to the broadcasts of the "Christian Anti-Communist Radio Fellowship." The program at 5:45 a.m., five days a week over radio station KGER, Long Beach, is conducted by the Reverend C. T. WALBERG, Post Office Box 190, Redondo Beach, California. The source stated that Reverend WALBERG is the Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Redondo Beach, California, who conducts his program also under the name "Cup of Cold Water Ministry" and which, through cooperative effort of listeners, sends annually thousands of tons of cast off clothing, soap, and medicine to Christian Missionaries in the Orient.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1 60-1-393

1- Mr. Simpson

REC-29/100-508,61-392

April 1, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 22, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

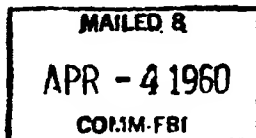
In response to your inquiries, I would like to advise that I have not issued any statement concerning the organization you mentioned. The responsibilities and jurisdiction of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

I am enclosing some literature available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



Enclosures (7)

1 - Cleveland (Enclosure) (See note page two)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:kmr/(4)

1960 hwe, cen TELETYPE UNIT

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

2 APR 8

**ATTENTION: SAC, CLEVELAND**

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent.

The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years, the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections with the NCC, and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups.


The following items of literature were furnished the correspondent:

1. Statement by J. Edgar Hoover Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, U.S.A., December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
3. "How to Beat Communism."
4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
7. "Breaking the Communist Spell."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent resides in [REDACTED] She states an article in their Sunday paper has motivated her in writing to inquire how the Director can support the NCC when he cannot help but know what it is. She claims to know the true nature of the NCC, and states it is confusing to see the Director fight communism on one hand and support the most effective arm it has on the other hand. She states that the Director is highly respected and his stand on this issue can mean everything to the country.

TRUE COPY

  
March 22, 1960

J. Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am moved to write this letter by an article appearing in our Sunday paper.

I want to ask you a question? I want to know how you can stand for the things you stand for and support the National Council of Churches when you cannot help but know what it is? I have known what it was even before the organization was known as the National Council but as the Federal Council of Churches. It is so confusing to see men such as yourself fighting communism on one hand and supporting the most effective arm it has in the United States on the other hand.

My family are staunch Presbyterians and they do not try to see the issue. They just point to people such as you and President Eisenhower and say "if it's all right for them, it is all right for me."

What can we who do know the truth do? We have battled this issue for years but we are just the common people, the masses, and who will listen? You are a man that people respect, one everyone knows is an American through and through, intelligent, wise and very capable. Your stand on this issue can mean everything for our country just now. People all over this country feel just as I do but they are afraid to take a stand -- they just "follow the leaders."

Yours truly,

/s/ 

TRUE COPY

March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1960

J. Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir: I am moved to write this  
letter by an article appearing in  
our Sunday paper.

I want to ask you a question?  
I want to know how you can stand  
for the things you stand for and  
support the National Council of Churches  
when you know full well that  
what it is? I have known what  
it was ever since the organization  
was known as the National Council  
but now the Federal Council of Churches.  
It is so condemning to see men  
and women fighting communism  
and other things and supporting the  
one organization and supporting the  
most evil organization in the  
United States on the other hand.

My sons by are strong  
Protestant and they do not  
want to see the loss of their  
faith to people such as you.

say "if it's a mistake, then,  
it is all right for me."

What can we who do know  
the truth do? We have attacked  
this issue for years but we  
are just the common people,  
the masses, and who will listen?  
You are a man that people  
respect, one everyone respects an  
American through and through,  
intelligent, wise and very capable.  
You stand on this issue can  
you do something for our country  
just now? They are over this  
country that you need to get  
the attention to take a  
stand - they just "follow the  
leaders."

Yours truly,  


*Ind*  
REC 71 100-50869-391

April 1, 1960

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 25, 1960, has been received and I appreciate your favorable comments about my book, "Masters of Deceit." It was good of you to write and give me your views on the menace of communism and in this regard, I am enclosing some material that might be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 10  
APR 1 1960  
COMM FBI

Enclosures (6)  
Struggle on a New Plane  
God and Country and Communism  
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion  
How to Beat Communism  
17th National Convention CP, USA

NOTE: No record of [REDACTED] in Bufiles. The correspondent mentions the National Council of Churches, which is an organization that has not been investigated by this Bureau. In view of the controversial content of his letter, it is believed advisable not to comment on his remarks dealing with above Council.

NHC:jcs/jet (3)

51 APR 11 1960

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

APR 1 6 24 PM '60

March 25, 1960

Mr. John Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D. C.,  
My dear Mr. Hoover:

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. W.C. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

I cannot refrain from sending you a few lines of enthusiastic commendation for your great book, "Masters Of Deceit". I have read only as far as page 115, but that is quite enough to convince me that you have put your great heart and highly useful life into these pages of truth and fact. It is a vast pity that so many of the high school and college students of this country are utterly ignorant of this masterpiece, and that so few adults are alert to the awful menace of atheistic communism--animated and controlled by Satan himself. It is his last bid, in my opinion, for the domination of the world. As a minister, I hang my head in shame when I realize that a considerable number of my fellow clergyman are dupes and even "fellow-travelers". The denomination of which I am now a member--though my background is Southern Presbyterian--is studded with "pinks" and starry-eyed "do-gooders". The puissant Methodist Church is literally crammed with such imbeciles. I have been a rather close student of current history and politics for the last fifty years, but you are a very busy gentleman, and I shall not further bore you with my observations. Let me say this, with your indulgence, since you have doubtless read thus far: I heartily endorse the controversial statement in the Continental Air Command Air Reserve Center Training Manual--NR 45-0050, Incr. V, Vo. 7, Rubric 5 (Five) Or, Par. 4. And I emphatically **REPUDIATE** any "deliverance" of the tainted National Council of Churches, of which, alas! my denomination is a part. This repudiation includes the absurd and peurile statement of the December 1958 Cleveland, (Ohio) conference--the Red China "deliverance".

It has been my privilege to recommend one or two young men to the FBI. One, I believe, served during the War; the other "pooped out". It was also my high privilege to serve as a chaplain in World War II. To me, patriotism and conservative Christianity go hand in hand. My daily prayers are with you and your dedicated gentlemen. Thank you again, and I will revel in the remaining pages of "Masters Of Deceit".

Please, please pardon typing errors, etc. This is a 1940 model "Corona", and the operator is sixty-three.

Thank you for your forbearance. No reply indicated. Eph. 1:16b.

Sincerely,

5 APR 5 1960

100-50867-390

March 30, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

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

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

I am enclosing a copy of a statement I made before the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, on March 26, 1947, and on page 12 appears the statement which you correctly quoted in your letter. However, when you read the statement in context, you will note I am merely referring to some of the general areas in our society in which communists have infiltrated. This statement is certainly not to be construed as referring to any particular religious denomination or church group.

For your information, Mr. Herbert A. Philbrick was never a Special Agent of the FBI. He furnished this Bureau information on a confidential basis from early 1941 to April, 1942. The FBI has had no control over his activities including any writings, speeches or radio and television ventures in which he has participated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

MAIL ROOM ☐TELETYPE UNIT ☐

WGS: bgc

(4)

1 - Albany (Enclosure)  
SEE NOTE TO SAC, ALBANY, PAGE TWO  
SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

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

80 APR 7 1960

**ATTENTION: SAC, ALBANY**

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

The Air Force Manual referred to by the correspondent was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of Churches (NCC) that the Manual linked communists with the United States churches. The Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections with the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW

Correspondent states that the March 17, 1960, issue of the "Binghamton Press" contains a statement attributed to the Director which relates to communists being able to secure ministers to promote their evil work. She inquires as to whether the Director has ever made such a statement. She mentions that she desires to ascertain if the charges in the Air Force Manual linking some clergymen with communist affiliations are true and also as to whether there is any validity to the charge that 30 of the writers of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible had communist front affiliations. Correspondent also inquires as to whether we agree with statements Herbert Philbrick has published since he was an FBI undercover agent.

March 21, 1960

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. McGuire  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Someone wrote in our Birmingham Press (5/17/59) in a letter to the Editor that you had made this statement: "I confess to real apprehension so long as communists are able to secure ministers of the Gospel to promote their evil work."

Did you make such a statement? If so, can you give me the basis for the statement? I have been earnestly seeking to find out the truth of the matter concerning the recent charges in the "New York Times" linking some U.S. clergymen with Communist affiliations.

How is it possible for "one small average citizen" to get the truth as to the validity of this and...in particular, the charge made that 450 of the writers of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible had communist front affiliations? If I don't find out anything else, I certainly would like to get a straight answer from someone as to whether it is true or false.

Any information you can give me would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

EXP. PROC.  
MAR 22 1960

P. S. Do you agree with the statements Herbert A. Philbrick has published since he was an FBI undercover agent? What is the story on him —

REC-31

P. S. Do you agree with the statements Herbert A. Philbrick has published since he was an FBI undercover agent? What is the story on him.

5.5.60

1 - Mr. Shaw

REC- 54

100-50867-389

April 4, 1960

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 27, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

In an effort to be of assistance, however, I am enclosing some literature available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (7)

1 - Cincinnati (Enclosure)

**ATTENTION: SAC, CINCINNATI**

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent [REDACTED]

**NOTE TO SAC, CINCINNATI CONTINUED, PAGE TWO**

**SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO**

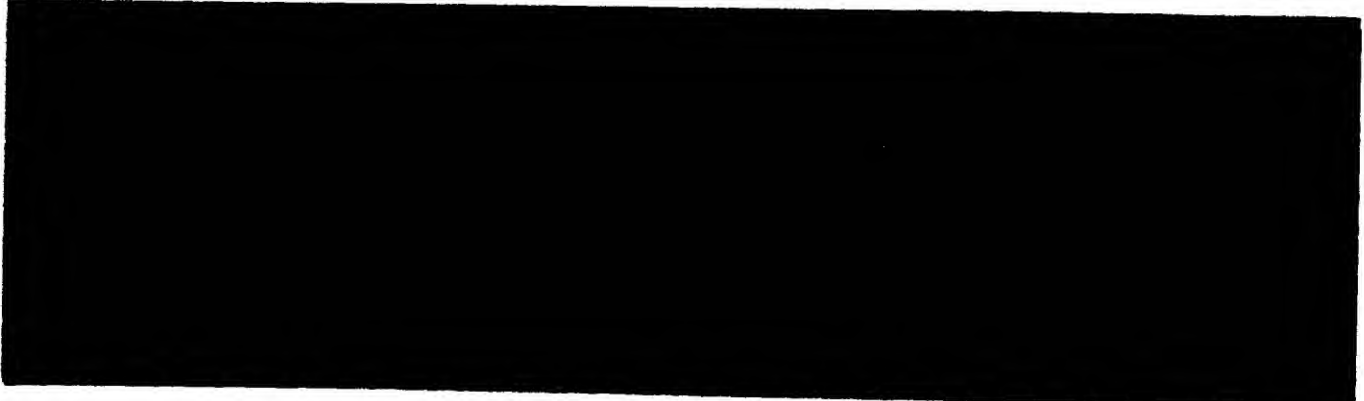
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

WGS:kmo (4)

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

NOTE TO SAC, CINCINNATI, CONTINUED:

The Air Force Manual referred to by the correspondent was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of Churches (NCC) that the Manual linked communism with the United States churches. The Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections with the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)



The following items of literature are being sent to the correspondent:

1. "How to Beat Communism."
2. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
3. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. "Communist 'New Look,' A Study in Duplicity."
7. "Breaking the Communist Spell."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent requests information on the charges brought out by the recent Air Force Manual in regard to the NCC. He states his church is studying the report of the Fifth World Order Study Conference of the NCC and requests information regarding communistic influences among those who were leaders at the conference.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
March 27, 1960

Dear Sir:

If possible, would you please send me any information (substantiated) on the charges brought out by the recent Air Force Manual - National Council of Churches In the U.S.A. incident regarding Un American activities of some of the officers of the latter.

Also, since our local Presbyterian Church is studying the report of the "Fifth World Order Study Conference" of the National Council of Churches I would appreciate any information regarding Communistic influence among those who were leaders or influential at this conference ie G. Bromley Oxnam Edwin T Dahlberg, Ernest A. Gross etc.

The above requested information would be appreciated to help me decide how much Communistic infiltration may be in existence within church organizations of influence. I realize that communism will go to no end even using churches to accomplish their end.

If the charges & counter charges made are true it is high time church members take such action as possible to remove communists from powerfull positions within the church.

Yours truly

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

231 1 17 1961

of possible would you please send  
any information (substantiated) on the  
charges brought out by the recent New York  
Times - National Council of Churches in the  
U.S. incident regarding the operation  
intention of some of the officers of the  
latter. Yours truly, O. C. H. B. S.

Since the first Evangelical Church  
- study in report of the Fifth World  
- day Study Congress of the National Council  
of Churches I would appreciate any in-  
formation regarding communities in which  
any of these men were leaders or influential.  
This conference is at Brooklyn, Conn.  
June 1-10, 1950. Please write to these etc.

The above requested information would be  
appreciated to help me decide how much  
emphasis to place on my work  
within church cooperation. I am aware of  
realizing that communists are active in  
our many churches to accomplish their ends.  
If the charges of countercharges 12 APR 5 1960  
I as high level church member take  
it is possible to remove communists from  
positions within the church  
Rev. 11-4-60 (enc. 7) R. M. Toubert  
WG 5: 1-1-60 (enc. 1) [redacted]

UNITED STATES

*Memorandum*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : MR. BELMONT

DATE: 3/31/60

FROM : J. A. Sizoo

cc Mr. Parsons  
 Mr. Belmont  
 Mr. DeLoach  
 Mr. Baumgardner

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Tom Hall of the Internal Security Division, of the Department, called at my office at approximately 10 a.m. today, 3/31, and made available the attached material, which he asked that we look over and furnish the Department any comments, in view of the AG's note: "Be sure FLI has no objection."

This consists of a letter dated 3/14/60, addressed to the Department by [REDACTED] in which in essence he asks for a copy of the list of AG-cited organizations, and whether or not the National Council of Churches is listed, and furthermore asks for permission to submit the names of personnel for a determination as to whether any are "communist front members, left-wingers, or card-carrying communists."

[REDACTED] office prepared a suggested reply, the yellow copy of which is attached. Mr. Cushman, in the AG's office, rejected [REDACTED] suggested acknowledgment and prepared an alternate draft, which indicates the purpose of the preparation of the list of AG-cited organizations and indicates that the National Council of Churches is not on the list and has never been the subject of investigation by the Department, nor has such investigation been contemplated. The AG noted: "OK, be sure FBI has no objection."

Mr. Hall advised that [REDACTED] did not agree that it would be desirable to state in the acknowledgment that the National Council of Churches has never been investigated, nor was such investigation contemplated. He, accordingly, prepared an alternate last paragraph which, in essence, omits this thought.

## OBSERVATION:

The sentence in the Cushman draft, "Inasmuch as the Government conducts no investigations pursuant to this order other than in the course of considering applications for employment....." might lead to misinterpretation, and it may be desirable (if this draft is to be used) to change this sentence to read, "Inasmuch as the Government conducts no investigations of individuals pursuant to this order other than in the course of considering Government employment....." This

Enclosures  
 JAS:CSH (5)

REC 88

APR 4 1960

Mr. Belmont

change would remove any possible question about the investigation of organizations under the Executive Order, and takes cognizance of the fact that investigations can be made of an incumbent as well as an applicant. Otherwise, the suggested drafts appear to be correct and not objectionable to the Bureau.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Mr. Hall be advised of the above observation, but that the Bureau has no other comments to make and will leave the matter to the Department's decision.

3/31/60

Mr. Hall via

so advised --

Simpson

March 31, 1960

*Jim*  
100-50819-386

REC-76

Dear [REDACTED]

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

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

I am, however, enclosing some literature available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (3)

1- Cleveland (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO CLEVELAND, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

61 APR 5 1960

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

**ATTENTION: SAC, CLEVELAND**

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

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Where do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
3. "Communist 'New Look.'"
4. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
7. "How to Beat Communism."
8. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

**NOTE ON YELLOW:** Correspondent expressed her interest in the allegation of communist infiltration of churches. She inquired if the FBI considers the NCC a threat to our security; whether there are other clergy beside the ones in the NCC aiding the communists, and whether E. Stanley Jones is procommunist. In view of the extremely controversial nature of correspondent's inquiries, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Mar. 21, 1960

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I have been very much interested in the account of communist infiltration in the churches. I have a few questions I'd like to ask you. Do you consider the National Council of Churches a threat to our security and religious freedom? Are there other clergy beside the ones connected with the National Council of Churches giving aid to the communists? Is E. Stanley Jones a pro-communist or not?

I would appreciate any information you might have on this subject.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Mar 21, 1960

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I have been very much interested  
in the account of Communist  
infiltration in the churches. I have  
also been interested in the  
National Council of Churches  
by the name of the National Council  
of Churches in the U.S.A. Is this  
the same as the National Council  
of Churches in the U.S.A.?  
I am interested in the  
Communist infiltration of the  
National Council of Churches in the U.S.A.  
Is the Communist not?

I would appreciate any information  
you might have on this  
subject.

REC-76

EX-117

12 APR 1 1960

TIME REC.  
5/1/60

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

March 30, 1969

REC-70

385

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

Your letter dated March 19, 1969, has been received and it is indeed gratifying to know of your interest in my book, "Masters of Deceit."

In response to your inquiries, I must advise that information in the files of the FBI is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice. However, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution which contains information concerning communism which I feel at liberty to disclose. I trust that it will be of assistance to you in connection with your research.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures - 9

1 - Springfield (Enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO SAC, SPRINGFIELD, PAGE TWOSEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWOWGS:hgc  
(1)MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**ATTENTION, SAC, SPRINGFIELD**

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

The Air Force Manual referred to by the correspondent was recently the subject of considerable publicity following protests by the National Council of Churches (NCC) that the Manual linked communism with the United States churches. The Air Force subsequently withdrew the Manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections with the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were furnished to the correspondent:

1. Statement of the Director concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party USA, December 10-12, 1952.
2. "What You Can Do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."
3. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
4. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
5. "How to Beat Communism."
6. "God and Country on Communism?"
7. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
8. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
9. "Communist 'New Look.'"

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent is writing a research paper on the topic of the "Communist Party in America." He chose this topic after reading "Masters of Deceit" which he described as being very informative. He requested information on this topic and specifically requested the addresses of some of the CP headquarters in the US as well as the addresses of William Z. Foster, chairman emeritus of the CP, USA, and Earl Browder, former CP functionary. He also inquired as to the truth of the statements in the Air Force Manual that the communists had infiltrated the churches.

[REDACTED]  
March 19, 1960

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

Dear Sir:

After reading your very informative book, Masters of Deceit, I decided to write my research paper for my English class on the Communist Party in America.

I would appreciate any general or specific information (in addition to that found in your book) that you could send me. Specifically I would like the addresses of William Foster and Earl Browder so that I may write to them and the addresses of some Party headquarters in America.

I would also like to know if it is true that the Communists have infiltrated our churches as the Air Force manual claims.

I know you are very busy so please do not feel obligated to answer this letter.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

REC-76

Routing Slip  
FD-4 (Rev. 10-15-59)

Date 3/28/60

To bn  
☒ Director

At CENTRAL RESEARCH FILE # \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ SAC \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ ASAC \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Supv. \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Agent \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ SE \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ CC \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Steno \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Title HERBERT A. PHILBRICK  
"WORLD ORDER STUDY  
CONFERENCE  
HOSCO'S MOUNTAIN  
(NATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF CHURCHES)

ACTION DESIRED

- ☐ Acknowledge  
☐ Assign \_\_\_\_\_ Reassign \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Bring file  
☐ Call me  
☐ Correct  
☐ Deadline \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Deadline passed  
☐ Delinquent  
☐ Discontinue  
☐ Expedite  
☐ File  
☐ For information  
☐ Initial & return  
☐ Leads need attention  
☐ Return with explanation or notation \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Open Case  
☐ Prepare lead cards  
☐ Prepare tickler  
☐ Recharge serials  
☐ Return assignment card  
☐ Return file  
☐ Return serials  
☐ Search and return  
☐ See me  
☐ Send Serials \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Submit new charge-out  
☐ Submit report by \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Type 100-50869

NOT RECORDED

NEWS VIEWS HERBERT A. PHILBRICK  
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

ENCLOSURE

CENTRAL RESEARCH  
SAC WILLIAM G. SIMONS

See reverse side  
52 APR 6 1960

Office LOS ANGELES

# News and Views

Eternal Vigilance Is Forever the Price of Freedom

Vol. 23, No. 3

Wheaton, Illinois

March, 1960

## WORLD ORDER STUDY CONFERENCE- MOSCOW'S MOUTHPIECE

by HERBERT A. PHILBRICK

### PART TWO

The following issue of News & Views is a continuation of the article by Coverer-Spy Herbert A. Philbrick which began in the February 1960 Special Edition of NEWS & VIEWS. Mr. Philbrick began his expose of the so-called "Nation-wide Program of Education and Action for Peace" being promoted by the National Council of Churches in cooperation with various state and local councils of churches, and augmented by other groups discussed in these two editions.

In this issue Mr. Philbrick goes into the so-called "study material", largely written by leftist John C. Bennett, and he exposes the truth-working techniques used on the unsuspecting students.

The "Nationwide Program of Education and Action For Peace" (NPOE & AFP) was developed by the World Order Study Conference, which was sponsored by the Department of International Affairs, which is part of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. The fifteen basic manuals being used were prepared, we are told, "to stimulate questions, study and discussion on crucial international issues." The manuals are sold by the Department of Publication and Distribution, 120 East 23rd Street, New York 10, New York.

However, everybody denies responsibility for the manuals. Each booklet contains a carefully written disclaimer, contending that "no commission member is to be held responsible for or necessarily is in accord with the views expressed in it. It is not to be considered an official representation of the views of the Department of International Affairs or of the National Council of Churches."

On the other hand, while seeking to avoid responsibility for the "views", the Council seeks to retain tight control over them. They state, "It (the manual) is not to be quoted in publications in whole or in part without permission of the Department of International Affairs." If any one pays attention to this nonsense, it means that the only quotes from the manuals will be quoted with specific authorization. How they can authorize the quotation of views they are not responsible for — or vice versa — is, of course, beyond understanding.

Thus, in the very beginning, we are plunged into a never-never-land of contradictory confusion. The booklets never quite emerge from this atmosphere of schizophrenic unreality.

This is, of course, a sharp departure from the traditional Protestant ethic which holds that although all things belong to God and are given by God — including our freedom of speech — at the same time we have a responsibility to God. This is commonly called Christian Stewardship,

which means that we are personally held accountable for every word, as well as every deed. Most Protestant Churches are still teaching that to fail or shirk such responsibility is at least delinquent, and at worst, sinful.

