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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 20, 1950

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(Bufile 100-20396)

*Rebulet KF  
KF deleted  
2/28/50  
HT-ma*

56577

Rebulet 12/28/49.

From a review of the Atlanta file on this case, it is not believed that DONALD LEE WEST can presently be considered as a key figure in the Communist organization. Accordingly, his name is being removed from the key figure list in the Atlanta office.

WEST is still being carried as a security index subject in this office.

JCH:EML  
100-559

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/13/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 43 [100-36316-86]  
EX-87

*KCH*

*100-375*

FD-72

(1-10-49)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

AT. FILE NO. 100-559 fwp

REPORT MADE AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA	DATE WHEN MADE 4-4-50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-27;3-28-50	REPORT MADE BY JOSEPH C. HOLMES
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was.		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <div style="float: right;">b6 b7C</div> <p>[redacted] neighbor of DON WEST, advised he knows of no Communist activity on part of WEST. Subject's main source of income for past two years believed to have been received under canceled teaching contract from Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Ga. Additional investigation Douglasville, Ga., failed to reveal that WEST is taking any active part in Communist Party affairs. Two articles written by WEST and published in 1949 by the Southern Farmer Magazine, Montgomery, Ala., reviewed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- C -</p>			
DETAILS: AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA: Special Agent [redacted] interviewed [redacted] [redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, a neighbor of DONALD LEE WEST. <span style="float: right;">b6 b7C</span> Mr. [redacted] informed that DONALD LEE WEST has visited [redacted] at his home on numerous occasions and is rather friendly with him. However, [redacted] said that he has never heard WEST say or do anything which indicates that he is actively engaged in any Communists activities. Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that DONALD LEE WEST opened a bank account in Douglasville, Georgia, in July, 1948, and closed			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>John C. [redacted]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 1/20/59		100 - 20396 - 87	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT COPY IN FILE #16		RECORDED - 50 INDEXED - 50 EX - 62	
(6) Bureau 1 OSI - Warner Robins, Ga. 1 ONI - Charleston, S. C. 1 IDA - Atlanta 2 Atlanta		APR 7 1950 37 [redacted]	

 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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 DATE 9/1/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

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AT., 100-559

the account out in September, 1949.. He informed that he believes WEST now has an account at an Austell, Georgia, bank. He furnished information indicating that WEST'S average balance during that time was around \$300.00, and that he frequently deposited checks of approximately \$290.00 once a month, which were written by Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia..

T-1 advised that after having read the newspaper account of WEST'S dismissal from Oglethorpe University he assumed that WEST had held a contract with the university and that the university was obligated to pay him his salary during the period of the contract.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised that he has been in contact with DONALD LEE WEST frequently during the past eighteen months and that WEST apparently is living a quiet life on his farm. He informed that WEST has recently been to Fernandina, Florida, to visit his wife.

T-1 stated that WEST apparently has very few visitors and spends most of his time either working on his farm or in writing.

Sheriff MAC ABERCROMBIE, Douglas County, Douglasville, Georgia, advised that individuals in the vicinity of WEST'S farm state subject leads a quiet life and has very few visitors.

AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA:

Special Agent SPENCER H. ROBB reviewed the 1949 issues of the Southern Farmer magazine in the Library of the State Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. This review reflected in the September, 1949, issue, an article entitled "Grass Roots Preacher" by D. L. WEST. This article was four full columns in length and dealt with the fearlessness of a preacher, CHARLES PRATT, of Dalton, Georgia, in his approach to the racial situation. The article praised PRATT, who is a pastor of the Church of God of the Union Assembly at Dalton for preaching and teaching equality of all men regardless of race or religion, and further praised him for being unafraid for being called a Communist, as has been done in the past.

The November, 1949, issue of the Southern Farmer contains an article entitled "One Georgia Hill Farmer" by DON WEST. This article tells of the success of one ASBERRY M. McGLAMERY, Route 3,



AT., 100-559

Blairsville, Georgia, in farming. This three column article ended on the note that McGLAMERY realizes his success is due to cooperation and unity; that if he is to survive, he must organize for united planning and action; that there must be greater cooperation and unity between the small farmer and city industrial worker.

These two articles were the only ones written by subject appearing in the 1949 issues of the Southern Farmer.

- C L O S E D -

AT., 100-559

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

T-1:

[REDACTED]  
Douglasville, Georgia.

b7D

T-2:

[REDACTED]  
Douglasville, Georgia.

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 100-20396.  
Report of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, 12-12-49, Atlanta.  
Atlanta letter to Director, 2-20-50.  
Mobile letter to Atlanta, 2-27-50.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 4, 1950

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was., Don Lee West,  
Don West, Reverend Donald L. West,  
Jim Webb, Jim Weaver, ~~SA~~  
SECURITY MATTER - C

56576

Remylet 7-27-50 to Chicago.