As a nation, we have been shocked to discover such delinquency in the field of entertainment, in motion pictures and in television. On every hand we are admonished that this is because of a moral and spiritual decline, and because our culture has been infected with materialism and Marxism.

The philosophy of irresponsibility is, in fact, part of the philosophy of Communism, which seeks to center all authority in a centralized dictatorship, with equivalent loss of individual responsibility by every citizen, and the substitution of "responsibility to the group" or the commune.

However, this is not the only segment of the Nationwide Program of Education and Action For Peace which adheres more to the Communist than to the Christian point of view. As pointed out in Part I of this article, published by News and Views last month, the National Council booklets are so permeated with pro-Soviet propaganda that many volumes would be required to expose or uncover even a part of it. Indeed, I submit that the NPOE & AFP booklets may well become a classic for the study of the various kinds and styles of propaganda techniques. Let us examine a few samples.

### FEAR AS A PROPAGANDA WEAPON

The use of fear as a weapon in communist aggression has been well documented by many writers besides the author of this article. As we have already pointed out, however, the National Council at no time refers to any of the texts or the authorities in this field . . . such as, for example, Joost Meerloo, who wrote the excellent book, "Rape of The Mind"; Nikolai Khokhlov, whose testi-

mony on "Communist Control of the AI" has been praised for its outstanding lucidity; or other

Recently, Stewart Alsop, writing in the January 30, 1960 Saturday Evening Post, described his findings based on a 3000-mile trip behind the iron curtain, digging deep beneath the surface of communism. The article is entitled "I Saw What Makes Communism Work". The answer? It is "fear, which is everywhere, for it is what makes Communism Work." . . . and Mr. Alsop backs up his findings with example after example.

The "Nationwide Program" material is permeated with an atmosphere of fear and terror . . . there are few pages without it. Over and over again we are fed such phrases as: "history so dangerously today . . . the whole range of terrors . . . evil intrudes itself on men in new magnitudes of urgency and terror . . . all the promises tremble now over one peril . . . the capacity for destruction possible in war today exceeds the most ominous forebodings of yesterday . . . mutual destruction . . . great cities would lie in ruins . . . whole populations would be annihilated . . . a radioactive plague would settle on the earth . . . we find ourselves always on the brink of annihilation . . . devastation and destruction . . ." and so on, ad infinitum.

In addition to the atmosphere of fear and terror, the "Nationwide Program" material also contains an atmosphere of hopelessness; the idea that there is nothing at all that we can do about it . . . and that certainly we cannot expect or hope that "old fashioned" ideas of right and wrong will be of any value or effect.

The very best we can hope for, then, is to "end" the cold war . . . but never, of course to WIN the cold war. That the free world should ever defeat, conquer, overcome, or win the struggle against communist aggression . . . such an idea is, to the National Council experts, absolutely unthinkable.

Hence we learn the following: that "The power to win a war has lost its significance . . . the policy of deterrence (poses) the threat . . . of mutual suicide . . . we must face new realities . . . we must accept the fact that in Russia and China, Communism is a reality that will not be overcome by outside pressure. Deterrence? "A real danger". Limited wars? "A danger of utmost gravity". Moral judgment (often mentioned by President Eisenhower)? "We should abandon the black and white moralistic approach". The threat of massive retaliation? "Does not make sense". Containment? "Our adventures in containment could be our own isolation in an embittered Fortress America".

The end conclusion? We had just better resign ourselves to accepting the inevitable. We can't possibly win the struggle against communist tyranny. We are told emphatically, "The overriding consideration in coming to accept the necessity of living with the communist nations is that there is no alternative except one that would be likely to destroy both the communist world and our own".

And that is that. But—of course—"It is not our purpose to indoctrinate churches and their members with particularized views or dogmas"!—so emphatically states the National Councilites!

**BUT** . . .

Those who criticize this article . . . and I am sure they will be noisy and bitter . . . will be able to quote a great number of statements from the National Program manuals which are decidedly unfavorable to communism;

**BUT** when you read these statements carefully, you will find virtually every time this is done, that within the same sentence or within a few sentences, there is a "but", a "yet", a "however", "still", or some other qualifying preposition followed by a white-wash excuse of the communist crime or misdeed.

There is, of course, a reason for this. For a long time the Communists were quite successful in hiding their crimes against the enslaved peoples from the outside world. The iron curtain was very successful. But as time went on (42 years of time, to be exact) the truth began to leak out. The stench of communism became embarrassingly apparent. No longer are the fellow-travelers able to quote the Red Dean of Canterbury, as they once did, that "Stalin is no oriental despot".

It was necessary for Khrushchev to deliver his "downgrading" "secret" speech, manufactured for dispatch to the outside world, as an attempt to separate the crimes of communism from the perpetrators of communist crimes.

Hence, it is no longer possible to conceal completely the evils of communism. Hence the tactic is to "deodorize" them by excuse—any excuse, no matter how far fetched . . . so long as you can get gullible people to swallow them.

Hence, in the National Program indoctrination manuals, what do we find? Let's take a look at only a few of the many examples.

"If the non-communist world were to shrink beyond a certain point, no nation would be likely to maintain its freedom. **BUT** —"

"It is true that there are important interactions between communist military power and other forms of communist power. **BUT** —"

"There are forms of oppression, of the denial of the basic rights of the person of which we should not be tolerant. **BUT** —"

"We must oppose communism as an evil system which denies God and defiles man, **BUT** —"

"The Communist goal of world domination must be squarely faced and constantly kept in mind. **YET IT DOES NOT FOLLOW** —"

"It is idle to expect that at any time in the foreseeable future the communists will formally renounce their dream of world revolution. **BUT IF** —"

"It is true that they are atheists in principle **BUT** —"

"Aggressive totalitarianism or communist imperialism should be resisted. **BUT** —"

By the time the reader completes the 15 textbooks in the series, he has been given an apology for most of the crimes committed by the communists. Of course, many serious crimes committed against the enslaved peoples are not mentioned at all.

## STACKING THE CARDS

A device sometimes used by the less ethical in gambling circles is known as "stacking the deck" or "stacking the cards". The deck is "loaded" in your favor and puts your opponent in a most unfortunate position. Of course, in gambling circles this is considered to be cheating. But, in propaganda warfare waged against the free world by the communist criminal conspiracy, "stacking" the propaganda deck is one of the standard practices.

It is therefore interesting to note that the World Order Study Conference has "stacked" its material very decidedly in favor of the communists, and to the detriment of the free world and particularly the United States.

In addition to the favorable words used in connection with the communists, balanced against the unfavorable words used in discussion of the United States, we also find that very harsh words are used to describe matters, peoples or movements other than communist, but that softer words are used in talking about the very same crime committed by the communists.

For example: In the book on "Changing Dimensions", the persecution of people in Poland and Germany is referred to as the "shocking massacre". There is nothing inaccurate about that statement. But, in the very same sentence, persecution of people in the Soviet Union is referred to as simply "suppression" . . . a much softer, less damning term.

On page 4 of the same manual, reference is made to "the persecution of Jews in Germany"; but there is no reference made to the much more insidious persecution of the Jews under communism, despite a terrific amount of available evidence. Can the National Council of Churches expect us to believe that it is entirely accidental that they should condemn the persecution of the Jewish people 20 years ago in Germany, but say nothing about the persecution of the Jewish people in the Soviet Union NOW?

Over and over again, we are fed such words as "Communist nations as nations have their own legitimate interests and their own reasonable fears"; "there is real hope that new generations within the communist countries will be less fanatical". Or, if there have been "failings" on the part of the communists, it's all our fault!

Hence, we read that "the intransigence and aggressive tactics of the communist powers are caused, in part, by fear of their own security". Whose fault is it? Why, "American nuclear stockpiles . . . arouse apprehension"! There is no mention, of course, as to WHY we have found it necessary to build a nuclear stockpile.

Or, we read, "There is in Communism an element of judgment upon the churches and upon the more privileged societies". And, since communism is all our fault anyway, "We should avoid the posture of general hostility to them and cease the practice of continual moral lectures to them by our leaders".

The writers of the National Program manuals cannot get around the fact that we seem to be in a "nuclear stalemate" . . . that the cold war continues. There are, they declare, "five reasons . . . for these failures". And the five reasons? You guessed it. All five "reasons" are blamed on the United States. Not a word to indicate that the Soviet Union is to be held responsible for declaring and waging total war on the free world.

There are many references to "communist dreams", Russian aims, communist goals . . . but not a word about the American dream, American aims, intentions, hopes and aspirations. Whatever happened to the American dream? But, of Communist China? A "crusade" of such magnificent proportions, that it is completely unreasonable for us to expect the reds to abandon their noble purposes. Specifically, the sentence reads, "It may now be too late for Communist China to give up her crusade to liberate and reclaim Formosa" . . .

Crusade? Liberate? Reclaim? Those who, during and before World War II, supported Hitler's movement as a "Crusade" to "liberate" and "reclaim" certain

territories and nationalities for Germany were called Fascists. Yet, D. F. Fleming, who wrote the above, insists upon putting on an air of injured innocence and indignation if anyone reaches a logical conclusion as to which brand of totalitarianism he supports.

As an American citizen, Fleming, of course, has the right to espouse any philosophy he wishes. But it would seem that our Protestant Churches, since they had the right to oppose the views of Gerald L. K. Smith, should have the equal right to oppose, just as strenuously, the views of D. F. Fleming.

## RED TRICKS OF THE PROPAGANDA TRADE

I have, in my file of Communist propaganda letters, one clever little mailing piece used several years ago which did a fabulous money-raising job for the Reds. It successfully confused a large number of innocent victims. Since non-Communists, they nevertheless were tricked into contributing to a Communist front organization.

The trick was accomplished simply by asking questions!

The trap was set by inserting a false statement within the question; and, since the good-natured person is intent upon finding the answer to the question, his mind tends to ignore the precise content of the question itself. And, since the question is "loaded" in favor of his enemy, his answer is likely to strengthen the side of the enemy, and weaken the side of the victim.

The National Council of Churches, in its NPOE & AFP booklets, pulls this propaganda trick constantly. Seemingly innocent questions are, in fact, loaded favorably for the Soviet Union and unfavorably for the United States and the free world. Sometimes it is done within the question itself; sometimes the question is prefaced by slanted or distorted information, thus "setting up" a tinted background designed to color the victim's reply; and sometimes it is done with a combination of questions.

For example, on Page 24 of the "Study Guide" we find a question which was loaded from within: We are asked,

*"What does the rise of nationalism mean in Africa, Asia, and Latin America? In what ways does it compare with the rise of nationalism in our own country's history?"*

Unless the victim is careful, he may be tricked by this apparently innocent question . . . because a Communist false twist of fact has been inserted!

The key, of course, is the accusation of "Nationalism" hurled at the United States. This is a continuing accusation made against us by the Reds, not only as part of their propaganda of hatred, but also as a very definite part of the war to weaken our resistance to Soviet oppression.

This Red propaganda line holds that the people of the United States are guilty of Nationalism, Chauvinism, Imperialism and super-Patriotism, thus endangering the peace and tranquility of the world.

Much closer to the truth, of course, is that the people of this country are among the least "nationalistic" of any nation in the world. Still a new country, we are aware that this land has been a "melting pot" for many peoples, nationalities and cultures. Indeed, we lack patriotism to a fault. Many competent observers, too numerous to list here, have cited our deplorable lack of knowledge concerning our own nation and heritage; of the meaning of freedom; of a true appreciation of our constitution and the liberties it protects. Indeed, rather than suffering from "nationalism", we are more likely to suffer from apathy, indiffer-

ence and complacency . . . dis . . . our characteristic which have, in fact, played right in the hands of the Communists and which have contributed, more than anything else, to the fact that the Reds are winning World War III right now.

It is, therefore, completely in the interests of the Reds to try to prevent any trend towards greater love of country and of American freedom, because such loyalties are an obstacle to Soviet aggression.

On Page 19 of the "Study Guide", we find an example of the ancient "Have you stopped beating your wife" question; in other words, one that comes out to your detriment no matter which way it is answered. Here it is:

*"Some people say that Communism must be destroyed. Some people say that Capitalism must be destroyed. How could either be done without destroying much of the world in war?"*

This question is asked against the "tinted" backdrop of the "background paper" entitled, "Can the Cold War Be Ended?" This paper holds, in essence, that we have no choice; that the answer is either co-existence or no-existence; and that we had best resign ourselves to the inevitable conclusion that totalitarianism is here to stay.

We can only hope that the intended victims will be smart enough to realize that we are not faced with a choice of equally unacceptable "solutions", both of which would plunge us into war; but that the only real solution is freedom for the enslaved peoples.

On the same page of the "Study Manual" is an example of a loaded combination of questions. We are asked, "Is all of Communism bad? Is all of Capitalism good?" Of course the first question prompts favorable remarks concerning Soviet totalitarianism, while the second question incites unfavorable comments concerning the United States.

Or, we find that a whole series of questions manage to direct our attention away from any criticism of the Soviet Union, and to concentrate all criticism against the United States.

For example, one would assume that in the "Report of Section IV", which has to do with "The Changing Dimensions of Human Rights", that a fair comparison would be made of human rights under the free Republic of the United States and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republic. Alas! We find nothing of the sort!

Rather, we are sternly admonished that any criticism of "another nation or group" is unjustified; that to do so we would most certainly be harboring dangerous "political propaganda reasons"; and besides, "Christians are reminded of the Biblical injunction to take the obstruction out of our own eye if we are to help in clearing the sight of others."

Hence it is not surprising to find in the 22 questions posed concerning "human rights", not one single mention of Communism. There is nothing about Soviet slave labor camps; nothing about the destruction of free speech, of assembly, of the churches; nothing about the murder of Christian martyrs behind the Iron curtain; nothing about the dread MVD, the Soviet Secret Police; nothing about the brazen Soviet kidnapping of refugees in the United States; nothing about Anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union; nothing about the destruction of the rights of labor and workers . . . not even mention

of the Iron curtain itself. If the hoped-for victim in the Discussion Group wakes up in time, he will find that he is not even talking about "peace" any more!

What is he talking about? By clever transition, the questions slowly change the entire direction of thinking. We find out, without realizing it, what was meant by the "whole field" of human rights. From the original statement of simple human rights, the questions take us to "Do you believe that the community has a responsibility to see that every child has a right to an education?" What responsibility does the world community have . . . ? The right to remunerative work? The right to a minimum standard of living? Have the rights of the American Indian been considered? Should everybody have the right to vote? The right to equal opportunities? Housing? Hospital care? Recreation?

The final question of the 22 posed in the Study Guide reads: "What obligations, if any, do Christians have in being concerned about these questions in the changing dimensions of human rights?" By this time it is quite likely that the victim has completely forgotten that the question has anything to do with Communism . . . his entire attention has been scientifically directed, by means of very clever propaganda techniques, towards thinking what a perfectly awful place we live in — a discredited, maligned United States which is in such a deplorable state that we had best direct our prayers to God to forgive us our many sins against humanity. But this is not yet the end. We have still to be delivered the coup de grace. Directly following the list of questions, and to nail down any loose ends the brainwashing may have left over, the National Council of Churches provides a list of "Readings".

Here we find that the National Council of Churches recommends that we read "The Races of Mankind" by Prof. Gene Weltfish, published by "Public Affairs Pamphlets" in New York. What we are not told (remember — Christians must base their decisions on facts?) is that Maxwell S. Stewart, the editor of Public Affairs Pamphlets, has been identified as a member of the Communist Party, U.S.A., by a sworn witness before the Internal Security Subcommittee in 1951 and that Prof. Weltfish who was one of the outstanding Red front joiners in the U.S., was head of the infamous Communist front known as Congress of American Women and was fired from Columbia University after invoking the Fifth Amendment before a Senate Committee hearing.

Neither are we told, by the writers of the National Program booklets who insisted that Christians "know the facts", that Maxwell S. Stewart has been affiliated with the defunct publication *Amerasia*, of which 6 members of the editorial and contributing staff were arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on June 6, 1945 on charges of conspiring to violate the Federal Espionage Statutes through theft of government documents ranging from *Restricted to Top Secret* in security classification.

We are not warned by the National Program authors that Stewart has been affiliated with *New Masses*, described as a "communist periodical" by the Attorney General of the United States in 1942 . . . or that he has been affiliated with over 40 subversive organizations during the past 22 years.

And so we have travelled the complete circle. From an initial discussion point, which was alleged to have been for the purpose of establishing "peace and friendship" we have been brought completely around, step by step, until we have been delivered safely into the hands of an identified communist.

Can this be because of stupidity? Are the instigators of this device clumsy amateurs, who simply didn't know what they were doing? It is true that, as we have already explained, names of perfectly honest people were tossed in to the committee lists, thus providing proper and respectable cover. But the anonymous authors of the Nationwide Program pamphlets and booklets are much too slick; much too clever; they display an expert touch which is simply not the work of an amateur.

## COMMUNIST LIES

In addition to the slanted, distorted, angled, loaded and twisted material in the National Council of Churches "Nationwide Program for Peace" booklets, we are also fed straight communist propaganda lies. Let's take just one. On page 21 of the "Christian Responsibility" booklet, we read that the "cold war" (their quotes) "had its roots in the Russian Bolshevik Revolution of 1917".

It is incredible that a lie of such magnitude and importance could be contained in so few words; but this communist lie, which is a deliberate fabrication of "history", is literally the key-stone of the whole facade of communist propaganda.

In the first place, strictly speaking it is technically inaccurate to link the words "Communist" and "Bolshevik" since, as we have already pointed out, the communists have never been a "majority" of anything. However, we cannot, of course, hold the National Council of Churches accountable for this bit of Red deceit, since the term "Bolshevik" has come to be generally recognized as the label used, albeit fraudulently, by the communists.

In the second place, to link the word "communist" (or Bolshevik) with the term "revolution" is equally false; a total untruth. Communism is not revolutionary; it never has been revolutionary; it never will be revolutionary, because communism by its very essence is reactionary. In the original sense of the words, "revolutionary" or "liberal" mean something new, something forward, a movement towards freedom, a release from the shackles of state power and control, the liberation of man from state authority. Communism is, and always has been, the complete opposite. It increases the power and authority of the state at the expense of society. It diminishes the freedom of the individual to the vanishing point. It makes of every man, including the member of the communist apparatus, a slave to the state.

However, the communist propagandist wants you to think that communism is something different; that he may be compared, let us say, to Tom Paine, or Abraham Lincoln, or to an number of other great "revolutionaries". It is to their advantage to claim that they are moving forward in history, when in fact they are plunging nations and peoples under communism backward at least a thousand years.

But the most important part of the lie is the very term itself, "Russian Bolshevik Revolution". There was, of course, no such thing as a Russian Bolshevik Revolution. It is only important that the communists make you think that such an event occurred in history. The importance of the lie, to the structure of communist falsehood, becomes apparent when you examine the truth.

What really happened? Calming a long struggle by the Russian people against the tyranny of the Tsar, a series of uprisings and demonstrations in early 1917 ended, in the middle of March of that year, in the abdication of the Tsarist government and the formation of a pro-

visional government of the Russian people under the leadership of Kerensky. This was a true revolution, in the same tradition and for the same goals as the American Revolution; to secure a greater measure of individual freedom from autocratic government.

For the first time in the long history of the Russian people, freedom was established. Amnesty was declared for political prisoners; government restrictions against people because of nationality and religion were outlawed; kangaroo courts were abolished and trial by jury was decreed; equal rights were declared for women; exile to Siberian camps were abolished; freedom of the press and of assembly were declared. Also, the Russian people, through their provisional government leaders, laid plans for a free election to be held in the fall of that same year, 1917.

What part did the "Bolsheviks" play in the Russian Revolution? Mr. W. Cloon Skousen, in his excellent book, "The Naked Communist" (published 1958 by the Ensign Publishing Company, Salt Lake City, Utah) explains:

"The most significant thing about the abdication of the Tsar and the setting up on the people's Provisional Government in Russia, is the simple historical fact that the Bolsheviks, or Communists, had practically nothing to do with it! This revolution had been initiated by the same kind of people as those who started the revolt against the Tsar in 1905. They represented Russia's best people—the liberal aristocrats, the intellectuals, the businessmen, the millions of peasants and the millions of workers. But the Bolshevik leaders were nowhere in sight. (Italics mine). Lenin was in exile in Switzerland, Trotsky was in exile in New York and Joseph Stalin was in prison in Siberia."

Not until a month after the Russian Revolution did Lenin manage to get back into Russia. Further, he was able to do so only with the aid and assistance of the German totalitarian regime, which was at that moment waging war against Russia! As enemies, fighting the Russian people, the German militarists most certainly would not have helped Lenin unless they knew that Lenin, too, was an enemy of the Russian people.

Immediately, Lenin began to utilize his well-developed tactics as a wrecker, gained by long experience in his ruthless search for power. And so the communists began working towards the violent overthrow and destruction, not of the totalitarian Tsar, but of the free government of the Russian people. Within six months the evil deed was done.

Free elections had been promised the people, and the self-styled "bolsheviks" either felt they could not afford to "lose face" by preventing the elections, or else they had actually swallowed their own propaganda and had come to assume that they really did have "majority" support. In any event, the elections were held on November 25, 1917. **OVER 75% OF THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE VOTED AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS!** That was the last free election ever permitted the Russian people. When the freely elected government met in January of 1918, the armed gangsters of Lenin ruthlessly moved into the assembly, aimed their bristling rifles at the representatives elected by the people, and ordered them to get out. And that was that.

Of course this was not revolution, it was insurrection, an act of treason against the will of the majority of the Russian workers and peasants. Hence it was that the Russian people were plunged back under a dictatorship far worse, far more cruel, far more ruthless, than anything they had known under the Tsar.

But the National Council of Churches, in their NPOE & AFP material, makes no mention of Mr. Skousen and his

book on communism. Neither do the self-appointed "leaders" of the Protestant Churches mention any other accurate, truthful account of the communist infiltration conspiracy. Rather, the National Council and its Accredited World Order Study Conference, under the guise of a "peace" campaign, elects to repeat fabricated, false "history" which was deliberately manufactured by the communists as part of their world campaign to deceive and confuse the people of the free world.

This, of course, is not the only pro-communist falsehood in the Study Material. A few further examples:

**RED PROPAGANDA:** The use of the word "leaders" to identify those at the top of the heap in the Soviet Socialist States.

**FACT:** The communist dictators cannot "lead" anybody at the point of a bayonet. The word "leader" is false propaganda, because it implies that the people are willingly following the red gangster regime.

**RED PROPAGANDA:** Adlai Stevenson mentioned "the angry hostility of the Chinese leaders (there's that word again!) to the United States. This is the emotion which dominates 640,000,000 Chinese."

**FACT:** It is totally false that the Chinese people are in accord with the communist dictatorship in their hatred of free America. This was dramatically proved in "Operation Big Switch," after the Korean War, when only a tiny percentage of the Chinese POWs elected to return to their communist controlled homeland.

**RED PROPAGANDA:** The "cold war" is a result of our "illusions," our "fear of communism," our "adventures in containment," etc.

**FACT:** It is nothing less than straight communist propaganda to allege that the "cold war" is entirely and completely the fault of the free world, and in particular the United States. Hence, to the communists, "liquidating the cold war" means that the United States should cease all effective opposition to soviet imperialism.

**RED PROPAGANDA:** Some field commander, or unbalanced officer, can launch an atomic war.

**FACT:** The Constitution of the United States specifically provides that Congress, and only Congress, has the authority to declare war. It is not only constitutionally, but physically impossible for any individual in the United States armed services to start a war.

## SUMMARY

We have been able to mention only a tiny proportion of the massive volume of communist and pro-Soviet propaganda in the 15 NPOE & AFP booklets.

One may complain that, after all, it is not necessarily subversive that the red dictators are called "leaders," or that Red Chinese aggression is called a "crusade," or that it is falsely claimed that there was, in history, a "Russian Bolshevik Revolution."

It is perfectly true that any one, or possibly two or three of these "slips" might not be serious. But when we find that this same pattern continues, for book after book, chapter after chapter, page after page, sentence after sentence, the sheer massive weight of communist propaganda becomes nothing less than devastating. A single pebble dropped on your head may do little harm; a painful pile of pebbles can cave in your skull.

Were these "errors"? Common sense tells us otherwise. If these were mistakes, at least some of the mistakes would be in our favor!

It is my opinion that, this time, those responsible for foisting this fraud upon the Protestant Churches have overplayed their hand. When the bright light of truth is thrown on the NPOE material, the bright red hue stands out all too clearly. Protestant Churches, Protestant Pastors, Protestant laymen are not nearly as asleep as they once were. They know a great deal more about communism than they did ten, five, or even one year ago. And they are learning more all the time. Because of this, it is my conviction that the NPOE & AFP will, in the end, prove to be an abject failure. It may even prove to be the end of the National Council of Churches.

## YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE:

Here is a Bulletin which is of vital interest to every American. This should be distributed in large quantities to church members, ministers, and especially to businessmen who make contributions to churches.

- COST:** ☐ If sent to you in quantity package;  
\$9 per hundred—\$70 per thousand.  
☐ If mailed by us to lists you furnish or to our lists:  
\$12 per hundred—\$100 per thousand.

Amount Enclosed \$.....  
News & Views  
Date of Issue: .....

Name ..... Address .....

The purpose of this Bulletin and all of our other editions is to inform the American people concerning those subversive forces which are methodically penetrating every major phase of our society. Once the American people are informed, they will do something to stop this infiltration. You can help inform them.

CHURCH LEAGUE OF AMERICA  
1407 Hill Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois

1 - Mr. Simpson

March 28, 1960

REC- 13

17-384

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 17, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

I am enclosing a copy of the statement I made before the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, on March 26, 1947, and on page 12 appears the statement which you correctly quoted in your letter. However, when you read this statement in context, you will note I was merely referring to some of the general areas in our society in which communists have infiltrated. This statement is certainly not to be construed as referring to any particular religious denomination or church group.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

1 - Omaha (enclosure) (SEE NOTE TO OMAHA, PAGE TWO)

RDS:pw (4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

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[REDACTED]

ATTENTION: SAC, OMAHA

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

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent advised she has recently read a booklet issued by the American Council of Christian Churches which attacks the NCC as a communist organization. She requested we advise her if this is correct. She stated the booklet quotes the Director as stating "I confess to a real apprehension so long as communists are able to secure ministers of the gospel to promote their evil work." She inquires if this statement was used with the Director's permission to accuse the NCC of "being Red."

The above statement of the Director has been extensively quoted in the current controversy concerning communism in churches.

[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
March 17, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am a member of the Evangelical and Reformed Church at [REDACTED]. Recently someone sent me a booklet and three leaflets put out by the American Council of Christian Churches, attacking the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and the president of this group. Dr. Dahlberg, calling it a communistic organization with many "Red" leaders, I would like to know if your office considers the NCCC to be a communistic organization. You have probably seen the booklet, "What is Wrong with the NCCC in the USA" and it quotes you 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." Was this statement of yours used with your permission to accuse the NCCC of being Red? I would be very grateful for your answer if you can spare the time to write.

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

Mar 1, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am a member of the Evangelical and Reformed Church at [REDACTED]. Recently someone sent me a booklet and three leaflets put out by the American Council of Christian Churches, attacking the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and the president of this group, Dr. Dahlberg, calling it a communistic organization with many "Red" leaders. I would like to know if your office considers the NCCC to be a communistic organization. You have probably seen the booklet, "What is wrong with the NCCC in the USA" and it quotes you as saying "I confess to a real apprehension as long as Communists are able to secure ministers of the gospel to promote their evil work." Was this statement of yours used with your permission to accuse the NCCC of being [REDACTED]? I would be very grateful for your answer if you can spare the time to write. [REDACTED]

14-375-7  
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REC-13

March 24, 1960

REC-12 /

383

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 19, 1960, with enclosure, concerning the National Council of The Churches of Christ in America, has been received, and your interest in this matter is appreciated.

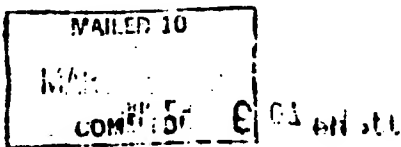
Although I would like to be of service, the function of this Bureau as strictly a fact-gathering agency does not extend to furnishing evaluations or clearances of any organizations. Furnishing data of the type you desire would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the group you named; 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.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing some material on the topic of communism that you may find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAR 28 4 17 PM '60



Enclosures (4)

Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
"Director's statement before Committee on  
Un-American Activities, 3-26-47  
17th National Convention of CP USA  
Stamped self-addressed envelope

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

NHC:jcs

(3) MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

63 APR 4 1960

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

**NOTE:** We have not conducted an investigation on the Federal Council of Churches or its successor The National Council of the Churches of Christ in America. [REDACTED] asked us to comment on the quotations in his letter, but this is not being done inasmuch as we do not know the source of these quotations, and in view of our policy of not commenting on organizations. [REDACTED] enclosed a stamped, self-addressed envelope which is not being used in reply inasmuch as reprint material is being sent to him. We have had cordial correspondence with [REDACTED] Last outgoing 4-23-47. He has been furnished considerable material since 1938.

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Mohr ✓  
Mr. Parsons ✓  
Mr. Belmont ✓  
Mr. Callahan ✓  
Mr. DeLoach ✓  
Mr. Malone ✓  
Mr. McGuire ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Trotter ✓  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Ingram ✓  
Mr. Gandy ✓

Jones ✓

March 19, 1960

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In material I have here before me in an attack on the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA, I find this statement:

"Another thing I wish Mr. Swain (of the National Council) would clear up for me, 'WHY DID MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TURN DOWN REP. FRANCIS WALTER'S INVITATION TO APPEAR BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES and EXPOSE THESE 'LIES' AGAINST ITS MEMBERS?"

"I would also like to know if RICHARD ARENDT, STAFF DIRECTOR, OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES, IS BIAS AND A LIAR OR WAS HE TELLING THE TRUTH IN HIS STATEMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE WHEN HE REPORTED:

"THUS FAR OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA, WE HAVE FOUND OVER 100 PERSONS IN LEADERSHIP CAPACITY WITH EITHER COMMUNIST FRONT RECORDS OR RECORDS OF SERVICE TO COMMUNIST CAUSES."

Will you be kind enough to give me a statement concerning this alleged statement at your earliest convenience?

Thanking you, and with my very best wishes from THE PANHANDLE OF TEXAS,  
I am,

SINCERELY

EXP. PROC  
MAR 21 1960

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23 MAR 30 1960

CRIME REC

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont  
RE: COMINFIL OF RELIGION  
100-403529

[REDACTED]

The Manual mentions and sets out the following description of Dr. E. Stanley Jones, "a Christian missionary of one of the leading Protestant denominations, is considered in the circles of the National Council of Churches to be one of the outstanding Christian missionaries.. Nevertheless, Jones, according to the Manual, has praised the Soviet Union and its slave state and has reportedly stated in his book, "The Choice Before Us," the fact that "...communism loses sight of the individual in the mass is obviously untrue..." and he further wrote "...capitalism seems to have the cheapest and most tawdry goal..." This latter statement was made concerning a comparison of Nazism, fascism, communism and capitalism.

[REDACTED]

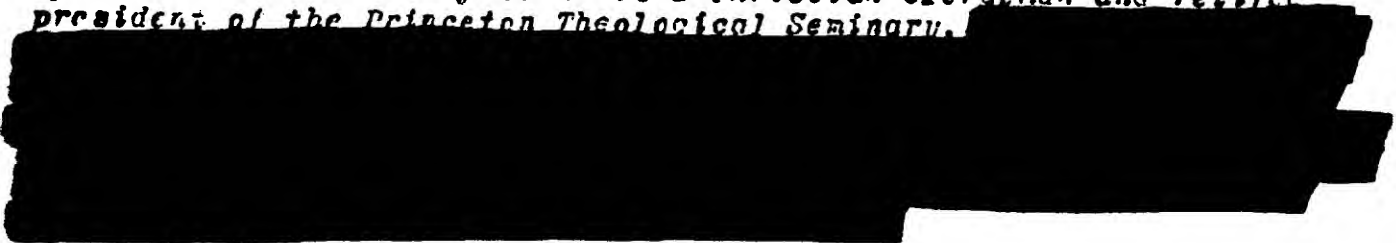
The communist front background of Dr. Harry F. Ward is also specifically mentioned in the Manual, which goes to considerable length to show that Ward was identified as a Communist Party (CP) member by Louis Budenz, that other former communists testified that Ward was assigned to a top policy-making body of the CP and that Ward, in a radio broadcast 5/21/46, stated the Soviet Union is progressing while the capitalist society is starving and going down.

[REDACTED]

The portion of the Manual entitled "Communism and Religion in Red China and North Korea" deals with the testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) of individuals who were in a position to comment concerning the communist operations in China and North Korea. It was pointed out family units are broken up in a communist society; there is a complete lack of morality and, generally, all individuals are treated like animals; the communists in China and North Korea have crushed religion except for the communist-run churches

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont  
RE: COMINFIL OF RELIGION  
100-408129

which are show places for visitors; and details concerning the above observations of communist tyranny were published in the Nation's press. The Manual observes that despite this exposure of communist tactics and activities, Dr. John A. Mackay charged in a United Press International news dispatch of 5/27/59 that "America is turning its back on untold thousands of Christians in Red China. Dr. Mackay called for the recognition of Red China..." The Manual indicates it is extremely difficult to reconcile the stand of Mackay on the admission of Red China with the fact he is a Christian clergyman and retired president of the Princeton Theological Seminary.



In conclusion, the Manual indicated that the reader, based upon the foregoing information, must be alert; must be careful to evaluate any conversation, speech, article, sermon or book if the subject touches adversely upon the American way of life. It called for the continuation of our belief in the dignity of man and the right of every individual to choose his manner of living, worship, his occupation--as long as the rights of others are respected.

ACTION:

None. For information.

Mr. A. H. Belmont

March 4, 1960

Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. G'Connor

COMINFIL OF RELIGION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The present controversy involving the Air Force and the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) evolves about certain portions of Air Force Training Manual NR 45-0050, Increment V, Volume 7. [REDACTED] a source of the New York Office, has furnished the pertinent portions. We do not have a copy of the complete manual in our files.

[REDACTED] noted Air Force reservist Sgt. Paul Delaney, Trenton, New Jersey, brought certain references to the NCCC and to members of the NCCC in this Manual, which he considered objectionable, to the attention of his pastor, Dr. Stanley Holcomb, Grace Methodist Church, Trenton, New Jersey, who in turn notified his superior, Reverend Bennett Phillips. Reverend Phillips contacted leaders of the NCCC who protested vigorously to Pentagon officials concerning the references in the Manual. [REDACTED]

The Air Force Training Manual in question is one of a series prepared for the training of Air Force noncommissioned officers. This Manual is made up of lessons dealing with problems of "individual and group defense." The portion we are interested in is set out in Lesson 1, pages 14-20, captioned "Communism and Religion" and "Communism and Religion in Red China and North Korea."

The gist of the article entitled "Communism and Religion" is that there appears to be "overwhelming evidence of Communist anti-religious activity in the United States through the infiltration of fellow-travelers into churches and educational institutions." To support this contention, the article claims 30 of 95 individuals who prepared the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, a project of the NCCC, have been affiliated with various communist fronts, projects and publications. This information is taken from a pamphlet, "A Compilation of Public Records - 30 of the 95 Men Who Gave Us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible," prepared by M. G. Lowman of the Circuit Riders, Inc., which is an organization of laymen opposed, inter alia, to the policies of the NCCC. Of the 30 individuals, the Manual lists the following clergymen: Walter Russell Bowie; Henry J. Cadbury; George Dahl; Frederick C. Grant; Leroy Waterman; and Fleming James. [REDACTED]

100-408529

1 - 100-3-52 (CP, Religious Matters)

(1) - 100-50969 (NCCC)

JOC:mas/rms  
6 APR 1960

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March 16, 1960

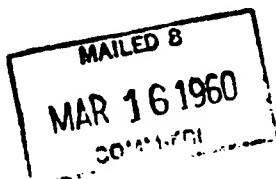
Dear [REDACTED]

Your telegram of March 14, 1960, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to contact me.

You may be certain that I have never authorized anyone to use material in "Masters of Deceit" as a means for attacking any religious group. / While I would like to be of further assistance to you, 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 furnish the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



NOTE: Bufiles reflect nothing identifiable with [REDACTED]. The Bureau in recent years has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the National Council of Churches (NCC), formerly known as the Federal Council of Churches. 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 influences on the part of persons affiliated with the organization at that time. (100-50869)

WLD:mhd

(3)

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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
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Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

62 MAR 31 1960

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28 JAN 10 1974

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 14 1960

WESTERN UNION

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BRACCS DE IDE004 PD AR INDIANAPOLIS IND 14 522AMC

J EDGAR HOOVER, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

CERTAIN GROUPS HERE ARE USING STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO YOU IN

"BOFF" MATTER IN DECEIT "WASHPT" AND OTHER WRITING TO DI CREDIT

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES DO YOU FOR ANY REA ON QUESTION

THE LOYALTY AND INTEGRITY OF LEADERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL?

PROMPT REPLY WILL BE APPRECIATED AS THERE IS CONSIDERABLE TURMOIL

HERE ABOUT THESE CHARGES

REC-12

EX 100

Handwritten notes and stamps in the top right corner, including a date stamp and various initials.

Handwritten notes and signatures in the bottom right corner, including a date stamp and various initials.

Redacted area at the bottom of the page, consisting of two thick black horizontal bars.

1 - Mr. Shaw

March 24, 1960

REC-66

100-10817-381

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 14, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

This Bureau has not issued any material on the subject matter you mentioned; however, in an effort to be of assistance, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (7)

1 - New Orleans (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, NEW ORLEANS

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

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization.

NOTE TO NEW ORLEANS, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

WGS:pw (4)

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MAR 24 1960

COMM-FBI

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Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO NEW ORLEANS. CONTINUED

In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

The following items of literature are being furnished to the correspondent:

1. Statement of the Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
3. "Communist 'New Look.'"
4. "Where do we Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
5. "How to Beat Communism."
6. "God and Country or Communism?"
7. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent states he left the Methodist Church over a year ago because of anti-Christ, socialistic literature distributed to the young people. He states that the NCC is controlled by the communists; that they want to set up a world order, and that they want to abolish the FBI and the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He requested printed material concerning the infiltration of churches by communists and the spread of communist poison into our major denominations or into the NCC. He states he desires this material to show friends and to use in talks.

TRUE COPY

March 14, 1960

Dear Mr. J. Edgar Hoover --

I left the Methodist Church over a year ago because of Anti-Christ, socialistic literature distributed to the young people. We all know that the National Council of Churches is controlled by the Communists and it wants to set up a world order or world church which will be controlled and taken over by Moscow.

Any printed information about the infiltration of some of the churches (major denominations) by communism that you could send me would be appreciated. I want to use this information to show friends and also to be used in talks.

Thanks,

/s/ [REDACTED]

P. S. I Any printed matter concerning the spread of communist poison into our major denominations or into the National Council of Churches will be appreciated.

P. S. II I know the National Council of Churches want to abolish the F.B.I. and also the House Committee on Un-American Activities headed by Chairman Francis E. Walter. God forbid!

TRUE COPY

MO 14, 1960

Dear Mr. J. Edgar Hoover -

I left the Methodist Church over a year ago because of Anti-christ, socialistic literature distributed to the young people. We all know that the National Council of Churches is controlled by the Communists and <sup>it</sup> wants to set up a world order or world church which will be controlled and taken over by Moscow.

Any printed information about the infiltration of some  
(major denominations) of the churches by communists that you could send me  
would be appreciated. I want to use this information to show friends and also to be used in talks.

Thanks,

[Redacted signature]

P.S. <sup>I</sup> Any printed matter concerning the spread of Communist poison into our major denominations or into the National Council of Churches will be appreciated.

P.S. <sup>II</sup> I know the National Council of Churches want to abolish the F.B.I. and also the House Committee on Un-American Activities headed by Chairman Francis B. Hall.

Mr. Shaw

REC-48

100-50867-380

March 25, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 14, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

In an effort to be of assistance, however, I am enclosing some literature available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures - 8

1 - Denver (Enclosure) (See Note Page Two)

WGS:mpp  
(4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE THREE

4 MAR 31 1960

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE FOR SAC, DENVER:

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bureau files contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent.

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have, in the past, checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years, the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups.

(100-50869)

Glenn Martz is the author of "The Lowdown on Farm Affairs from Washington" which is published by the Washington News Syndicate. It is a violently anticommunist paper dealing with political maneuvering on issues affecting the farmer.

(62-102652)

The following items of literature are being sent to the correspondent.

1. Statement of the Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "What You can do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."
3. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
4. "How to Beat Communism."
5. "God and Country or Communism?"
6. "Where Do we Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
7. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
8. "Communist 'New Look.'"

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is concerned about the recent publicity afforded the NCC since her church is affiliated with the NCC. She requested information as to whether Edwin Dahlberg, president of the NCC, Bishop Oxnam, former president of the NCC, and others are associated with left-wing organizations and go along with communistic principles. She indicates that the past two issues of "Lowdown on Farm Affairs from Washington" contain information relative to communistic efforts on the part of those individuals which makes her want to know if there are communists in the leadership of the NCC.

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

I have written to the President of our Rocky Mountain Synd and he has replied there are no communists in the R.C.C. I am still not convinced that there isn't communists at the head of this thing.

Can you tell me if these people and others are associated with left-wing, organizations and go along with communistic principles? Being an American, proud of my country and nation all that communism stands for, I want to do all I can in any way I can to open the eyes of our church members and preachers to this sort of thing.

I know that you are a Christian man, emphasizing the need of Sunday Schools and the Christian education of our young folk in American and Christian ethics and seeing I can't get the information I ask for thru the clergy in my church, perhaps you can set me straight and satisfy my eagerness as to what this is all about and what is true and what is not.

I have been reading the "Newtown on East Affairs" from Washington by Glenn Korte and he really states some pretty strong facts in the past two issues and tells of the above mentioned news and their communistic efforts along with others and asks me what to keep all the noise, "Are there Communists in the N.O.C. leadership?"

Thank you for your time in reading this letter and hoping to hear from you. I  
remain

380

Sincerely

REC- 46

100 200 400

3 MAR 29 1950

TIME REC

1 - Mr. Shaw

March 22, 1960

REC-48 100-10667 379

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 14, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

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

In an effort to be of assistance, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you, and I want to suggest that you may desire to obtain a pamphlet entitled "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," which has been prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives. This pamphlet may be obtained for thirty-five cents per copy by communicating with the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Corner North Capitol and H Streets, Northwest, Washington 25, D. C.

MAILED 31

MAR 22 1960

COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (9)

1 - Minneapolis (Enclosure) (SEE NOTE, PAGE TWO)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO  
WGS:djw:ser (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Toison \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 30 1960

ATTENTION: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent and no derogatory information concerning the United Christian Youth Movement.

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches; however, we have, in the past, checked with informants, but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years, the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections with the NCC, and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were furnished the correspondent:

1. Statement of the Director Concerning the 17th National Convention of the Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.
2. "Where Do We Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
3. "God and Country or Communism."
4. "What You Can Do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."
5. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
6. "How to Beat Communism."
7. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
8. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
9. "Communism and the College Student."

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is president of the United Christian Youth Movement in [REDACTED]. Her organization is affiliated with the National Council of Churches. She desires information as to whether the National Council of Churches is a communist front. She also requested a copy of a list of known subversive organizations.

[REDACTED]

March 14, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We, in [REDACTED] are confronted with what may be a communist-front organization. I am the president of the United Christian Youth Movement, which is affiliated with the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., in this town. I would greatly appreciate your reply as to whether this is a communist-front organization or just some propaganda that has recently been appearing in our newspapers.

Also, after attending the lectures by Mr. Philbrick--Citizen, Communist, and Counteresp., I would like to request a copy of the booklet containing a list of the known communist-front organizations. Could you please send it to me.

I will be awaiting your reply, as this is a matter of the greatest importance to me. As a youth of today, I will be a leader of tomorrow, and I want to work for a better America! The only way in which we can do this is by educating the young people so that they will be able to recognize subversive organizations when they see them.

Are we just going to sit still and let our wonderful country be overrun by communists----- or, are we going to stand up for our rights and fight!

Respectfully,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

379  
11 MAR 25 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-23-60

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	_____
Malone	_____
McGuire	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

By letter dated 3-15-60 the above minister stated that he and numerous other people were disturbed about the relationship with the National Council of Churches of Christ in America (NCCCA). He added that he did not want to support or affiliate with any communist front organization, and that the Director had been quoted as accusing the National Council as being communistic. The attached letter points out that the Director has never made a statement accusing the NCCCA of being communistic.

The NCCCA is the successor to the Federal Council of Churches (FCC). Neither of these organizations have been investigated by us. The American Council of Christian Churches (ACCC) is a strong anticommunist organization that broke away from the FCC, and has been at odds with both the NCCCA and FCC. Its founder, Carl McIntire, has interjected himself into the controversy involving the NCCCA by making statements to the effect that the communists are using the NCCCA in the United States.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter to [REDACTED] be sent.