Further information received to the effect that subject is working for an organization whose name was believed to be the "Migrant Farmers Workers Program," with headquarters in New York. The purpose of this organization was to provide education for the children of migratory farmers throughout the United States. Subject is reportedly making \$5,000 a year and has a \$150 monthly expense account. As noted in my previous communication, subject has requested that his mail be forwarded to Room 839, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois.

b2  
b7D

~~SA~~ of known reliability, advised that WEST is traveling throughout the middle west in this present position.

New York and Chicago are requested to verify employment and address of subject.

WEST is carried as a security index subject in the Atlanta Division.

100-559

cc: New York  
Chicago

JTS:sg

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DATE 01/18/92 BY 3118/BE~~

~~class  
Specs of~~

SP-1 GSK/PSK  
Date of Revision 3/18/92 3/18/92

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DATE 01/18/92 BY 3118/BE

RECORDED - 53

100-20396-88  
AUG 7 1950

325

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: August 22, 1950

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO

~~SECRET~~SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.,  
Don Lee West, Don West,  
Reverend Donald L. West,  
Jim Webb, Jim Weaver  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Re Atlanta letter to Chicago dated July 27, 1950; Atlanta letter to Director dated August 4, 1950.

The captioned subject is a Security Index subject in the Atlanta Division.

[redacted] Chicago, advised on August 3, 1950, that rooms 839 and 838 in that building are occupied by the Home Missions Council of North America, a religious charity organization which has been at this address for about one year. This organization has its headquarters in New York, New York, and the district office for approximately six or seven midwestern states is in Chicago at 127 North Dearborn Street. [redacted] is the [redacted] of the Chicago District. Mr. [redacted] stated that he does not know the subject and that to his knowledge [redacted] and two or three girls are the only employees working in the Home Missions Council of North America office at 127 North Dearborn Street.

G. I. R. - 2

b6  
b7C

A pretext telephone call on August 8, 1950, to an unidentified person at Central 6-1165, listed to the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, revealed that Reverend DONALD L. WEST and his family left Chicago for Florida where he will stay until September, 1950. This unidentified person did not know the name of the town in Florida to which subject was going. In September the subject will return to Chicago for one month but will not remain here permanently; he will then travel to Texas where he will spend the winter; he is working as a traveling representative of the Home Mission Council of North America and he will be traveling a great deal, mainly along the Texas-Mexico border and particularly around Brownsville, Texas.

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review 4/8/02

GHC:BJB  
100-7192

CC: Atlanta (100-559) RECORDED - 73  
New York (Info) INDEXED - 73  
El Paso (Info)

AUG 24 1950

~~SECRET~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE 5/16/82 SP

55 SEP 9 1950 377

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Letter, DIRECTOR, FBI

~~SECRET~~

RE: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

b2  
b7D

The following information was furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] to the Louisville Division as reflected in the report of SA G. J. COYLE at Louisville, Kentucky, dated February 11, 1942, and entitled "Communist Activities in the State of Kentucky - Internal Security - C";;

Informant stated that at a Communist Party branch meeting at 212 West Front Street, Newport, Kentucky, on January 23, 1942, [redacted] a Communist Party member, talked of a DON WEST, a Communist Party organizer and minister, who was arrested in about 1938 in Bell County, Kentucky, charged with using the church in an attempt to overthrow the United States Government; West had been arrested by local police and was released. In 1938 WEST and another minister had seven churches between them in Butler County. WEST was from a union school in Amelia, Arkansas, and [redacted] saw him in about 1934 at a Socialist rally in Lexington, Kentucky, at which rally WEST spoke. [redacted] stated, according to informant, that he and [redacted] went to this rally and they [redacted] so they could contact other Communist Party members.

b6  
b7C

The August 25, 1945, issue of the "Chicago Sun", a Chicago daily newspaper, carried an announcement of a revival every night at 8:00 PM, except Saturday and Sunday, from August 20 through August 31, 1945, sponsored by the Chicago Council of Applied Religion, 176 West Adams Street, Chicago, Room 935. Dr. DONALD WEST, Superintendent of Schools, Lula, Georgia, was listed as one of the evangelists of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion scheduled to speak.

The Peoples Institute of Applied Religion has been cited as a subversive and Communist organization by the United States Attorney General.

The February 3, 1945, issue of the "Chicago Sun" reflected that the Chicago Council of Applied Religion was organized in Chicago on February 1, 1945, as a branch of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion.