Enclosure

NHC:jcs  
(2)

REC-3

EX-31

MAR 25 1960

378

A. W. Belmont

March 15, 1960

F. J. Baumgardner

**COMMUNISM AND RELIGION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C**

Reference is made to the memorandum from Mr. DeLoach to Mr. Mohr dated 3/9/60 captioned "Committee on Un-American Activities, Air Reserve Center Training Manual 2/25/60" which enclosed a copy of a report issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) concerning the hearings on 2/25/60 regarding the controversial Air Force Manual.

A review of the report disclosed that on page 1303 Richard Arcens of the HCUA stated that thus far HCUA had found over 100 persons in the leadership capacity of the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) with either communist front records or records of service to communist causes.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

As you know we are presently preparing a brief for the Director concerning "Communism and Religion." It is felt we should have the identities of the individuals referred to by Arcens in order that our brief can be complete in this respect. Upon receipt of these names, we would search them through our indices and files to determine what we have therein on these individuals and also to determine the periods wherein these individuals were active on behalf of the communist cause. Therefore, it is recommended that this memorandum be referred to Mr. DeLoach in order that he can contact his source at HCUA and secure the list of these individuals for us and if at all possible the subversive listings that HCUA has compiled for each of the individuals. This matter should be handled promptly so that we won't hold up our brief for the Director.

100-403529

(1) - 100-50869 (NCCC)

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - Mr. Kleinkauf

JHK:fk  
(6)

NOT RECORDED  
145 MAR 16 1960

MAR 23 1960



THE

ON

# LOWDOWN FARM AFFAIRS

## FROM WASHINGTON

By Glenn Martz



*Behind the headlines news of 1960 happenings on the farm front and political maneuvering in the nation's capital on issues affecting the American farmer*

EDITORIAL OFFICES: 1118 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. Telephone: District 7-7145

Vol. 7, No. 9

March 4, 1960

### BEWILDERING STATEMENTS

AIR FORCE SECRETARY Dudley C. Sharp's conflicting statements regarding the infiltration of churches in America by the Communist Party must have been a bit bewildering to those seeking to ascertain the facts.

It all started when the National Council of Churches, headed by Edwin T. Dahlberg, called Mr. Sharp to brand as untrue an Air Force Training Manual charge that Communists were using church organizations to spread their ideology in the free world, including the United States.

Dahlberg demanded that the "offending statement" be deleted.

Whereupon, Mr. Sharp apologized -- and agreed.

This week summoned before the House Un-American Activities Committee by Chairman Francis Walter (D-Pa.), Mr. Sharp admitted he had erred and promised to leave the controversial statement in the manual -- minus specific names of individuals and organizations.

Immediately after the hearing (which was a closed session from which newsmen were barred), Mr. Sharp denied he had admitted the truth of allegations contained in the manual. All of which served to further confuse the public at large.

The issue was subsequently settled when Chairman Walter released for publication that portion of Mr. Sharp's testimony which revealed that Mr. Sharp DID, as the Committee had reported, admit that Communists had succeeded in burrowing into the church.

What caused Mr. Sharp to change his mind? It was a mass of evidence in HUAC files which not only pointed up the fact that wily Red agents had succeeded in infiltrating church

groups to carry on their work of undermining the United States government, but named individuals and the organizations in which they were operating.

Confronted with this evidence there was little else Mr. Sharp could do.

If this evidence was sufficient to cause Mr. Sharp to change his mind, it could conceivably serve to clear up the controversy among disturbed rank and file citizens who fear the consequences of subtle Communist propaganda from within but don't wish to unjustly involve individuals and organizations innocent of such activities.

However, the press, despite the fact that Chairman Walter made this evidence available to newsmen in a mimeographed summary, bypassed the proof and limited articles to statements of those engaged in the dispute.

The public thus got only the fact that the National Council of Churches denied the manual's charge -- and that Chairman Walter vouched for its truthfulness.

Hardly a sufficient basis for an uninformed person to make up his mind with any certainty.

### THE EVIDENCE

LACK OF SPACE MAKES it impossible for the Lowdown to reveal all the evidence of Communist infiltration of churches in America -- even a summary of it.

However, we herewith present a resume of the most glaring examples of Red penetration of America's religious life for the benefit of those who doubt that it has actually happened.

Earl Reno, one-time high ranking official in the Communist Party, testifying before the House Un-American Activities Committee on March 25, 1954, told members how he used members of the clergy to further the Commu-

However, Rev. Nowak, questioned by the  
Committee March 5, 1954, admitted only and

[illegible]

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Minneapolis conference mentioned above were Bishop Karol Kotula, Bishop Zygmunt Michalis, theology professor A. Wantula, theology professor and director of the State-maintained Protestant Theological Academy in Poland Dr. Wiktor Niemczyk and the editor of "Evangelical Watchtower," the official organ of the Polish Evangelical-Augustinian Church, Miss Irena Heintz-Goller.

### A PASTOR STRIKES BACK

SIGNIFICANTLY, A one-time affiliate of the National Council of Churches—the Evangelical Methodist Church of Dublin, Maryland (Rev. Donald McKnight, pastor), this week sent the following message to "All Congressmen and Government Officials":

"We have followed with interest the furor raised by the Air Force manual which linked the National Council of Churches with communism, and were disturbed when Secretary Sharp of the Air Force and Secretary Gates of the Defense Department bowed to the pressure of the NCC by apologizing and withdrawing the manual."

"These men should not apologize for the truth, and to withdraw the manual merely to shield the NCC is wrong and dangerous to our security. Men entrusted with our defense and freedom should know all the schemes of communism including its infiltration into the NCC. A great service could be rendered to our churches and country by a thorough uncovering and exposing of communism in certain church groups."

"The evidence of communistic ideology in the NCC and in its counterpart, the World Council of Churches, is abundant. Some of the translators of the NCC's new R.S.V. Bible were communist frontiers according to evidence uncovered by the House On American Activities Committee."

"Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the NCC, has been listed with 17 communist front

organizations, according to the book, "Recognize Red China," by M. G. Lowman. When Dahlberg stepped off a plane in Formosa during the Christmas season as he toured the Far East to visit U. S. troops, not a single Chinese welcomed him, as is the custom when Americans arrive. Instead, a group of 29 leading Chinese churchmen signed an open letter saying that they were gravely disturbed by his coming. Dahlberg's communistic connections and his leadership in calling for the recognition of communist leaders of Red China, prompted this reaction. He is a leading pacifist and has reportedly called upon young men to refuse to serve in the armed forces."

"I was once a member of an NCC church. I was amazed by some of the communistic material that came from NCC leaders. I have in my files Sunday school literature which unmistakably carries the communist line. A Sunday school paper praised Stalin and Russia as examples for American youth and challenged the young people to go out and to serve God and the common people of America as sincerely and courageously as Stalin did for what he believed was best for his people. 'Let us,' the article continued, 'devote our lives to the unfinished task of making America a country with a serving church, a serving state and a serving economic order.' (1)"

"Our Evangelical Methodist Churches believe that someone must expose the communistic actions and connections of the leaders of the NCC. Their claim to spending for 38 million Protestants is not true. Often, they speak only for a small core of their communist thinking leaders. We have been praying that someone would rise to warn our nation of the perils of communist tendencies being promoted by NCC leaders. We urge you to do all in your power to unveil this peril and not to fear the tremendous power being wielded by the NCC."

"May God guide you as you endeavor to direct and protect our nation and our freedom."

Published weekly by WASHINGTON NEWS SYNDICATE, 807 National Press Building, Washington 4, D. C., except two weeks during midsummer vacation and two weeks during Christmas holiday season (48 issues per year). Single subscription rate \$5.00 per year. Individual copies of back issues ten cents each in lots of twenty or more. Trial subscriptions 50 cents per month. Entered as Second Class Matter at Washington, D. C. and Fredericksburg, Virginia.

March 23, 1960

REC- 15

EX 105

100 50869-377

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 15, 1960, concerning the National Council of Churches of Christ in America has been received. Thank you for the interest that prompted you to write.

I must advise that I have never made a statement accusing this group of being communistic, and while 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. Furnishing data of the type you desire would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of the group you named; therefore, I am unable to answer your inquiry. Please do not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have in our files the specific information you desire.

It was good of you to recall our meeting in June, 1953, and I am pleased that this visit evokes pleasant memories.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: [REDACTED] toured the Bureau and met the Director on 6-15-53. Nothing of a derogatory nature in Bufiles for him. The Director has never made the statement that the National Council of Churches of Christ in America is a communist front organization. He has repeatedly denied making this statement. (100-50869-117 and 144) We have not investigated the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, or its predecessor the Federal Council of Churches. See Jones to DeLoach memo of same date NHC:mhd (3) captioned [REDACTED]

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAR 23 3 51 PM '60

MAILED 10  
MAR 23 1960  
CO JMF:SI

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

March 15, 1960

Tolson  
Mohr  
DeLoach  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A few years ago our mutual friends, U. S. Senator Mike S. Monroney of Oklahoma and Mr. Dave Vandivier of Chickasha, Oklahoma, made it possible for me to visit with you in your office while I was in Washington. I will always cherish that delightful visit. At that time I was pastor of the First Christian Church in [REDACTED]. Since then I have come to [REDACTED].

M. A. Jones

I am writing to solicit your help on a matter which has become an issue in our section of the country and particularly in our church and city. We have had a number of prophets of discord on the air and in our press accusing the National Council of Churches of Christ in America of being a communist front organization. During my twenty year ministry I have found the Council to be a strong arm of Christian service and righteousness. It is difficult for me to believe these charges.

Our church gives financial support to the National Council. Because of the recent Air Force Manual affair the National Council has come under renewed attacks. A number of our church people are disturbed about our relationship to the National Council. Of course, we do not want to support or affiliate ourselves with a communist front organization. You have been quoted as one who has accused the National Council of being communistic. I will appreciate a word from you as to where the National Council stands as far as the Bureau is concerned.

I know you are a busy man, but I remember how gracious you were to share your time with me before. I hope you will share a few minutes to give me a reply to this urgent matter.

Most cordially yours,

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

REC-15

377  
MAR 25 1960

1 ... Shaw

SAC, Savannah

March 21, 1960

Director, FBI

100-200000-27

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

ReBulet dated February 16, 1960, directed to

a copy of which was designated for your office.

There are enclosed two copies of a letter dated March 9, 1960, from [redacted]. In view of the nature of her communication of March 2, 1960, and the fact she has indicated she would use a letter from the Bureau in furtherance of her work, the receipt of her letter has not been acknowledged. The Bureau desires, however, that she be contacted by an Agent, the receipt of her letter orally acknowledged and she be advised that the Director appreciates the interest which prompted her to communicate with the Bureau and desires her to have the enclosed literature which may be of assistance to her.

It should be pointed out that the FBI has been charged by Presidential directives and Federal statutes with the responsibility for the investigation of matters relating to the internal security of this country and with the correlation of such information with other interested agencies of this Government and that the FBI cannot advise her concerning her contemplated endeavors. She should be urged, however, that should she obtain any information which may be pertinent to our responsibilities to promptly report such data to your office in order that it may be afforded appropriate attention by the FBI.

The following items of literature are enclosed which should be furnished the correspondent during this interview:

1. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.

Enclosures (10)

WGS:pw (4)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to Savannah

RE: [REDACTED]

2. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
3. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
4. "What you can do to Fight Communism and Preserve America."
5. Reprint from "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin," April, 1959.
6. "Unmasking the Communist Masquerader."
7. "Communist 'New Look.'"
8. "Breaking the Communist Spell."

The results of this interview should be promptly made available to the Bureau under appropriate caption with reference made to this communication.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent by letter dated 2-8-60 asked that we give her information concerning the NCC about which there has been much discussion as she and others would not want to support it unless it is all right. She also stated she would like a list of publishers whose textbooks have been deemed detrimental to our American ideals. Correspondent congratulated the Director on the grand job he has done and the fine organization he has and stated she is thankful we have an FBI instead of an NKVD.

In her second letter dated 2-10-60, correspondent furnished the names of officers of the NCC and requested that we list under each man's name any organization to which he belongs that is considered subversive by the Government. She reiterated her request for any information we can furnish regarding the NCC. She desired this information to convince the people in her church that they must not allow any additional funds to go to the NCC.

Bulet 2-16-60 acknowledged receipt of correspondent's two letters and she was advised of the fact that the Bureau does not evaluate or comment relative to the preparation or maintenance of any list of publishers such as she described. She was also advised of the confidential nature of Bufiles.

NOTE ON YELLOW, CONTINUED, PAGE THREE

Letter to Savannah

RE: [REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW. CONTINUED

In her current letter, correspondent stated she was appointed by a committee of her church, The Holy Comforter, to get to the "bottom of this thing" and "we" are endeavoring to prove to the satisfaction of "our" congregation that the NCC has come under communistic influence. She also stated that a personal letter from the Director commending her efforts would provide great inspiration and encourage them in seeking the truth. Correspondent requested that she be furnished other sources of reference that are available to private citizens.

In view of the nature of correspondent's inquiries and the fact she has indicated she will use a letter from the Bureau, it is believed that personal contact with her will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
March 9, 1960

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Sometime ago I wrote to you asking for information concerning the Nat'l Council of Churches of Christ In America.

You replied with the reasons why you could not send it (I should have remembered from High School civics that your organization is attached to the Executive Branch - more than likely I lost that bit of information during four years of college).

I hope that you will be able to help me with this second request.

I have been appointed to a committee of our Church Of The Holy Comforter (Episcopal) to try to get to the bottom of this thing.

Some people refuse to take an objective point of view even where their own welfare is the issue.

The only man or organization that the die-hards would admit were not corrupted were you and your F.B.I.

It's inconcievable to me that intelligent, educated people can stand up and say, "But I don't believe in the House Committee On Un-American Activities and what it is trying to do."

It's happened, though, time and again.

You have warned the American people over and over, via the press, of the Communist menace. Bob Kennedy is doing the same thing.

If you can commend our efforts and encourage us to continue seeking for truth in this manner, your personal letter to this effect would provide great inspiration to us all.

Tell me other sources of reference that are available to private citizens. As an "investigator" I make the best blueberry pie you ever tasted.

TRUE COPY

TRUE COPY

If we prove, to the satisfaction of our congregation, that the N.C.C.C. has come under communistic influence then our group will never rest until we see the Episcopal church in South Carolina withhold support from it.

Thank you for any suggestions or directives on how we should proceed that you may be in a position to give us.

Bob Kennedy has said that the salvation of our country is dependent on the assumption of responsibility by "the grass-roots." It has been said by others before him.

That, Mr. Hoover, is what we are trying to do

After witnessing, first hand, the indifference on the part of the people and how it reaches colossal proportions, I wonder how the F.B.I. has stayed in business.

Sincerely,

/s/



TRUE COPY

March 9, 1960

Dear Mr. Hosmer,

Sometime ago I wrote to you asking for information concerning the Natl. Council of Churches of Christ In America. You replied with the reasons why you could not send it (I should have remembered from High School civics that your organization is attached to the Executive Branch - more than likely I lost that bit of information during four years of college). I hope that you will be able to keep me with this second request.

I have been appointed to a committee of our Church The Holy Comforter (Episcopal) to try to get to the bottom of this thing.

Some people refuse to take an objective point of view even where their own welfare is the issue.

The only man or organization that the dis-  
would admit were not

EXP-PROG

MAR 11 1960

REC-76

5-11-31  
MAR 12 1960

corrupted were you and your  
F. B. I.

It's inconceivable to me that intelligent, educated people can stand up and say, "But I don't believe in the House Committee on Un-American Activities and what it is trying to do." It's happened, though, time and again.

You have warned the American people over and over, via the press, of the Communist menace. Bob Kennedy is doing the same thing.

If you can commend our efforts and encourage us to continue seeking for truth in this manner, your personal letter to this effect would provide great inspiration to us all.

Give me other sources of reference that are available to private citizens. As an "investigator" I make the best blueberry pie you ever tasted.

If we prove, to the satisfaction of our congregation, that the N.C.C.C. has come under

group will never rest until  
we see the Episcopal Church  
in South Carolina withhold  
support from it.

Thank you for any  
suggestions or directions on  
how we should proceed that  
you may be in a position  
to give up.

Bob Kennedy has said  
that the salvation of our  
country is dependent on the  
assumption of responsibility by  
"the grass-roots." It has been said  
by others before him  
That, Mr. Hoover, is what  
we are trying to do

After witnessing, first hand  
the indifference on the part of the  
people and how it reaches  
colossal proportions, I wonder  
how the F.B.I. has stayed in  
business.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1 - Mr. Shaw

REC-11

March 18, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 8, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiries, I would like to advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and as such does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Consequently, this Bureau does not prepare or maintain a list of organizations of the type you mentioned and cannot recommend a course of action for your church to follow in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Cincinnati (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO CINCINNATI, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

WGS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**ATTENTION: SAC, CINCINNATI**

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

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent was instructed by the Board of Elders of the [REDACTED] to write to the Bureau concerning the NCC since their church is considering affiliation with the NCC. Correspondent stated that the Bureau in the past has published a list of organizations that are deemed to have interests detrimental to the welfare of the United States and requested to be advised if the NCC or any of its present or past leaders have such interests. He is not being referred to the "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" since it would infer that the NCC might be listed and his main inquiry is whether the NCC is on a list of subversive organizations maintained by the Bureau.

[REDACTED]

March 8, 1960

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

The Board of Elders of the [REDACTED] have instructed me to write you concerning the National Council of Churches.

Your office, in the past, has published lists of organizations that are deemed to have interests detrimental to the welfare of the United States. We would like to know if the National Council of Churches or any of it's past or present leaders have any such interests to your knowledge.

Since our church is considering affiliation with the National Council of Churches and it's State and local units, we would like to have your opinion as to whether this affiliation has any probability of being an undesirable action.

Respectfully yours,  
[REDACTED]

REC-11

512  
CRIME REC.

1 - Mr. Shaw

REC-19

March 18, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 8, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and as such does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

In an effort to be of assistance, however, I am enclosing some literature available for distribution by the FBI which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (3)

- 1 - Dallas (enclosure)
- 1 - San Antonio (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SACs, DALLAS AND SAN ANTONIO

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's letter. Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent.

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent: (1) Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention of the Communist Party, USA, 12-10/13-59; (2) "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion," and (3) "God and Country or Communism."

NOTE TO SACs, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO  
SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAILED 30

1960

COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

67 MAR 25 1960 (5)

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO SACs. CONTINUED

Correspondent in making reference to the Council of Churches is apparently referring to the National Council of Churches (NCC). The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

Correspondent's reference to a communist having been allowed to lecture at Southern Methodist University (SMU) two or three years ago apparently refers to an invitation extended by the Student Forum Center Committee of SMU to John Gates, former Communist Party national functionary, to appear on the campus of SMU on April 23, 1958, for the purpose of participating in a student forum on the question of the communist conspiracy.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent was appointed by the officers of the [REDACTED] Methodist Church of [REDACTED] to write a letter to the Bureau concerning communistic activities in the churches particularly the "Council of Churches." Correspondent also inquired as to whether there is any such activity at SMU particularly the Theological Seminary. Correspondent stated that she believed this matter arose as a result of a communist being permitted to lecture at SMU possibly two or three years ago. Since correspondent is apparently inquiring about communist affiliations of the NCC as well as SMU, it is believed that the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
March 8, 1960

Dear Sir:

I have been appointed by the officers of the different boards of the [REDACTED] Methodist Church of [REDACTED] to write you a letter of inquiry into and about the communistic activities in the churches, especially the Council of Churches.

Do you know of any such activities in the Southern Methodist University in Dallas Texas - especially the Theological Seminary - and/or in the university as a whole.

I believe this all was brought into discussion, in the churches and in general, because a communist was allowed to lecture at the university, possibly two or three years ago.

I do know the theological students and their professors are required to take the oath of allegiance.

Thanks for any information you could give.

Yours truly,

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

March 8, 1960

Dear Sir: [redacted]

I have been appointed by the officers of the different boards of the [redacted] Methodist Church of [redacted] to write you a letter of inquiry into and about the Communist activities in the Church, especially the Council of Churches. Do you know of any such activities in the Southern Methodist University in Dallas Texas - especially the Theological Seminary and the University as a whole.

I believe this all was brought into discussion in the Church and in general, because a Communist was allowed to lecture at the University, possibly two or three years ago.

I do know the theological students and their professors are required to take the oath of allegiance.

Thank you for any information you may be able to give me. Yours Truly, [redacted]

gmg  
1-24-60  
1-24-60  
1-24-60

REC-19

TIME REC-19

1 - Mr. Simpson

REC-14

MCT-14

March 16, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 7, 1960, has been received, 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 jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and as such does not issue clearances or nonclearances. Furthermore, information in our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

I am sure you will understand my position in this regard and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 30

MAR 16 1960

COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Los Angeles (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO LOS ANGELES, PAGE TWO

CRDS:pw (4) SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

**ATTENTION: SAC. LOS ANGELES**

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

It was the National Council of Churches (NCC) which recently protested the training manual issued for the Air Force Reserve in which communism was linked with United States churches. Subsequently, the Air Force withdrew the manual.

The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent refers to the statements in the Air Force manual to the effect that churches and the NCC are filled with communists. She inquires if the statement is true.

TRUE COPY

March 7, 1960

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

Sir:

I write to you with reference to the statements made in the air force training manual - statements to the effect that the churches - National Council of Churches are filled with communists.

Is this statement true?

Very truly yours,

/s/

A large, solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

TRUE COPY

March 7, 1960

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

Sir:

I write to you with  
reference to the statements  
made in the airforce training  
manual - statements to the  
effect that the churches  
- National Council of Churches  
are filled with communists.

Is this statement true?

Very truly yours,

ACK.  
1- LA ifene.  
3-16-60  
RDS/pw.

EX-130

REC-91

100 50867-372

CRIM  
FBI

12 MAR 18 1960

EX-130

REC- 46

100-50869-371

1 - Mr. Simpson

March 17, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 8, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and as such does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Indianapolis (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS

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

NOTE TO INDIANAPOLIS, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO  
RDS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

MAILED 30  
MAR 17 1960  
COMM-FBI

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

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

NOTE TO INDIANAPOLIS. CONTINUED

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent stated she has for several years felt that the NCC had some anti-Christian leaders and inquired if the FBI has any information on the organization. She requested the Bureau's opinion concerning this matter.

TRUE COPY

March 8th 1960

Mr J. Edgar Hoover:  
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sir:

I have every faith in you, and your opinion.  
I have felt for some years that the National council of  
Churches, had some leaders who were anti Christian. do you  
have any information on this organization? Would you  
please advise me as to your opinion? We are in need of  
sound judgement in this matter, as much of donation to  
our church goes to this organization thank you

/s/ [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

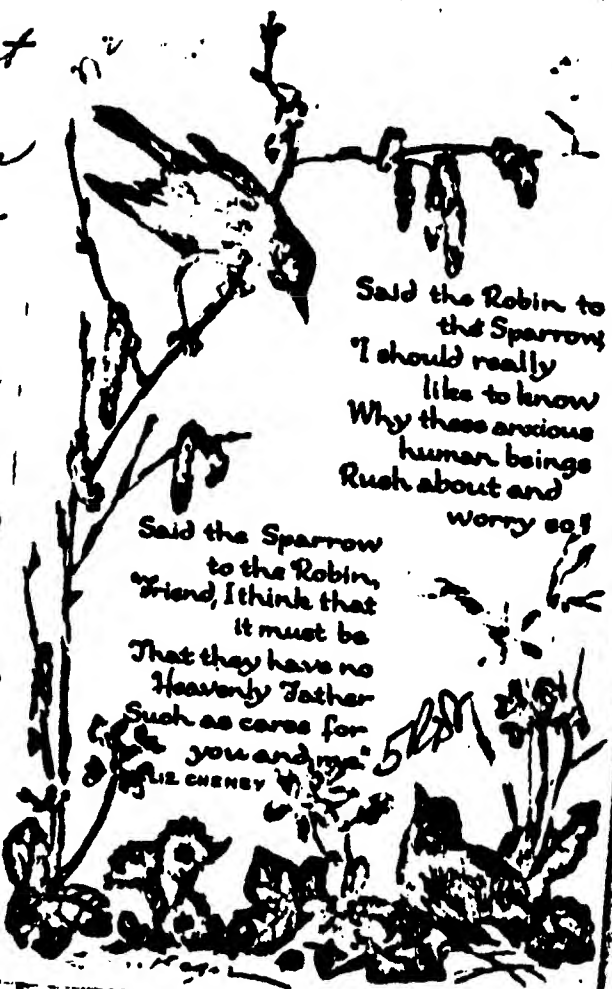
Of sound judgment  
in this matter, as  
much of donation to  
our Church goes to  
the organization thank  
you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

U.S. MAIL  
NO. 114  
JAN 19 1961  
U.S. MAIL

NEW  
Bromide  
MADE IN U.S.A.



Said the Robin to  
the Sparrow  
"I should really  
like to know  
Why these anxious  
human beings  
Rush about and  
worry so!"

Said the Sparrow  
to the Robin,  
"Friend, I think that  
it must be  
That they have no  
Heavenly Father  
Such as cares for  
you and me!"  
LIZ CHENEY

March 8<sup>th</sup> 1960

Mr J. Edgar Hoover:  
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sir:

I have every faith in you and  
your opinion. I have felt for  
some years that the National Council  
of Churches, had some leaders who  
were anti Christian. Do you have  
any information on this organization?  
Should you please advise me as to  
your opinion? We are in need of  
information.

3-17-60  
RDS/mw

REC- 46

370

March 7, 1960

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of February 27, 1960, with enclosure, and appreciate the interest which prompted you to write. I want to thank you for affording me the benefit of your observations and am enclosing material you might be interested in reading.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (2)

Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality  
17th National Convention CP, USA

NOTE: [REDACTED] is not identifiable in files.

[REDACTED]

ELC:bla/hmm  
(3)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

51 MAR 25 1960

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

5 PM '60

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

3-22-60

TOP SECRET

February 27, 1960

Air Force Secretary Dudley C. Sharp  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Relative to the Air Force training manual's denouncement of the National Council of Churches, it is absolutely imperative that the Air Force does not back down on this issue. The facts presented in the manual are true. They are all a matter of record and can be confirmed. However, if the National Council feels that it is innocent of the charges made, it should not be afraid of an investigation. And by this I do not mean a "whitewashing" investigation.

For years I have been aware of the left-wing activities of this religious organization. You have no doubt been sent a copy of that fine book by Major Edgar Bundy, "Collectivism in the Churches." This book gives the documented record of the left-wing activities of the Federal, National, and World Councils of Churches.

Tremendous pressure will be brought to bear on you to apologize to the National Council. Before you even consider such a move, I beg of you to thoroughly inform yourself on this vitally important issue. Your duty is to God and country, not to a religious body which hides its activities behind a cloak of piousness.

I am writing to Francis E. Walter of the House Committee on Un-American Activities asking him to start this much needed investigation. As a Christian who loves this great land, I feel that this investigation is long over-due.

Very sincerely yours,

ENCLOSURE

CC J. Edgar Hoover

[REDACTED]

February 27, 1960

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. [unclear] \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. [unclear] \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As you can see from the enclosed copy of my letter to Secretary of the Air Force, Mr. Dudley Sharp, I am gravely concerned over this matter of the National Council of Churches. *M.A. Jones*

It is time for this religious body to be exposed for what it is. Too long it has deluded the American people, leading them down the path toward socialism and a one-world. As for giving spiritual help to its many members, it has failed there, too, for the majority of its churches have ceased preaching the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Those of us who would like to see this organization's activities brought to the light are not "attacking religion." Far from it. We simply hope to stem the tide that would destroy true Christianity and our precious freedoms.

Many, many people are writing to Mr. Walter of the House Committee on Un-American Activities asking him to conduct this much needed investigation of the National Council of Churches. You are, I know, well aware of much that is going on in the religious world, and I am sure that you have read Edgar Bundy's excellent documented book "Collectivism in the Churches."

ENCLOSURE

REC-46

MAR 2 1960

This is a very serious situation indeed. It is my hope that if you are approached regarding it, that you will stand fast for God and country and not be intimidated by the power of the National Council. It is my belief that if the National Council is innocent of the charges made that it should not be afraid of an investigation.

Very sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Enc. 1



Personally I shall continue to talk with the FBI and Director J. Edgar Hoover as to what is a "mountain" and what a "hole-hill" when it comes to Communism whether Khrushchev and his power associates who forthrightly call themselves Communists or others who object to the name but sing the same tune.

Sincerely,



P. S. The above is a 'spontaneous reaction' but not what you have in mind in the last paragraph of 'last year for leaders'.

Copies to J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Hon. Francis B. Sutter, Chairman,  
House Committee on Un-American Activities.

March 4, 1960

Chairman Francis E. Walter  
House Committee on Un-American Activities  
Washington, D. C.

10518

Dear Sir:

If your and other similar committees have found evidence of communists in the National Council of Churches, we trust you will have the courage of your convictions and insist on a fullscale investigation of this group and any other groups, ministers and persons that are involved. I am sure that a very high percentage of the 38 million protestants they claim to represent would welcome the fact that it is long past due. If you have facts to prove they are fellow travelers we want to know who they are. Certainly where there is so much smoke there must be a good sized fire. We don't want this thing hushed up, we want it brought out in the open and any who are guilty kicked out of the Council!

My wife and I are just two hard working ordinary people. We have a son in college. We three belong to the Presbyterian Church. We have two older married children--one of which is widowed and we help support her and her four children, notwithstanding we have given more than a lifetime to our church and other charities. We have also worked hard in our church. I am an elder and have headed stewardship drives and raising fund raising. It has always been a great joy working for God--but in recent months I have become greatly perturbed.

For some time now we have been hearing more and more that the church are main organizers and supporters in the National Council of Churches. We have seen reports that members, leaders, and ministers and numerous others have been communist supporters or sympathizers. Part of our church people goes to the support of this committee. I can no longer conscientiously take part in influencing people in this matter. Part of their money is going for the support of communists in our country and other countries.

We've everything else we have it and all it stands for. They violate and disgust God and according to all reports to men and practice every other known crime. We feel it should be outlawed in all nations that have honorable intentions toward their people and that it should be punished with laws as strict as any nation have for treason, rape, or drug peddling.

11 MAR 10 1960

I feel as one of the older elders on our session. I should bring this matter up to our session. Certainly as Christians we should take a stand against any person or group who are anti-God and a threat to the welfare of church and nation. I would like to be sure of the facts. Is it possible thru the A.B.I. or your committee to obtain the list of communist fronts and the names of clergymen, officers of the Council, or people in high-places who have been communists, sympathizers, or signed petitions for their benefit? I would be glad to see information and could provide me with on this.

Sincerely,

CHURCH MEMBERS  
*[Signature]*

March 2, 1960

Honorable Thomas S. Gates, Jr.  
Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gates:

I am shocked to hear that you, on behalf of the United States Government, apologized to the National Council of Churches for the Air Force manual. I understand the president of the National Council has a long record of communist front affiliations. To whom did you tender the apologies of the American people, Mr. Secretary?

If the National Council had any real interest in the truth (and had not been too afraid to face the truth), and in the Christian faith they claim to uphold, they would be the first to ask for an investigation, instead of high-pressureing government officials in an attempt to quash the matter.

I believe any member of the FBI will testify to the fact that there are communist party members and sympathizers posing as ministers. In a booklet entitled "100 Things You Should Know About Communism", released several years ago by the House Un-American Activities Committee, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover is quoted as follows:

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

For your information on this matter, I recommend an excellent book by Edgar Bundy entitled "Collectivism in the Churches", which documents the political activities of the Federal, National and World Councils of Churches.

Certainly our servicemen cannot combat communism unless they learn how to recognize it when they see it, even if they find it in a church. It would be a great miscarriage of justice if disciplinary action were taken against a man with the courage to tell the truth.

Respectfully yours,

cc/ Secretary of the Air Force Policy Group  
cc/ Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

25 MAR 10 1960

CRIME REC.

Copy 12/60

51 MAR 10 1960

1 - Mr. Simpson

March 17, 1960

366

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

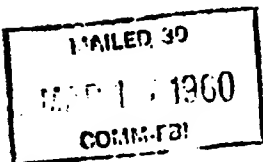
Your letter dated March 10, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, 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 our files is maintained as confidential and available only for official use in accordance with a regulation of the Department of Justice.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that the files of this Bureau do or do not contain the information you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



1 - Chicago (enclosure)  
SEE NOTE TO CHICAGO, PAGE TWO  
SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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

**ATTENTION: SAC, CHICAGO**

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

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent stated her church is a contributor to the NCC but she has heard that 30 of the 95 men who worked on the Revised Standard Version of the Bible have been identified with communist fronts. She inquired as to the validity of this charge and whether there is any documented material to show that the statement is true.

Due to the extremely controversial nature of the NCC in recent months, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

March 10, 1960

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington  
D.C.

Gentlemen:

Our Church is a regular contributor to the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

It has come to the attention of our Council of Administration that thirty of the ninety-five men who worked on the Revised Standard Version of the Bible have been identified with pro-Communist fronts, etc. What can you say as to the validity of this charge? It is very serious, and we have a right to know how much truth there is in it.

Is there any documented material to show that the statement is true?

We would appreciate hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature block]

EXP. PROC.

MAR. 14 1960

REC-15

5 MAR 14 1960

366

*Handwritten notes and stamps:*  
J. Edgar Hoover  
[Illegible handwritten notes and stamps]

# Memorandum

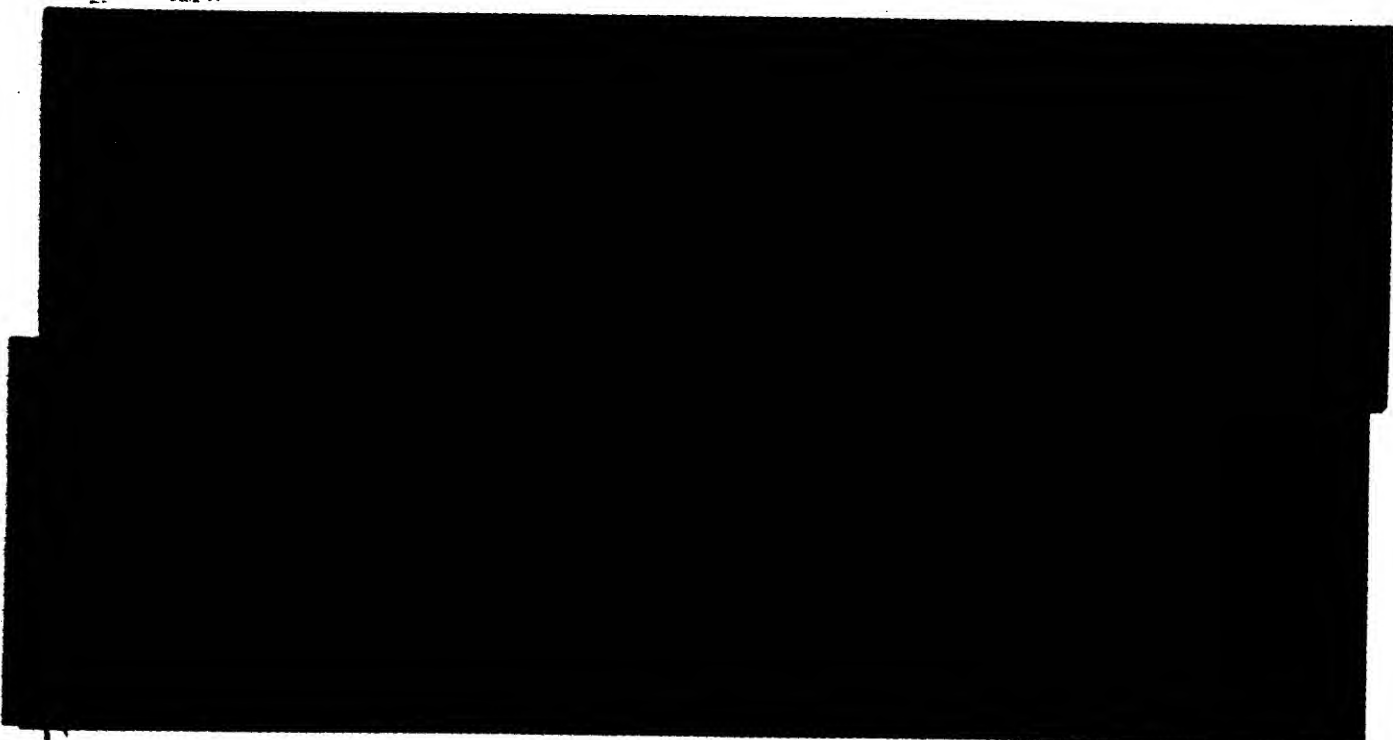
MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE February 13, 1950

FROM MR. G. H. SCAMMADAY *JMV*

SUBJECT REVEREND DOCTOR EUGENE CARSON BLAKE  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" of 2-24-50, on page A5, in connection with an article concerning the Air Force training manual, which was attacked by the National Council of Churches for its alleged statements concerning communist infiltration of religion, quoted the captioned individual in connection with this matter. The article described Dr. Blake as chief administrative officer of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church and quoted him as suggesting "a broad congressional investigation of the matter" in connection and the use being made of it not only in the Armed Services but also in the State Department, the Civil Service Commission, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation."



ED. MAR. 8 1950

MAILED

## Memorandum

Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE February 24, 1960

FROM W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT

[REDACTED]  
INFORMATION CONCERNING (CENTRAL RESEARCH MATTER)

[REDACTED] called me at 12:05 p.m. to say he wanted to alert the Bureau to a request it will soon be receiving, quite likely today, from the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The request will relate to communist infiltration of churches in the United States and, in particular, the association between any members and leaders of the Council of Churches of Christ in America and the communist movement in the United States.

[REDACTED] told me confidentially that Secretary of Defense Thomas S. Gates, Jr. is receiving a very great volume of mail from all over the country criticizing the Air Force for backing down because its manual pointed to the communist influence among American clergymen. The great volume of mail being received, said [REDACTED] expresses the convictions of the writers that the Air Force manual was right in what it said concerning communist influence among clergymen. [REDACTED] told me that Mr. Gates is extremely disturbed over the matter and is of the opinion that there is only one agency in the country which would know the whole truth and that agency is the FBI. [REDACTED] went on to say that Mr. Gates has referred the problem to Vincent Burke who is the General Counsel of the Department of Defense. Mr. Burke, he said, has the authority equivalent to Assistant Secretary of Defense. Mr. Burke, according to [REDACTED], will be contacting the Bureau very shortly.

I thanked [REDACTED] for alerting us to the matter. He said he hoped that the Bureau would be able to render a constructive contribution on the matter because he himself is convinced from his long experience in the Navy and elsewhere that the American clergy has been tainted and influenced by the communist movement in this country and that this influence still prevails.

WCS:lam(8)

1 - Mr. Parsons  
1 - Mr. Belmont  
1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. A. A. Jones

1 - Mr. Baumgardner  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - Mr. Sullivan

16 MAR 7 1960

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Re: [REDACTED]

On discussing this matter with Mr. A. H. Belmont, it was agreed that an call coming into the Bureau should be received, of course, with interest but circumspectly with no commitments being made other than to say that we will take the request under advisement and will get in contact with the appropriate official in the Department of Defense.

It is to be noted that the Internal Security Section is now completing a memorandum concerning communist infiltration and influence among the American clergy. *It is completed today 2-27*

RECOMMENDATION:

For the information of the Director.

*we are interested in the ...  
the report (copy) ... attached*

*Be very careful re this.  
The Air Force got them-  
selves into this mess & the  
FBI shouldn't be used  
to get them out of it.*

*K*

## Memorandum

Mr. DeLoach

DATE 2-20-60

TO : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: RADIO BROADCAST OF  
FULTON LEWIS, AT 7:00 P. M. ON 2-19-60

On the evening of 2-19-60 radio commentator Fulton Lewis devoted part of his broadcast to the flare-up on the Air Force Manuals which is of possible interest to the Director. The following remarks are quoted verbatim:

"In the battle over the Air Force Manual and its mention of the communist leanings of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, Chairman Francis Walters of the House UN-American Activities Committee has issued a new blast accusing Defense Secretary Gates of making a groveling apology without taking the trouble to determine the facts. He said that Gates would have done well to have investigated the facts respecting the bureaucracy which runs the National Council of Churches before apologizing, and he said further quoted: 'The leadership of the National Council of Churches which fraudulently claims to speak for 38 million American Protestants has in the aggregate a record of hundreds of affiliations with communist fronts and causes. A world study conference held in Cleveland in 1958 under the Council's auspices went on record in favor of U. S. diplomatic recognition of Red China and seating that government in the United Nations. Not one word was uttered there against the inhumanities of the atheistic regime nor concerning its aggressive acts in which scores of hundreds of American boys were murdered.' end of quotation. I might say on my own that the so called world conference went fraudulently on record as claiming that that resolution was adopted by unanimous vote when in fact there was dissenting minority resolutions which protested violently one of them being from the Greek Orthodox Church. A trick rule was passed at the beginning of the meeting stating that if 3/4 of the delegates agreed to a motion it would be considered to be passed unanimously, if you please. And inasmuch as many tempests have blown up about this and the National Council of Churches itself brought the matter into the open, I think this is an excellent subject on which to do a comprehensive series and really dig out the full story from top to bottom. This needs to be done. This bureaucracy as Chairman Walters calls it has been running the National Council with the aid of such figures as Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam and Bishop Edgar Love and other affiliates with communist front organizations for much too long now and I as a practicing Protestant resent it. These people don't represent me and I know very well that they don't represent the rank and file of Protestants over

1 - Mr. Ingram

BMS:jab

(4)

ENCLOSURE

18 MAR 7 1960

Jones to DeLoach memorandum

Radio Broadcast

the Nation and when they represent themselves as doing so they don the role of frauds and charlatans and montebanks, and it is long past time that it should be stopped. They have the committees of Congress intimidated for fear some one will say that Congress is interfering with freedom of religion. This has nothing to do with freedom of religion. This is a question of a hand full of fuddy-duddy ministers and professional church politicians who are attempting improperly and without any real authority to use the church movement to their own ends and it ought to be stopped. I promised I'd have for you tonight the record of the ~~last~~ of this National Council, the Reverend Edwin Dalberg of St. Louis, I do have it, but I don't have time to present it so I will have to go over until Monday, but I will have it then.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information

*7/11*  
*7/12*

*7/11* *7/12*

UNITED STATES

## Memo

TO : Mr. Parsons

DATE: February 26, 1960

FROM : Mr. Belmont

1 - Mr. Parsons  
 1 - Mr. Belmont  
 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan  
 1 - Mr. Baumgardner  
 1 - Mr. Kleinkauf

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

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING  
 (INTERNAL SECURITY)

Regarding an article entitled "Church Leaders Reply to Critics," which appeared in the 2/25/60 issue of "The New York Times," Mr. Tolson noted: "What do files show re Dr. Adams? Has Dr. McIntire furnished info to us? I think we should ask Dr. Adams for specifics."

The article noted Rev. Dr. Hampton Adams, pastor, Park Avenue Christian Church, New York City, and a member of the National Council of the Churches of Christ (NCCC) general board, identified Rev. Dr. Carl McIntire of Collingswood, New Jersey, as the individual largely responsible for the charges of communist infiltration of the NCCC which appeared in the now highly controversial Air Force Training Manual. The article noted the NCCC board adopted a resolution declaring that the appearance of edited material prepared and distributed by any agency of the United States Government which attempts to discredit and create suspicion against the religious and educational institutions of this country is a patent violation of the free exercise of religion as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and that the issue raised by the controversy is "how long the American people are going to allow various agencies of Government to continue the practice of treating false and absurd charges lifted from confidential files as material to be seriously used as a basis for security decisions and for official indoctrination of Government employees." The article added that a spokesman for the NCCC said the reference to "confidential matter meant files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation," adding there was no question but the "McIntire group" and others had been responsible for "feeding" unsubstantiated charges to Government agencies.

100-30869

100-403529 (Cominfil into Religion)

100-94-37990 (Dr. Carl McIntire)

JMK:fk

(8)

Enclosure 51 MAR 18 1960

REC-35

12 MAR 9 1960

Memo for Mr. Parsons  
Re: National Council of the Churches of Christ  
100-50862

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above information, it is suggested that it would not be to the Bureau's advantage to interview Adams. It is believed that there is a strong probability that we would be interjecting the Bureau into the bitter controversy presently raging over this religious issue.

*[Handwritten initials: A, V, and others]*

*I agree. [Signature]*

Tolson ✓  
 Mohr ✓  
 Parsons ✓  
 Belmont ✓  
 Callahan ✓  
 DeLoach ✓  
 Malone ✓  
 McGuire ✓  
 Rosen ✓  
 Tamm ✓  
 Trotter ✓  
 W.C. Sullivan ✓  
 Tele. Room ✓  
 Ingram ✓  
 Gandy ✓

NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1960.

## CHURCH LEADERS REPLY TO CRITICS

National Council Blames  
Jersey Pastor for Red  
Charges in Manuals

By GEORGE DUGAN

Special to The New York Times.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 24

Top leaders of the National Council of Churches fired their first public broadside here today against detractors and critics of the interdenominational body.

Obviously disturbed over recent allegations in Air Force manuals that the council was infiltrated with Communists, the churchmen named the individual they believed to be largely responsible for the charges.

He was publicly identified as the Rev. Dr. Carl McIntire of Collingswood, N. J., by the Rev. Dr. Hampton Adams, pastor of the Park Avenue Christian Church in New York and a member of the National

Council's 200-member General Board.