~~SECRET~~

Letter, DIRECTOR, FBI

~~SECRET~~

RE: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

b6  
b7C

CGO 5632, of known reliability, advised that he learned from [redacted] of the Abraham Lincoln School on January 27, 1947, that a group of western writers, primarily of short stories and poetry, were disgusted with the "New Masses" magazine because they did not think that this magazine was a truly literary magazine. This group, according to the informant, would like to start a new magazine, a monthly, that would consist chiefly of short stories, poetry and articles or music. According to this informant, one DON WEST was going to enter this group as soon as he was out of a "current jam". Informant could furnish no further information as to the "current jam". WEST was in. (S)

The Abraham Lincoln School has been designated a Communist organization by the United States Attorney General.

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, in its report dated March 29, 1944, pages 48 and 75, cited the "New Masses" as nationally circulated weekly journal of the Communist Party.

In 1945, [redacted] who requested her identity be kept confidential and who was [redacted] of the Brethren Ministry to Resettlers, residing at [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that the Home Missions Council of North America with headquarters in New York, made up mostly of Protestant Church organizations, was sponsoring local conferences with reference to Japanese resettlement and this organization planned to hold a conference on this topic in Chicago on June 1, 1945.

b6  
b7C  
b7D

The indices of the Chicago Division failed to reflect any information concerning [redacted]

b6  
b7C

A Copy of this letter is being furnished to New York inasmuch as the New York Division has an outstanding lead in this case.

A copy of this letter is being furnished to El Paso inasmuch as further investigation might be requested concerning the subject at Brownsville, Texas, by the Atlanta Division. RUC.

~~SECRET~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 25, 1950

FROM : *DKB*  
SAC, El Paso~~SECRET~~SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.,  
Don Lee West, Don West,  
Reverend Donald L. West  
Jim Webb, Jim Weaver, ~~IS~~  
SECURITY MATTER - C

211-1

Re Chicago letter to Bureau dated August 22, 1950.

Inasmuch as Brownsville, Texas is within the District covered by the San Antonio Office, one copy of referenced Chicago letter is being furnished as an enclosure to the San Antonio Office.

HHB:adl  
100-0APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF Class  
DATE 5/26/822 cc's - San Antonio (Encl.)  
1 cc - Atlanta  
1 cc - Chicago

E. R. 2

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK~~CLASS. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/RSK  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2, 2  
Date of Review 3/18/82~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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RECORDED - 109

EX-128

100-20396-90  
AUG 29 1950  
36  
*[Signature]*~~SECRET~~

58 SEP 7 1950 353

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 1950

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was,  
Don Lee West, Don West,  
Reverend Donald L. West,  
[Jim Webb, Jim Weaver;  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-20396

[redacted] advised that DONALD LEE WEST plans to maintain his legal residence with his wife in Fernandina, Florida. [redacted] stated WEST had rented his farm in Douglasville, Georgia, and is presently working for the Home Missions Council of North America, out of Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] stated that WEST will be traveling through Texas and will be in a constant travel status but that his wife will continue to teach school in Fernandina, Florida.

b6  
b7c

Miami is requested to determine the present address of WEST and his wife in Fernandina, Florida.

CC: CHICAGO 100-7192  
MIAMIJTS:PEB  
100-559

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK  
EXEMPT FROM GDS, 100-7192  
Date of Review 3/10/92

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

RECORDED - 68  
EX-13

SEP 7 1950

OCT 13 1950

~~SECRET~~



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bufile 100-20396)

DATE: September 11, 1950

Re Atlanta letter to Bureau, 8/4/50.  
Re Chicago letter to Bureau, 8/22/50.

The New York Telephone Directory reflected no address for any organization named "Migrant Farmers Workers Program". The Directory did reflect that the Home Missions Council of North America was at 297 4th Avenue. A pretext telephone call was made on September 7, 1950 to this organization and it was determined that nobody working there personally knew the subject. A woman on the other end of the phone eventually found somebody with access to records which indicated that the subject was working out of the Chicago Office at 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois. This person advised that the subject was evidently employed by the Migrant Division of their organization, and for any information concerning him or his whereabouts the Chicago Office would have to be contacted. This matter is being considered RUC'd.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP1 CSR/PSK

RECORDED - 60  
INDEXED - 60

EX-100

100-20396-92  
SEP 12 1950  
3

cc: Atlanta (100-559)

AFR:MJT  
100-22129

428  
51 SEP 23 1950

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **ATLANTA**

FILE NO. 100-3381

~~SECRET~~

REPORT MADE AT <b>MIAMI, FLORIDA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-30-50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8-21, 22, 31, 9-11-50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>BENNETT M. HIRSH :rem</b>
TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was. Don Lee West, Don West, Reverend Donald L. West, [Jim Webb], Jim Weaver</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject spent week prior to August 29, 1950 visiting his family at Fernandina, Fla. He returned on August 29, 1950 to Chicago, Ill. furnishing as his forwarding address 127 N. Dearborn Street. Is evidently connected with Home Missions Council of North America, Inc. located at that address. Subject's family now residing at 227 S. 8th Street, Fernandina, and wife continues to teach at the Fernandina High