The board, policy-making arm of the council, is holding a two-day meeting in the Oklahoma Biltmore Hotel.

During discussion on a resolution objecting to the manuals, Dr. Adams said that Dr. McIntire was at that moment meeting in Washington with Thomas S. Gates Jr., secretary of Defense, to protest the Secretary's repudiation of the charges in the manuals.

'Unfrocked as Minister'

Dr. Adams declared that the board "should not hesitate to say that McIntire is a man who was unfrocked as a minister of the gospel of a major denomination." He then asked:

"How can we protect ourselves against the entire this man has in Government?"

Dr. McIntire was instrumental in forming the American Council of Christian Churches and the International Council of Christian Churches.

For many years both groups have consistently opposed the National Council as well as the World Council of Churches for so-called "leftish" leanings.

The New Jersey clergyman has also frequently attacked the two councils for what he

described as "modernistic heresies."

Dr. McIntire was removed from the Presbyterian Church in 1936 on charges of defying church discipline and disturbing the "peace of the church."

The National Council of Churches includes most of the major Protestant and Eastern Orthodox bodies in this country with a constituency of 35,000,000 persons. The American Council claims fifteen denominations, mostly small fundamentalist groups, with some 1,500,000 members.

Dr. Adams' statement touched off a number of similar comments.

It was obvious the New York

minister had broken the ice on a subject that has long plagued the council but had never before been brought into the open. The resolution, which was adopted later, declared that "the appearance of edited material prepared and distributed by any agency of the United States Government which attempts to discredit and create suspicion against the religious and educational institutions of this country is a patent violation of the free exercise of religion as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

An "important issue" raised by the controversy, it went on

is how long the American people are going to allow various agencies of Government to continue the practice of treating false and absurd charges lifted from confidential files as material to be seriously used as a basis for security decisions and for official indoctrination of government employees."

A spokesman for the council said the reference to confidential matter meant files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

He added that there was no question but that the "McIntire group" and others had been responsible for "feeding" unsubstantiated charges to government agencies.

what  
do files  
show  
re  
Dr  
Adams?

Has Dr McIntire  
furnished info. to us?

I think we should  
ask Dr Adams for  
specifics

2/25

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

New York Times

2/25/60

1 - Mr. Simpson

REC-19

100-364

March 15, 1960

[REDACTED]  
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 7, 1960, with its enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance, I must advise that the Church of the Nazarene, Decatur, Illinois, has not been the subject of an investigation by the FBI. I am unable, therefore, to furnish any information concerning your Church or its organizational affiliations.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Springfield (Enclosure)

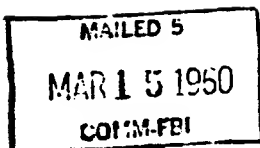
ATTENTION: SAC, SPRINGFIELD

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Correspondent enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent or the Church of the Nazarene, Decatur, Illinois.

NOTE TO SAC, SPRINGFIELD CONTINUED PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐ SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO

RDS:kmo (4)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE TO SAC, SPRINGFIELD CONTINUED:

The Bureau has never investigated the National Council of Churches (NCC); however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent desired the truth about her Church. She has asked her minister if the Church of the Nazarene, Peatur, Illinois, is a member of the NCC and he replied it was not. She has, however, seen a chart naming her Church as a member of the NCC. Since she does not know what to believe, she requests the Bureau inform her of the truth.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Mar. 7, 1960

Mr Hoover.

We would like to know some truth concerning our church.

We are members of the church of the Nazarene and we ask our preacher if these Nazarene churches were members of the National Council of Churches and his ans was no.

But we have seen a photostat copy of a chart naming our church as members. this photostat copy was in the Voice of the Nazarene Magazine. We hardly know what to beleive. Can you please inform us of the truth.

Thanking you in advance.

/s/ [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

Mr. Hoover:

Mar. 7, 1960

We would like to know some truth concerning our church.

We are members of the church of the Nazarenes and we ask our preacher if these Nazarene churches were members of the National Council of Churches and his answer was no.

But we have seen a photostat copy of a chart naming our churches as members this <sup>copy</sup> photostat was in the Voice of the Nazarene Magazine. We hardly know what to believe can you please inform us of the truth.

Thanking you in advance.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Rec. 7-15-60

1-2-60 (C. 1)

RDS. J. D.

EC-19

[Signature]

364

5 MAR 17 1960

REC-13

March 11, 1960

363

EX-107

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 7, 1960, 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 that you will understand our position in this matter 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: No record of Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.  
RWE:elw  
(3)

52 MAR 22 1960

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



[REDACTED] 1/15/1  
Hon. S. Edgar Hoover March 7, 1960  
Director FBI  
Washington, D.C.

Please send me any information  
you may have for public circulation  
on any subversive activities of  
the National Council of Churches.

I have never met you, however,  
you cannot read my mind, but  
I, for one American, am truly  
grateful for your persistent  
public work; for every one of  
us who, like me, take so  
much for granted.

I thank you very much for  
your information.  
Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

REC-13

12 MAR 15 1960

TELEGRAM

March 9, 1960  
Telegram  
Called in about 3:25 P.M.  
Sent by fast wire

Copy for Director Hoover

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I understand National Council of Churches *John F. Kennedy* may run for cover to White House. More churches, church members and citizens becoming aroused. Therefore truth will come out in end.

Please let Secretaries Sharp and Gates know beyond doubt you will support them to honestly take action on basis of truth and encourage them to express it. National Council will, I believe, attempt to keep this from being done.

Reading transcripts of House Un-American Activities Committee, or attending open hearings anyone can tell they seek and find truth. They do not sneer innocent. Please support members of House Un-American Activities Committee when they do not apologize for telling truth. Communists and liberal sympathizers will discredit them.

National Council is most powerful hierarchy, powerful influence on press, powerful political influence. It is an untruth that they represent thirty-eight million church members as they claim. They have run from several opportunities to explain truth to public. No doubt they would like to run to White House.

May God bless you,

[Redacted signature]

REC-29

4 MAR 14 1960

52 MAR 16 1960

*Handwritten:* No 362  
*Handwritten:* 362  
*Handwritten:* 100-10819-362  
*Handwritten:* 100-10819-362  
*Handwritten:* 100-10819-362

REC-29

100-50869-361

1 - Mr. Simpson

March 10, 1960

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 2, 1960, has been received, and it is indeed gratifying to know of your interest in my book, "Masters of Deceit."

In response to your inquiry, I am enclosing some additional material available for distribution and which contains information concerning communism which I am at liberty to disclose. I trust it will be of assistance to you in connection with your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (9)

1 - Cleveland

ATTENTION: SAC, CLEVELAND

Correspondent advised she is giving reports on the Director's most impressive book, "Masters of Deceit." She requests any more recent information on communist membership in the United States and new fronts that have been established and especially mentioning the possibility that communists have infiltrated the National Council of Churches (NCC).

NOTE TO CLEVELAND, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE TO CLEVELAND, CONTINUED

Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent.

The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of this organization. In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC, and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent with Bulet:

1. "Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion."
2. "God and Country or Communism?"
3. "How to Beat Communism."
4. "Communist 'New Look.'"
5. "Where do we Stand Today with Communism in the United States?"
6. Reprint from the "FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin," April, 1959.
7. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality."
8. "Breaking the Communist Spell."
9. Statement of Director Concerning the 17th National Convention, Communist Party, USA, December 10-13, 1959.

[REDACTED]  
Mar. 2, 1960

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

Dear Sir:

I'm giving reports on your most impressive book, "Masters of Deceit".

Could you give me any more recent information on the communist membership in the U. S. and new "fronts" they have established, especially mentioning the possibility that they have infiltrated the National Council of Churches? -

Thank You.

Yours truly,  
[REDACTED]

REC-29 100-10869-361

2 MAR 14 1960

FX-117

1- CV report  
3-10-60  
PDS/jpw

5-11-60  
ENCLOSURE

1 - Mr. DeLoach  
1 - Mr. Simpson

March 4, 1960

REC-28

100 50867-360

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated February 22, 1960.

It was most thoughtful of you to communicate with me and afford me the benefit of your observations.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Oklahoma City (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles reveal that correspondent wrote to the Bureau on July 4, 1959, to inquire if the FBI cleared the individuals connected with the United States exhibit in Moscow. The receipt of his letter was acknowledged by Bufile dated July 9, 1959, and he was advised that the Bureau did not issue clearances. (105-77346-28)

NOTE TO OKLAHOMA CITY, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS: [initials] (5)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
"action" (written vertically)  
"JFK" (written vertically)  
"100" (written vertically)

NOTE TO OKLAHOMA CITY, CONTINUED

Correspondent has reference to the National Council of Churches (NCC) which recently protested the training manuals issued for the Air Force Reserve in which communism was linked with churches in this country. Subsequently, the Air Force withdrew the manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we did check with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of the organization. In recent years, the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the communist connections of the NCC and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent referred to the recent controversy over the Air Force training manual and expressed his fears that leaders of the NCC will try to get a statement from the Director which they will then distort into their own meaning to indicate there is no communist infiltration into churches. Correspondent does not believe any such statement should be issued by the Bureau since if communist infiltration in the churches cannot be exposed, there is little hope for this country.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
February 22, 1960

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the current controversy over the Air Force Manual which pointed out the overwhelmingly documented fact that there has been communist infiltration and influence in high church circles, some of us who know this fear that National Council leaders will try to get some statement out of you which they can twist, distort and pervert into their own meaning. Of course, their meaning would be that there has been no communist infiltration and influence in church circles.

Please do not let them do it!! If communist influence in the churches are exempt from exposure there is little hope for America.

Sincerely Yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

February 22, 1960

Mr. Edgar Hoover

F.B.I.

Washington, D.C.

DeLoach

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the recent controversy over the Air Force  
ground which pointed out the overwhelmingly  
documented fact that there has been the  
communist infiltration and influence in high  
church circles, a group of who know this  
fact that National Council leaders will  
try to get some statement out of you  
which they can twist, distort and  
pervert into their own meaning. Of  
course their meaning would be that there  
has been no communist infiltration and  
influence in church circles.

Please do not let them do  
it!! If communist influences in the  
churches are exempt from SEC 8501 1950 1950 1950  
is little hope for America. SEC 8501 1950  
Sincerely, Yours

1 - Mr. Simpson

March 3, 1960

Jim  
REC-94

100-50867-358

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 25, 1960, with its enclosures, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, 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 our files 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.

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 - Charlotte (enclosure)

SEE NOTE TO CHARLOTTE, ON PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw,(4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTENTION: SAC, CHARLOTTE**

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

Correspondent enclosed with his letter a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a clipping from an unnamed newspaper captioned "AF Secretary Sharp Queried On Manual." This clipping indicated that Air Force Secretary Dudley C. Sharp was being called to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities concerning the withdrawal of an Air Force manual which had linked some churches with communism.

Correspondent's reference to "Council of Churches" undoubtedly refers to the National Council of Churches (NCC) which recently protested this Air Force manual. The Bureau has never investigated the NCC; however, we have in the past checked with informants but did not develop any indication that communists influence the policies of the organization. In recent years, the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC, and it has become somewhat of a controversial organization among various church groups. (100-50869)

**NOTE ON YELLOW:**

Correspondent is an elder of a Presbyterian church. Due to certain church propaganda, he has begun to feel that communism may be directly or indirectly responsible for some of the radical attitudes assumed by some ministers of his acquaintance. He has been wondering how close the NCC was linked to communism and asked to be advised if there are any "card carrying ministers in the Council of Churches."

2-25-68

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

Dear Mr. Hoover, National Council  
of Churches

Enclosed you will find a  
clipping regarding the withdrawal  
of an Air Force Manual linking  
some Churches with Communism.

I am an Elder in [redacted] Presbyterian  
Church here in [redacted]

Due to certain happenings in certain  
Church propaganda I began to feel  
that Communism was responsible directly or  
indirectly for some of the radical attitudes

Assumed by me or those Ministers of  
acquaintance. Since 1945 I have been  
wondering just how close the [redacted]  
Churches were linked to Communism.  
Please advise me if there are any cards  
Minister of the Council of Churches.  
1 Clipping

ACK  
1-CE wjenc  
33-60  
2061 PW

REC-94 100-50869-35  
MAR 7 1968

TRUE COPY

2-25-60.

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Enclosed you will find a clipping regarding the withdrawal of an Air Force manual linking some churches with communism. I am an Elder in [REDACTED] Presbyterian Church, here in [REDACTED]

Due to certain happenings in certain church propaganda, I began to feel that communism was responsible directly or indirectly for some of the radical attitude assumed by one or more ministers of my acquaintance. Since 1945 I have been wondering just how close the Council of Churches was linked to communism. Please advise me if there are any card carrying ministers in the Council of Churches.

Enclosing a stamped envelope for your convenience.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]

358

TRUE COPY

C2

Q

Enclosing a stamped envelope for  
your convenience.

Very sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

information. It said, "Another foolish remark often heard is that Americans have the right to know what's going on."

Chairman Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.) has contended that the charges presented in the manual are true. He said Sharp would be asked why the training publication was withdrawn after a protest by the National Council of Churches.

Rep. Donald L. Jackson (D-Calif.), said today's inquiry was "to find out what sort of an investigation they made on the charges in the manual before they withdrew it."

He said the whole question of communism in religion had been put in "good perspective" by FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover when he said there were Communists trying to infiltrate the churches.

**"Communists and Communist fellow travelers have successfully infiltrated our churches."**

"It is well known that even the pastors of certain of our churches are card-carrying Communists."

The publication also questioned the right of the public to certain

Memorandum

Mr. D. J. Parsons

DATE February 2, 1950

FROM Mr. A. H. Belmont

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF RELIGION  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The February 20, 1950, edition of the "New York Journal American" contained an article entitled "Review Ordered for Every Armed Forces Manual" which dealt with the Air Force Training Manual prepared by Edgar H. Hyde, which charged that certain segments of the Protestant church have been infiltrated by communists. The Director inquired "What do we know about Hyde? Also let me see copy of your publication 'Communism & Religion'."

[REDACTED] You desire, we could contact suitable officials of the Air Force through Liaison to obtain background information on this individual. However, due to the widespread high-level interest in the present situation in which the Air Force has found itself, this action appears at the time to be unwise.

The publication "Communism and Religion" is undoubtedly the pamphlet entitled "100 Things You Should Know About Communism and Religion" prepared by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948. A copy of this document is attached. This document covers a wide range of general subjects relating to communism and religion. You may be interested in item 61 in this publication which, according to press reports, contained warnings about communist infiltration of religion, which warnings were incorporated in the Air Force Manual. You will also note that the Director is quoted on the ~~last~~ <sup>back</sup> page of this document.

ACTION:

For the Director's information.

Enclosure

100-3-106

- 82-9-4
- 1 - 100-3-85 (CP, USA, Religious Activities)
  - 1 - Mr. Mohr
  - 1 - Mr. Parsons
  - 1 - Mr. Belmont
  - 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
  - 1 - Mr. Scatterday
  - 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
  - 1 - Mr. Harrington

11 MAR 2 1950

DO-7

FROM

OFFICE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, NEW YORK OFFICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. W. C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

See Me \_\_\_\_\_  
Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_  
Prepare Reply \_\_\_\_\_  
For Your Recommendation \_\_\_\_\_  
What are the facts? \_\_\_\_\_  
Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

*What do we know about [unclear]?*  
*Also let me see copy of your publication "Communism & Religion".*

ENCLOSURE

100-3-106-251

11 MAR 2 1960

2-ENCLOSURE

INT. SEC.

*100-3-106-251*  
*3.9.60*

# Review Ordered For Every Armed Forces Manual

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2 (AP) — The Department of the Army today ordered a review of all Armed Forces manuals, with particular emphasis on those dealing with the "personality" of the individual soldier.

The review was ordered because of the "personality" of the individual soldier, which is the key to the success of the Armed Forces. The review will be completed by the end of the year.

## WRITER IDENTIFIED

The writer of the pamphlet, which was distributed to all Armed Forces personnel, was identified as Homer H. Hyde, a civilian employee at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Hyde was identified as the author of the pamphlet, which was distributed to all Armed Forces personnel.

Mr. Hyde, 54, defiantly defended his pamphlet, "I felt the manual could not be completely effective as a tool for combatting Communist activities with which the non-commissioned officer might come in contact either on or off duty unless he had all the evidence of such activity available to him, that it was possible to provide," he said.

Mr. Hyde said his sources for the pamphlet were Circuit Riders, Inc. of Cincinnati, Dr. Billy James Hargis, a radio evangelist from Tulsa, Okla.; an editorial in the New Orleans Light and Evening Times; and an editorial in the New York Times. He said he did not debate from



HOMER H. HYDE  
Defends Pamphlet

Wirephoto from AP

the planned outline of this manual without authority. And it was completely inappropriate. His supervisors erred seriously in failing to pick this up.

Mr. Hyde said his sources for the pamphlet were Circuit Riders, Inc. of Cincinnati, Dr. Billy James Hargis, a radio evangelist from Tulsa, Okla.; an editorial in the New Orleans Light and Evening Times; and an editorial in the New York Times. He said he did not debate from

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

FEB 2 1950

ENCLOSURE

-106-231

ENCLOSURE

February 17, 1960

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE USA  
REVEREND EDWIN T. DAHLBERG, PRESIDENT  
REVEREND ROY G. ROSS, GENERAL SECRETARY  
MR. JAMES WINE, ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARY

Pursuant to your request for a check of the files of this Bureau concerning the above organization and above-listed three officers, the following information is set forth.

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCCC); however, the following information appearing in the files of this Bureau is being set forth for your information.

In November, 1953, a pamphlet issued by the organization stated that the NCCC, which was organized in 1950, was a fellowship of thirty national denominations representing most of the major historic bodies of American Christianity except Roman Catholics. The membership of the organization at that time was stated to be 35,000,000.

A pamphlet entitled "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches?" published by the American Council of Christian Laymen in Madison, Wisconsin, copyrighted in 1949 and later reissued under the caption "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" set forth a list of Council leaders together with their alleged affiliation with organizations cited as communist. The pamphlet stated that the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" in 1950 by merging with other interdenominational agencies under the name of the NCCC but that the aims, programs, and leaders were unchanged.

EX-103  
REC-14  
100-5267-357  
The NCCC in 1953 published a pamphlet entitled "Plain Facts About the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA" for the purpose of refuting the allegations set forth in the pamphlet published by the American Council of Christian Laymen.

10 MAR 1 1960

The reports of the Fund for the Republic dated May 31, 1955, and May 31, 1958, stated that the sums of \$10,000 and \$20,000, respectively, had been awarded to the Department of

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

GHS:esh:mpp (5)

Orig to OSI via Liaison - requested 2/16/60. NOTE ON YELLOW

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA .  
Reverend Edwin T. Dahlberg, President  
Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary  
Mr. James Wine, Associate General Secretary

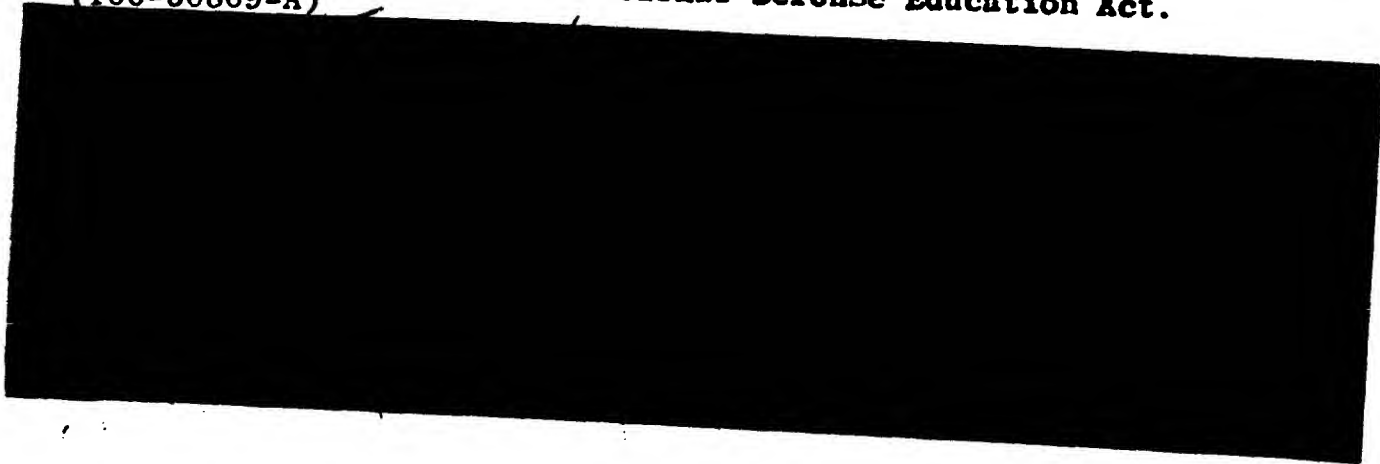
Racial and Cultural Relations of the NCCC, which money was to be used for a study of racial discrimination. (100-50869, Summary dated 9-9-55)

The January 1, 1959, issue of the American Legion "Firing Line" reported that delegates to the World Order Study Conference, sponsored by the NCCC, had unanimously urged recognition of Communist China and that Communist China be 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 . . . ." (100-50869)

Another Governmental agency reported in December, 1955, that eight delegates of the NCCC contemplated a three weeks' visit to the Soviet Union and it was expected the delegation would arrive in Moscow on March 9, 1956. The same source stated that certain leaders of Soviet Christian churches hoped to pay a return visit to the United States in June, 1956, and that the NCCC would be prepared to make the necessary arrangements for such a visit. (62-4270-233)

The Washington City News Service on February 25, 1954, reported that the NCCC had asked the House of Representatives of the U. S. Congress to curb abuses by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA). They reportedly urged that the Committee be halted from spreading malicious gossip through the release of unevaluated accusations from its files about individuals and groups, stating that the information was not checked for accuracy and some of it is false. (100-403529-A)

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" of February 28, 1959, reported that the National Council of Churches on February 26, 1959, had urged Congress to strike out the loyalty oath provision of the 1958 National Defense Education Act.  
(100-50869-A)



National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA  
Reverend Edwin T. Dahlberg, President  
Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary  
Mr. James Fine, Associate General Secretary

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Due to the extremely expedite nature of this request (received 3 p.m., 8-15-60, and Air Force needs the information early on morning 8-17-60), search was limited to updating from the roll file on the National Council of Churches:

February 26, 1960

REC-14

356

Miss LeYorne Althouse  
Assistant Editor  
Department of Youth Work  
National Council of the Churches  
of Christ in the U.S.A.  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York 27, New York

Dear Miss Althouse:

Your letter dated February 17, 1960, has been received, and it is indeed a pleasure to be of service with regard to your request.

There is no objection to your quoting the material you mentioned on juvenile delinquency from the October, 1959, issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin and, for your assistance, I am enclosing a copy of the statement from which this quotation was taken. If you desire to use a credit line, you may indicate that it came from my introduction in the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

NOTE: There is nothing in Bufiles to preclude sending this letter, and Miss Althouse is not identifiable in Bufiles. We are presently preparing an article for Fred Cloud over the Director's signature which he has requested by August 1, 1960. We have had frequent cordial correspondence with him.

CEM:rwz (3) This is the same organization involved in the current controversy resulting from the organization's being described in an Air Force manual as communist infiltrated.

FEB 25 1 32 PM '60

RECORD READING ROOM

MAILED 19  
FEB 26 1960  
COMM-FBI

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

64 MAR 4 1960



COMMISSION ON MISSIONARY EDUCATION  
• FRIENDSHIP PRESS •

# national council of the churches of christ in the u.s.a.

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

RIVERSIDE 9-2200

REV. EDWIN L. DAHLBERG, PRESIDENT

REV. ROY G. ROSS, GENERAL SECRETARY

YOUTH DEPARTMENT  
WARREN L. KILGER

February 17, 1960

Editor  
FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We would like permission to quote from the October, 1959 issue of your Bulletin in our forthcoming book, In Step With Time by Fred Cloud.

The material we would like to use concerns statistics on juvenile delinquency and reads as follows:

..."arrests of juveniles under the ages of 18 increased 8 per cent, while arrests of adults rose 1.8 per cent. Alarming, not only the frequency of youth crimes but the savagery of these offenses is mounting day by day, year by year."

These are said in the preceding text of the book to be 1958 figures.

If any credit line is necessary, we would appreciate knowing the wording it should have or the information it should include. Our author did not give us the page number of the Bulletin on which this article appears.

We will appreciate receiving permission to quote this material and any correction you might find should be made in it.

REC-14

Sincerely yours,

*LaVonne Althouse*  
LaVonne Althouse  
Assistant Editor  
Department of Youth Work

8-6000

1 - Mr. Simpson

February 25, 1960

REC-31

7-355

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked February 15, 1960, with its enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, 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.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Omaha (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC, OMAHA

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Correspondent enclosed a stamped envelope to be used in reply. Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent.

NOTE TO OMAHA, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

RDS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

LEB 32 3 31 PM '60  
BECOM MS 2004

*[Handwritten signature]*

NOTE TO OMAHA, CONTINUED

The World Council of Churches is allegedly composed of most of the Christian churches throughout the world except the Roman Catholic Church and other small sects. It has not been investigated by the Bureau, and Bufiles contain no identifiable derogatory information concerning the organization. (100-231551)

The Bureau in recent years has received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the National Council of Churches (NCC), formerly known as the Federal Council of Churches, 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 influences on the part of persons affiliated with the organization at that time. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent is a Sunday School teacher and during a discussion of the NCC and the World Council of Churches, she made the statement these organizations are communistic; however, other persons present disagreed. She, therefore, requests the Bureau to "enlighten us on this matter." Since the NCC has become such a controversial group, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau. Stamped envelope submitted by the correspondent being used in reply. Reference is made to postmark date since correspondent dated her letter February 15, 1966.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
Feb 15- 1966

J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr Hoover. - I am a Sunday School teacher. We were discussing the National, Federal and World Council of Churches. I made a statement, and said, "they were communistic." There were those who, thought I was wrong. It was suggested that I write to you, and you might enlighten us on this matter.

/s/ [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Feb 15 1966

4. Paper Machine

At the meeting I gave a 15-day delay before  
the new machine clearing the National  
Federal Land used for the education of  
the children of the Indian people. I  
concluded that the machine was the best  
I had seen. It was suggested that I write  
to you and your people.

REC-31164 6-17-355

23 FEB 24 1966

[REDACTED]

1-001

February 24, 1960

11/100-51072

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE USA  
 REVEREND EDWIN T. DAHLBERG, PRESIDENT  
 REVEREND ROY G. ROSS, GENERAL SECRETARY  
 MR. JAMES WINE, ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARY

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REC-41

The NCCC in 1953 published a pamphlet entitled "Facts About the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA" for the purpose of refuting the allegations set forth in the pamphlet published by the American Council of Christian Laymen.

The reports of the Fund for the Republic dated May 31, 1955, and May 31, 1958, stated that the sums of \$10,000 and \$30,000, respectively, had been awarded to the Department of

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ORIG AND 1 - OSD  
 Request received: 2-23-60

NOTE: Above furnished OSI via liaison 2-17-60.

fjb

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA  
Reverend Edwin T. Dehlberg, President  
Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary  
Mr. James Wine, Associate General Secretary

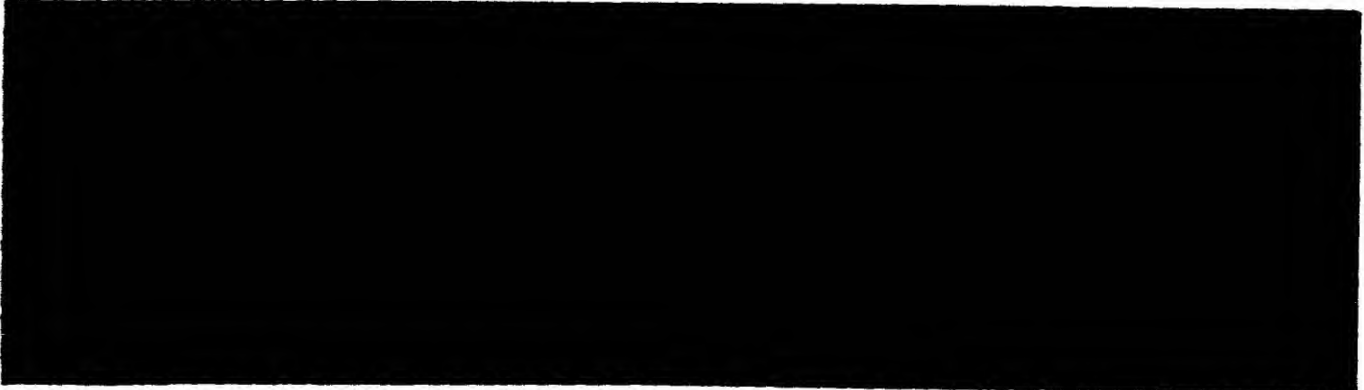
Racial and Cultural Relations of the NCCC, which money was to be used for a study of racial discrimination. (100-50862, summary dated 9-9-55)

The January 1, 1959, issue of the American Legion "Firing Line" reported that delegates to the World Order Study Conference, sponsored by the NCCC, had unanimously urged recognition of Communist China and that Communist China be 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 . . . ." (100-50862)

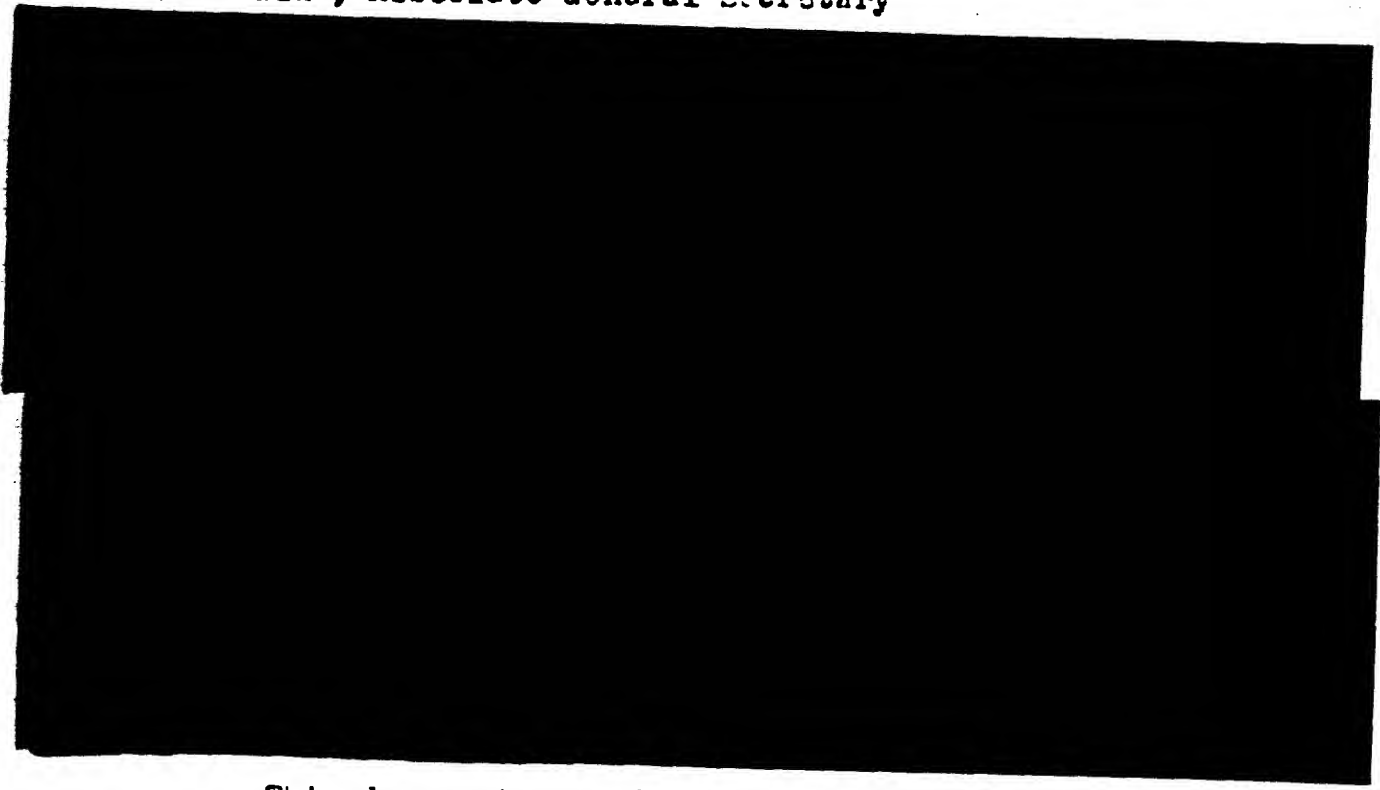
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The "Washington Post and Times Herald" of February 28, 1959, reported that the National Council of Churches on February 26, 1959, had urged Congress to strike out the loyalty oath provision of the 1950 National Defense Education Act. (100-50862-A)



National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA  
Reverend Edwin T. Dahlberg, President  
Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary  
Mr. James Wine, Associate General Secretary



This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files.

fjb

# Memorandum

Mr. Mohr

DATE: Feb 23 1960

C. D. DeLoach

SENATOR PRESCOTT BUSH  
(R-CONNECTICUT)  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

[REDACTED] Secretary to Senator Prescott Bush, called Monday, Feb. 22, 1960. She explained Sen. Bush on Saturday, Feb. 20, had made a press release regarding the fact that there were no subversives in the National Council of Churches and that the Air Force Manual reflecting possible infiltration by communists should be criticized by the Secretary of Defense. The Senator called the Air Force Manual "outrageous."

[REDACTED] further explained Sen. Bush was getting a number of letters and telegrams of protest concerning his stand. She wanted to know if we could furnish any information which might in some manner substantiate the Senator's position.

I told [REDACTED] that our files were, of course, confidential but that she might desire to check with either the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee or the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

## ACTION:

For record purposes.

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Jones

CDP/crb  
(5)

*Right the Senator got himself into this position & will have to get himself out of it.*

10-15 20 1960

INT. SEC.

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

P.O. Box 193

20 February 1960

The Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Widespread publicity is being given to an Air Force manual purportedly containing statements regarding Communist infiltration in American churches and in an organization known as the National Council of Churches. One news item said that the manual had been repudiated by the Air Force.

This is to ask that you investigate this entire situation very thoroughly before taking any decisive action. A consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation would be indicated.

Any completely informed person who is also a good American will tell you that the statements reported to be contained in this manual are correct in regard to Communist infiltration in American churches and the National Council of Churches. Leaders of the latter organization have a long record of affiliation with Communist front organizations. Unfortunately the Communists have found an unusually gullible field in which to work among the churches.

Please do not permit the Department of Defense to be starved into anything by protests from Congressmen and churchmen, the best of whom are misguided, while the worst are actual Communist agents.

It is good to hear that the Air Force has issued such a patriotic publication. It should be commended, not repudiated. Whoever prepared it should be decorated rather than censured.

Sincerely,

cc:

Secretary of the Air Force  
Director, Federal Bureau  
of Investigation

REC-14

100-30864

NOT RECORDED

5 FEB 24 1960

52 FEB 29

7 Copy  
90 ac  
353  
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REC-30/00 - 50-69-352

February 23, 1960

[REDACTED]

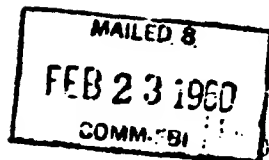
Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated February 13, 1960, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service to you, 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 our files 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 furnish the information you desire, and I am sure you will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



NOTE: Correspondent not identifiable in Bufiles and above letter is form used to answer this type of letter in the past regarding National Council of Churches and Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg.

RWE:jab/gct

(3) 1960

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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

February 13, 1960

To whom it may concern:

Recently appearing in our daily newspaper, the Scottsbluff Star Herald, was the enclosed feature article. I find this to be quite intriguing and I am curious to the extent that I would like to know the validity of Daniel H. Allen's accusations.

Would your Bureau please evaluate Mr. Dahlberg's Communist record and other similar affiliations alleged by Mr. Allen.

Your attention to this request will be greatly appreciated.

REC-30

352

Cordially,

20 FEB 25 1960

1-100-100000  
m. h. j.

1-100-100000  
m. h. j.

## Letter Box

(Keep letters short. Sign them. Your name will be withheld if you wish. The right to edit letters is reserved.)

### MISSION WAS SUCCESS

The recent Spiritual Life Mission held in our community has been viewed by the committee as fine achievement in spiritual endeavor. The committee in charge of this project feels grateful for the success of the mission and desires to make known some of the facts about the mission.

In fact, your newspaper played an important part in publicity and in circulating information about Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg and the many facts of organized Christianity which he represents.

I would like to cite just a few points that would indicate how well the people of the community did support the mission. Attendance for the three evening rallies at the First Christian Church reached a total of 1,000. There were over 300 churches represented in this total. Our figures are based on attendance registration received each evening and by actual count.

Besides their audiences, Dr. Dahlberg addressed other audiences with an estimated total of 1,200 people attending. This makes a grand total of 2,200 people reached and if we add the radio and TV audiences we get a rather imposing figure.

We may have been close to the planning and fulfillment of the mission's goal for that a fine victory for united Christianity was gained in our community. The lasting benefits of such a mission will depend largely upon the pastors and churches who caught a vision of the great Christian task at home and abroad that needs to be done now.

Sincerely yours,  
Glenn G. Knight, Chairman  
Spiritual Life Committee of  
North Platte Valley  
Ministerial Assn.

### DUBIOUS HONOR

Just recently Scottsbluff has had the dubious honor of being brought to a very controversial figure.

Rev. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the National Council of Churches, is indeed a very personable man. That he is handsome, debonair, persuasive and a powerful orator is not to be questioned. He is dedicated to his position as leader of the National Council of Christian Churches.

known by the actual record he has established. His life and office as president of the National Council of Christian Churches. Can a man who is known Communist front record such as Mr. Dahlberg be a genuine American?

Fulton Lewis Jr. and J. B. Matthews and others have carefully called this nauseous truth to our attention. According to these sources Mr. Dahlberg's record in Communist "front" work began in 1942. At that time he was affiliated with the "Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder." Browder at that particular time was none other than the general secretary of the Communist party and was in jail for perjury. Since that time Mr. Dahlberg was a "front" member interceding for Harry Bridges.

The record grows throughout the years—and nauseous. More recently Mr. Dahlberg was part of the "front" organization known as the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell." Mr. Sobell, as you remember, has a 30-year sojourn at Alcatraz for his part in the Rosenberg espionage case.

Mr. Dahlberg also writes introductions for books. A very recent one is the book, "On the Brink." One of the authors of the book is Jerome Davis. Mr. Davis has been known for years as a very ardent pro-Communist.

Mr. Edwin Dahlberg is not only a Baptist minister and president of the National Council of Churches, he is also interested in military affairs. He is so interested that he has been active in trying to get American young men to accept this pledge: "I hereby affirm my refusal to make or to use the weapons of war. And I propose to do my utmost to win other Americans to join me in this stand and to bring the Church of Christ throughout the world to break with war."

Would this attitude and effort qualify him as a radical pacifist?

Our Christian forefathers wrought a tremendous work when they fashioned our nation out of the wilderness. This colossal achievement was not done by compromise but by Bible evangelism, hard work, upright living and sacrificial deaths. All this was accomplished in accordance with the Holy Scriptures which brought our nation to preeminence among all nations.

It was just such citizens of Scottsbluff, Neb., that first founded and maintained the Baptist and other Christian churches in the early days. These old fashioned folk believed there was a Hell to shun and a Heaven to gain. They believed and taught the Holy Bible was the infallible and inerrant Word of the living God. Their early day ministers thundered out against all sin. They dogmatically declared, "Ye must be born again." These earlier Christians were God fearing, Christ honoring, Bible believing people. Could you visualize these dear people giving the plot here to a radical pacifist?

ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES

## Memorandum

TO : MR. BELMONT

DATE: 2/17/60

FROM : G. H. Scatterday

cc Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Prohaska  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Scatterday

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Parsons	
Belmont	
Mohr	
W.C. Sullivan	
Tele. Room	
Ingram	
Gandy	

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
IN THE USA - Information Concerning

On the evening of 2/16/60, the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Air Force, through liaison, requested a very expedite check of Bureau files (stating they needed the information on the morning of 2/17) concerning the captioned organization and three officers thereof, Edwin T. Dahlberg, Reverend Roy G. Ross, and James Line. OSI advised liaison that they were having difficulty in connection with a manual which had been prepared.

Attached is a clipping from page 1 of the Washington Post and Times Herald of 2/17/60, indicating that the captioned organization had protested a training manual of the Air Force Reserves, linking combat with United States churches.

Attached is a copy of a letterhead memorandum being furnished to OSI, setting forth pertinent information in files concerning the captioned organization and the three officers.

Briefly, the information contained in the attached memorandum reveals that the Bureau has conducted no investigation of the captioned organization, which was organized in 1950. A pamphlet was published by the American Council of Christian Laymen, setting forth a list of alleged communist front affiliations on the part of officials of the Federal Council of Churches, and alleging the Federal Council of Churches had merged into the captioned organization, but the aims, programs and leaders were unchanged.

In 1951 the captioned organization published a pamphlet for the purpose of refuting the allegations in the pamphlet published by the American Council of Christian Laymen.

The Fund for the Republic, in May, 1955, awarded \$10,000 to a department of the captioned organization, to be used for a study of racial discrimination. A similar award of \$30,000 was made in 1957.

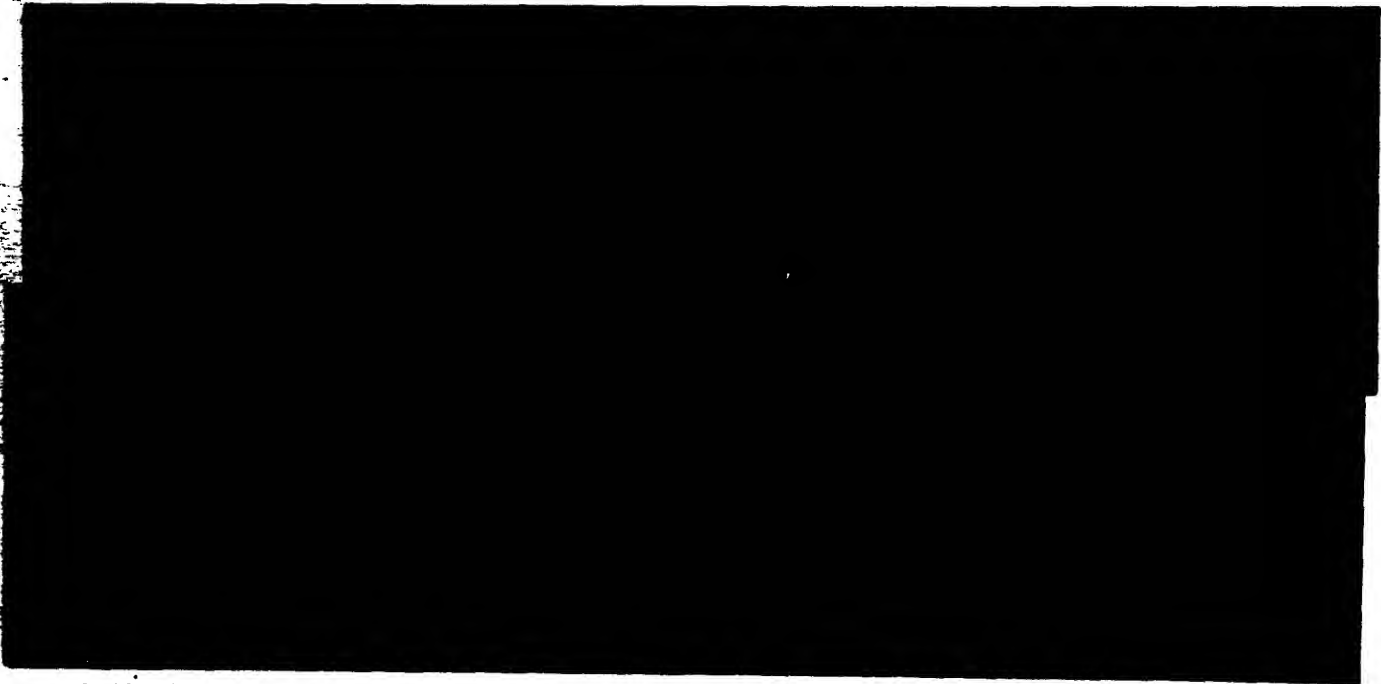
The 1/1/55 issue of the "Firing Line," put out by the American Legion, reported that a conference, sponsored by the captioned organization, had unanimously urged recognition of Communist China and its admission to the United Nations. The State Department, in 12/55 reported that eight delegates of the captioned organization contemplated a three-weeks' visit to the Soviet Union in March, 1956, and that the organization hoped to make necessary arrangements for a visit to the US by leaders of Soviet churches.

GHS:CSH (5)  
(Enclosures)\* copyrighted 1949 and apparently reissued after  
December, 1950

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Mr. Belmont

In February 1954 captioned organization asked the House of Representatives to curb abuses by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and in February 1959 urged Congress to strike out the loyalty oath provision of the 1958 National Defense Education Act.



ACTION:

The original of the attached memorandum is being furnished to OSI today.

*[Handwritten marks: a circle, a checkmark, and initials]*

## National Council Protests

# Churches Flay AF Manual Linking Them With Reds

An Air Force Reserves training manual linking communism with United States churches and questioning the people's right to know has struck a beehive of protest from the National Council of Churches.

Drawing anger from the Council, directly accused in the manual, were such statements as:

- "Communists and Communist fellow-travelers have successfully infiltrated our churches."

- "It is well known that even the pastors of certain of our churches are carrying Communists."

- "The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. officially sponsored the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Of the 95 persons who served on this project, 30 have been affiliated with pro-Communist fronts, projects, and publications."

- "Another foolish remark often heard is that Americans have a right to know what's going on. Most people realize the foolishness of such a suggestion."

- "Keep in mind that public news media present only as much information as the Government wants to release."

- "Since we are theoretically in a time of peace..." (This, a Council official said, suggests that the Air Force has taken on a congressional prerogative to determine when a state of war exists.)

was taken on it because offices involved were probably closed for the day. He later called to say the letter had been received only that day (Tuesday) and that no action has been taken as yet.

The manual attacked by the Council is NR 45-0050, Increment V, Volume 7, a student text for the Reserve Non-Commissioned Officer Course of the Continental Air Command.

A non-commissioned air

man, a Council official said last night, brought the manual to the attention of his pastor last Wednesday in Trenton, N. J. The pastor, in turn, turned it over to the executive secretary of the Council of Churches of Greater Trenton who submitted it to William Frye, director of information for the Council, who was assistant to the Secretary of Defense and director of public

See MANUAL, A14, Col. 2

### Council Sought Withdrawal

The Council asked Defense Secretary Thomas S. Gates Jr. to withdraw the publication, issued Jan. 4 as a lesson text of a training course for non-commissioned officers in the Air Force Reserve, and recall all copies already distributed. It also called for an official explanation of how such material gets into official military manuals.

The protest was made in a letter to Gates and other top Pentagon officials dated Feb. 11 and signed by James Wine, Associate General Secretary of the Council. Wine declared that "the appearance of this material, in the circumstances, is a patent contravention of the First Amendment of the Constitution" (dealing with freedom of religion, speech, press, and assembly).

A spokesman for the Defense Department, protesting the lateness of the hour for comment, said last night it would be difficult to trace the matter and see what action

Washington Post and Times Herald  
February 17, 1960, page A1

## Churches Protest AF Manual Linking Them with Communists

information in the Defense Department during 1949-50.

### Statements Under Attack

R. sides protesting what it called an attack on the Council and the churches of the United States, the Council also took issue with the following statements contained in the manual and described by the Council as un-American:

- "If you suspect an individual of deliberate subversion, report him, of course; but try to be sure he isn't just disaffected or a complainer. If you do know of a disaffected person, nevertheless, he will bear watching. . . ."

- "... Keep an eye out at all times for suspicious activities, actual or implied. Don't hesitate to report incidents to

the Air Police, no matter how trivial they may seem."

- "Be especially watchful for persons who are trying to undermine the Air Force by belittling or sneering at its policies and accomplishments . . . ."

### 'Un-American Attitudes'

All these a Council spokesman said, show that whether by carelessness or intent "a pattern of un-American attitudes has permeated official manuals of the Air Force and its commands."

The spokesman described distribution of the manual as "an extension of Air Force messianic mission to indoctrinate Reserve as well as Regular personnel."

The "right to know" statement in the manual is preceded by the comment that newspapers are not an official source of secret information. The manual then prescribes the "right to know" principle by drawing an analogy with a football team's right to secret plays.

"It's the same in war—hot or cold; if we tell our secrets we are likely to be beaten and beaten badly," the text states.

In this connection, a Council official denounced the entire statement in the text, regardless of its context or motivation, because of the harmful impression he said it leaves on the airmen about the importance of full information in a democratic society.

Elsewhere in the manual is the admission that "some injustices may arise in a loyalty check," and an admonition to Reserve non-coms of the Air Force to adopt an I-Don't-Know attitude with relatives and friends as the best way to stop questions whose answers might endanger security.

### Comment on Revised Bible

A Council spokesman said the implied relationship between the Revised Standard

Version (RSV) of the Holy Bible and communism is both "insidious and absurd," and that the castigations of its editors on the opinions "of prejudiced persons is an incredible reflection on the judgment and sense of responsibility of all involved."

Cited as sources of Page 4 of the manual's appendix were such publications as a pamphlet by Circuit Riders, Inc., entitled "80 of the 95 Men Who Gave Us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible"; an article by Billy James Hargis, "Apostate Clergymen Fattle for God-Hating Communist China," and another by the same author, "The National Council of Churches Indicts Itself on 50 Counts of Treason to God and Country."

The National Council of Churches is the representative body of 33 Protestant and Orthodox denominations of the United States. Its interim governing body, the General Board, is scheduled to meet Feb. 24-25 in Oklahoma City, where the Air Force matter is expected to be given a top priority.

The manual cites its source for much of its contents as Air Force Manual 205-4, which the Pentagon said is a classified document, and Air Force Manual 205-5, entitled "Guide for Security Indoctrination."

The Foreword of the manual notes that: "This Air Reserve Center Training Manual is published for the information and guidance of all concerned and comprises the Student Text prepared specifically for use by Reservists participating in the Continental Air Command Air Reserve Center Training Programs and enrolled in the Reserve Noncommissioned Officers Course 45-0050."

The manual was issued under the signature of Brig. Gen. J. M. Chappell, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations.

February 17, 1960

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE USA  
REVEREND ARVIN T. DAHLBERG, PRESIDENT  
REVEREND ROY G. ROSS, GENERAL SECRETARY  
MR. JAMES WINE, ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARY

Pursuant to your request for a check of the files of this Bureau concerning the above organization and above-listed three officers, the following information is set forth.

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCCC); however, the following information appearing in the files of this Bureau is being set forth for your information.

In November, 1953, a pamphlet issued by the organization at that time the NCCC, which was organized in 1940, set a fellowship of thirty national denominations representing most of the major historic bodies of American Christianity except Roman Catholics. The membership of the organization at that time was stated to be 3,000,000.

A pamphlet entitled "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches?" published by the American Council of Christian Laymen in Madison, Wisconsin, copyrighted in 1949 and later not sold under the caption "How Red is the National Council of Churches?" set forth a list of Council members together with their alleged affiliation with organizations cited as communist. The pamphlet stated that the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" in 1949 by merging with other interdenominational agencies under the name of the NCCC and that the staff, programs, and policies were unchanged.

The NCCC in 1953 published a pamphlet entitled "Plain Facts About the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA" for the purpose of refuting the allegations set forth in the pamphlet published by the American Council of Christian Laymen.

The reports of the Food for the Battle dated May 21, 1945, and May 21, 1946, stated that the sums of \$10,000 and \$50,000, respectively, had been awarded to the Department of

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA  
Reverend Edwin T. Dahlberg, President  
Reverend Roy G. Boss, General Secretary  
Mr. James Wine, Associate General Secretary


Racial and Cultural Relations of the NCCC, which money was to be used for a study of racial discrimination.

The January 1, 1953, issue of the American Legion "Firing Line" reported that delegates to the World Order Study Conference, sponsored by the NCCC, had unanimously urged recognition of Communist China and that Communist China be 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 . . . ."

Another governmental agency reported in December, 1953, that eight delegates of the NCCC contemplated a three weeks' visit to the Soviet Union and it was expected the delegation would arrive in Moscow on March 9, 1956. The same source stated that certain leaders of Soviet Christian churches hoped to pay a return visit to the United States in June, 1956, and that the NCCC would be prepared to make the necessary arrangements for such a visit.

The Washington City News Service on February 25, 1951, reported that the NCCC had urged the House of Representatives of the U. S. Congress to curb abuses by the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA). They reportedly urged that the Committee be halted from spreading malicious gossip through the release of unvalidated accusations from its files about individuals and groups, stating that the information was not checked for accuracy and was often false.

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" of February 23, 1952, reported that the National Council of Churches on February 16, 1951, had urged Congress to strike out the loyalty oath provision of the 1950 National Defense Education Act.



National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA  
Reverend Edwin T. Fohlberg, President  
Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary  
Mr. James Wine, Associate General Secretary

This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is  
loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be  
distributed outside your agency. This is in answer to your  
request for a copy of FBI files.

UNITED STATES

## Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: February 17, 1960

FROM : F. A. FROBOSE

1-Parsons  
 1-DeLoach  
 1-Kohr  
 1-Belmont  
 1-Scatterday  
 1-Day  
 1-Liaison  
 1-Fields

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE  
 CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE USA  
 PROTEST TO DEFENSE DEPARTMENT  
 REGARDING AIR FORCE PUBLICATION

On evening of February 16, 1960, [redacted] office of Special Investigations (OSI), Air Force (AF) requested through Liaison expedite name checks regarding captioned body and its officers, Reverend Edwin T. Dahlberg, President; Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary; and James Wine, Associate General Secretary. [redacted] advised a letter from the Council to Secretary of Defense Gates has strongly protested an AF Reserve training manual containing statements indicating communist infiltration of U.S. churches and activities of the Council. He stated Inspector General Carroll and Secretary of the Air Force Sharp are to discuss with Secretary Gates on February 17, 1960 what position and action should be taken in the matter and Carroll is very desirous of obtaining pertinent data of a subversive nature which Bureau may provide.

In above regard, attached clipping from "The Washington Post" of February 17, 1960, captioned "Churches Flay AF Manual Linking Them With Reds" indicates the Council, which represents 33 Protestant and Orthodox denominations of the U.S., asked Secretary Gates in its protest to withdraw the publication, a student text for members of the Continental Air Command. The Council was stated to be angered at statements of successful communist infiltration of churches; implications that some pastors are card-carrying communists; indications that Americans only have a right to know what the Government wants to release to news media; and statements that many persons working on the Council-sponsored Revised Standard Version of the Bible have communist affiliations. The article stated sources of the manual were cited as other AF security manuals and also non-Government publications.

Name Check Section is compiling pertinent data to be furnished to AF re the Council and officers. This appears to be a situation where AF has gotten itself involved and which will probably result in further unfavorable publicity as above article indicates the General Board of the Council expects to take this matter up at a meeting at Oklahoma City, February 24, 1960.

[redacted] advised Liaison, February 17, 1960, that AF manuals, 205-4 and 205-5, indicated by the "Post" as source of much information in the protested manual, indicates no reference to any Bureau or OSI data, and it appears the source of the training manual's information was outside civilian-type publications.

ACTION: For information. We should not become further involved in this

HF:sal (9)

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**National Council Protests**

# Churches Flay AF Manual Linking Them With Reds

An Air Force Reserves training manual linking communism with United States churches and questioning the people's right to know has struck a beehive of protest from the National Council of Churches.

Drawing anger from the Council, directly accused in the manual, were such statements as:

• "Communists and Communist fellow-travelers have successfully infiltrated our churches."

• "... It is well known that even the pastors of certain of our churches are card-carrying Communists ..."

• "The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. officially sponsored the Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Of the 95 persons who served on this project, 30 have been affiliated with pro-Communist fronts, projects, and publications."

• "Another foolish remark often heard is that Americans have a right to know what's going on. Most people realize the foolishness of such a suggestion."

• "Keep in mind that public news media present only as much information as the Government wants to release."

• "Since we are theoretically in a time of peace ..."

(This, a Council official said, suggests that the Air Force has taken on a congressional prerogative to determine when a state of war exists.)

**Council Sought Withdrawal**

The Council asked Defense Secretary Thomas S. Gates Jr., withdraw the publication, issued Jan. 4 as a lesson text of a training course for non-commissioned officers in the Air Force Reserve, and recall all copies already distributed. It also called for an official explanation of how such material gets into official military manuals.

was taken on it because offices involved were probably closed for the day. He later called to say the letter had been received only that day (Tuesday) and that no action has been taken as yet.

The manual attacked by the Council is NR. 45-0050, Increment V, Volume 7, a student text for the Reserve Non-Commissioned Officer Course of the Continental Air Command.

A non-commissioned air-

man, a Council official said last night, brought the manual to the attention of his pastor last Wednesday in Trenton, N. J. The pastor, in turn, turned it over to the executive secretary of the Council of Churches of Greater Trenton who submitted it to William Frye, director of information for the Council, who was assistant to the Secretary of Defense and director of public

See MANUAL, A14, Col. 2

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

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 2-16-60

100 7071-1-1  
ENCLOSURE

MANUAL—From Page A1

# Churches Protest AF Manual Linking Them with Communists

information in the Defense Department during 1949-50.

## Statements Under Attack

Besides protesting what it called an attack on the Council and the churches of the United States, the Council also took issue with the following statements contained in the manual and described by the Council as un-American:

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• "... Keep an eye out at all times for suspicious activities, actual or implied. Don't hesitate to report incidents to

the Air Police, no matter how trivial they may seem."

• "Be especially watchful for persons who are trying to undermine the Air Force by belittling or sneering at its policies and accomplishments..."

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"It's the same in war—hot or cold; if we tell our secrets we are likely to be beaten and beaten badly," the text states.

In this connection, a Council official deplored the entire statement in the text, regardless of its context or motivation, because of the harmful impression he said it leaves on the airmen about the importance of full information in a democratic society.

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Cited as sources of Page 4 of the manual's appendix were such publications as a pamphlet by Circuit Riders, Inc., entitled "30 of the 95 Men Who Gave Us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible"; an article by Billy James Hargis, "Apostate Clergymen Battle for God-Hating Communist China," and another by the same author, "The National Council of Churches Indicts Itself on 50 Counts of Treason to God and Country."

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The Foreword of the manual notes that: "This Air Reserve Center Training Manual is published for the information and guidance of all concerned and comprises the Student Text prepared specifically for use by Reservists participating in the Continental Air Command Air Reserve Center Training Program and enrolled in the Reserve Noncommissioned Officers Course."

The manual was issued under the signature of Brig. Gen. J. M. Chappell, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
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New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Worker \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

1 - Mr. Simpson

February 16, 1960

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Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letters postmarked February 8, 1960, and February 10, 1960, and the interest which prompted your communications is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of service to you, 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 or to the preparation or maintenance of any list of publishers such as you described. Furthermore, information in our files 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 furnish the information you desire, and I am sure you will not infer from my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files the information you have requested.

Your kind personal comments are most gratifying, and I trust that the work of the FBI will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

1 - Savannah (enclosures - 2)  
SEE NOTE TO SAVANNAH, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE THREE

RDS:pw (4)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐





Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

51 FEB 26 1960

  
ATTENTION: SAC, SAVANNAH

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

In recent years the Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the communist connections of the National Council of Churches (NCC) and this organization has become somewhat controversial 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 persons affiliated with the organization at that time. (100-50869)

NOTE TO SAVANNAH, CONTINUED, PAGE THREE

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO SAVANNAH. CONTINUED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent, in her first letter, asked that we give her information concerning the NCC about which there has been much discussion as she and others would not want to support it unless it is all right. She also stated she would like a list of publishers whose textbooks have been deemed detrimental to our American ideals. Correspondent congratulates the Director on the grand job he has done and the fine organization he has and stated she is thankful we have an FBI instead of an NKVD.

In her second letter, correspondent furnished the names of the above officers of the NCC and requested that we list under each man's name any organization to which he belongs that is considered subversive by the Government. She reiterated her request for any information we can furnish regarding the NCC. She desires this information to convince the people in her church that they must not allow any additional funds to go to the NCC.

In view of the nature of her inquiries and the fact she has indicated she will use a letter from the Bureau, it is believed the above reply will best serve the interests of the Bureau.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For all your fame, your's is not an enviable job -- I wonder that the frustrations haven't outweighed the satisfactions long ago.

Much has been written concerning the dubious honor of the National Council of Churches -- and of the men in key positions in this organization.

The Nat'l C. of C. is supported by funds from the various Protestant Churches in the U. S. I, as most citizens, certainly do not want one cent of my money going to people who do not believe whole-heartedly in the U. S. form of government.

I wouldn't give them "air in a jug" -- much less money I do love so well to spend.

I'm tired of hearing the people in my own church debate this question. I believe in going straight to "the horse's mouth."

If the F.B.I. says an organization or a man is of questionable integrity I withdraw any support until such a time that the F.B.I. might clear them.

I will appreciate any information you can give me on the subject.

I would also like a list of publishers who's textbooks have been deemed detrimental to our American Ideals.

It's time for the American people to rise and turn the tide of internal aggression - they just don't realize and thank the powers that be that we have an F.B.I. instead of an N.K.V.D. (or whatever they call that Russian police outfit).

Congratulations on the grand job you've done and the fine organization you've run.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dear Mr. Harver,

How are you. I am well  
in not an amicable way  
I wonder what the publication  
has it a lighter the subject  
say so.

Which has been written  
concerning the decision of  
the National Council of  
the Church - and if the men  
say otherwise in this organization

The Natl. C. of C. is  
supported by some from the  
church and some churches in  
the U. S.

I am not a member  
a fairer do not want to  
and I am not  
wonder what do not the  
church is not in the

same as the church.

I wouldn't give you  
in a "ing" - much less money

REC-75 100-50109-349

FEB 11 1960

CRIME REC

4-11  
RD 51

I do love so well to speak  
I'm tired of hearing the  
people in my own Church  
debate this question. I believe  
in going straight to "the Power  
House."

If the F.B.I. is an  
organization or a man is a  
questionable integrity I will leave  
him alone until such a time  
that he might clean them  
up. I will appreciate any  
information you can give me  
on the subject.

I would also like a  
list of individuals who's testbook  
have been deemed detrimental  
to our American Ideals.

It's time for the American  
people to rise and turn the  
tide of internal aggression -  
they just don't realize and  
don't know how to be

that we have on A.S.S.  
instead of an N.Y.C.D.  
whatsoever they call that Russian  
Police (a Spid).

Congratulations on the  
great job you've done with  
the Red Organization you  
run.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

TRUE COPY

Dear Mr. Hoover,

The following men have been accused of belonging to various subversive organizations: they are officers in the National Council of Churches.

Pres: Edwin T. Dahlberg  
Vice Pres: Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam  
Gen. Sec.: Rev. Roy G. Ross  
Associated Gen. Sec.: Rev. R. H. Edwin Espy  
John C. Bennet

I asked you for this information just two days ago but, at that time, I could not list the names.

If their records are grim enough -- and if the information comes from your office it will be a tremendous help in convincing the people in our church that we must put a stop to our funds going into the National Council.

Please just list under each man's name any organization to which he belongs that is considered subversive by the U. S. Government.

Any information that your office may have regarding the organization (the Nat'l Council) itself, I would appreciate having.

The National Council of Churches, refuses to send a copy of its budget upon request. Various people have asked for it time and time again but they have each been refused. We feel that this, in itself, is indicative of skulduggery somewhere. After all, the money came from the Protestant churches.

Sincerely,

/s/

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dear Mr. Harned,

The following men have been accused of belonging to various subversive organizations. They are officers in the National Council of Churches.

Pres.: Edwin L. Dahlberg  
Vice Pres.: Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam  
Gen. Sec.: Rev. Roy G. Loefer  
Associated Gen. Sec.: Rev. R.H. Edwin Epp  
John C. Bennett

I asked you for this information just two days ago but, at that time, I could not list the names.

By their records are just enough - and if the information comes from your office it will be a tremendous help in convincing the people in our Church that we must put a stop to our funds going into

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EX-132

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51 FEB 26 1960

The National Council.

Please put list under  
each man's name any signature  
that is considered subversive  
by the U.S. Government.

Any information that  
you might have regarding  
the organization the National Council  
itself, I would appreciate  
having.

The National Council of  
Churches, known to me as a body  
of its budget more request.  
Various people have asked  
for it and have been asked  
for long time back, but refused.  
The fact that this, in itself, is  
evidence of something else  
when it comes to the body called  
that. The National Council.

[REDACTED]

J. Simpson

February 1, 1960

REC- 14

347

EX - 131

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated January 23, 1960, with its enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, 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 comment upon the pamphlet you mentioned.

In accordance with your request, I am returning this pamphlet to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 8

FEB - 1 1960

Enclosure COMM-FBI

is - Memphis (enclosure)

ATTENTION: SAC MEMPHIS

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

SEE NOTE TO MEMPHIS, CONTINUED, PAGE TWO

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE TWO

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TELETYPE UNIT

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO MEMBERS. CONTINUED

Correspondent enclosed a pamphlet entitled "How Red is the National Council of Churches" issued by the American Council of Christian Laymen, 122 West Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin. This pamphlet, which has been brought to the Bureau's attention on numerous occasions, charges that the National Council of Churches (NCC) promotes socialism and that many of its preachers are communists or fellow travelers.

[REDACTED]

The Bureau has in recent years received numerous inquiries concerning communist connections of the NCC, formerly known as the Federal Council of Churches, 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 influences on the part of the persons affiliated with the organization at that time.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent stated he was surprised at the allegations made in the pamphlet he enclosed. Since they are serious accusations made by a group which offers no proof, he requested the Bureau advise him as to the accuracy of the charges made.

Pamphlet returned to correspondent pursuant to his request and copy not made for Bufiles since numerous copies are available.

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1-23-60

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am sure that you receive numerous letters such as this and also I know that you are quite busy, and consequently I hate to bother you with this matter. However, it deeply concerns me and I wanted to get accurate information on the attached folder which was distributed to me.

I was quite surprised at the allegations made in the folder. Some of the organizations listed on the inside I remember as being listed on the affidavit which officers of the armed Forces sign periodically.

To me these are serious accusations made by a group which offers no proof other than a list of names. I am not attempting to draw you into any fray between theological groupings but I would appreciate a reply as to the accuracy of this pamphlet.

I can assure you that this is purely for my own edification and for no other reason.

Please return the pamphlet

Very truly yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

1-23-1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am sure that you receive numerous letters such as this and also I know that you are quite busy and consequently I hope to bother you with this letter. However, it simply concerns me and I wanted to get accurate information on the attached folder which was distributed to me.

I am quite surprised at the allegations made in the folder. Some of the organizations listed on the inside I remember as being listed as the offshoots of such officers of the Armed Forces as physically.

To me there are serious accusations made by a group which offers no proof other than a list of names. I am not attempting to draw you into any situation, biological groupings but I would appreciate a reply as to the accuracy of the pamphlet.

I can assure you that this is purely for my own information and for no other reason.

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EX-131

Please return the pamphlet.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

UNITED STATES

# Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: January 15, 1960

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT:

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
 122 MARYLAND AVENUE, NORTHEAST  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.**

On January 15, 1960, [redacted] was interviewed telephonically by Special Agent [redacted] Crime Research Section. She requested that three copies of the introduction to the January, 1960, FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin be sent to her. The three copies were mailed on January 15, 1960.

## RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

*J. F. [unclear]*  
 1/16

HFT:bla  
 (2)

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JAN 21 1960

*[Handwritten signature]*