Class. & Ext. By **SP-1 GSK/RSK**

Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2

Date of Review **3/19/92**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

AT FERNANDINA, FLORIDA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE **3/5/82** BY **SP-1 GSK/RSK**

## ADDRESS & ACTIVITIES OF SUBJECT'S FAMILY

Miami T 1, of known reliability, advised that during the first week of September 1950, Mrs. ~~Donald Lee~~ WEST moved from North Beach in Fernandina to 227 S. 8th Street in the city.

b6  
b7C

Informant also stated that the subject had been in Fernandina apparently during the week prior to August 29, 1950 inasmuch as on this latter date he advised that he was leaving Fernandina and could be reached at 127 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois.

According to informant, the subject is now attending school in Cuba, the name and address of which was [redacted] Cuba.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>		<b>100-120396-93</b>	<b>RECORDED - 74</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT COPIES DESTROYED <b>4/20/67 #16</b>		<b>OCT 2 1950</b>	<b>INDEXED</b>
<b>(5) - Bureau (100-20396)</b> <b>3 - Atlanta (100-559)</b> <b>2 - Miami</b>		APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF <b>100-3381</b>	
<b>52 OCT 19 1950</b>		DATE <b>10/10/50</b>	

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~~SECRET~~

Informant also stated that the subject apparently was now associated with the Home Missions Council of North America, Inc., Mid West Office, 127 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois.

While in Fernandina, the subject corresponded with the following Company, "Surgal", Philadelphia Developing Company, B-3300 Beach, Chicago, Illinois.

ACTIVITIES OF SUBJECT

Miami T 2, of known reliability, advised that the subject's wife was again teaching this term in the Fernandina High School and that he had observed nothing out of the ordinary whatsoever in connection with her activities. He stated that just prior to the end of the school term in June 1950, Mrs. WEST obtained permission to leave a few days early, stating that she was going to Michigan to join her husband who was working there among the Migratory Fruit Pickers. Informant stated that apparently she took her daughters and spent the entire summer with her husband inasmuch as to his knowledge she did not return to the school until just prior to its reopening.

[redacted] North Beach, Fernandina, a near neighbor of subject's wife was interviewed under pretext at which time she stated that Mrs. WEST had been her neighbor for over a year; that her husband who had a farm in Georgia came to visit the family at intervals; that he had just spent a week in Fernandina with the family having left at the end of August, 1950; that during his visits the family never seemed to have many visitors and as far as she knew were very quiet persons who tended to their own business. b6 b7C

Mr. [redacted] Oldtown, Fernandina, advised that he was the [redacted] Decker Apartments at North Beach where Mrs. WEST had resided until recently for about a year and a half. [redacted] stated that the family appeared to be very nice people, that the two daughters had been very popular and had many girl friends. He stated that Mr. WEST, who operated a farm in Georgia came to visit his family on weekends, but that he did not come very often. b6 b7C [redacted] stated that during the past several months, he had resided in [redacted] apartments on the Beach and had met the subject on several occasions. He stated that Mr. WEST had last visited the family during the last week in August 1950 after which he had left town. He described Mr. WEST as a rather strange and possibly eccentric individual, in that he was not very friendly, had very little to say, read a lot, and kept pretty much to himself. [redacted] stated that during the visits of the husband he had observed no particular friends of the WEST's come to the apartment. He added, however, that from what little conversation he had had with Mr. WEST he had no reason to believe that he was unAmerican in any respect.

Atlanta teletype August 21, 1950 requested that efforts be made to determine if HOMER BATES CHASE, C.P.D.O. for Georgia was with subject in Florida, inasmuch as he failed to appear at the Carroll County, Georgia Superior Court to answer contempt charges against him.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Miami Informant T-1 advised that he had developed no information to indicate the presence of CHASE in Fernandina.

Acting Chief of Police JONES also advised that he had not observed anyone answering the description of CHASE in Fernandina during the last week of August, 1950. He did not observe CHASE's automobile in Fernandina during that time.

AT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

[redacted] Floridan Hotel, kept a check during the last ten days of August, 1950, but advised that HOMER B. CHASE had not registered at that hotel during that time.

[redacted] Floridan Hotel, advised that the automobile described as belonging to CHASE, had not been stored in that Garage during the period indicated above.

b6  
b7C

Miami Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that he knew HOMER CHASE, who had visited [redacted] in Jacksonville on a number of occasions, but that he had not observed him at the apartment of [redacted] for some several months. [redacted] is a known Communist in Jacksonville, according to information in the Miami Office.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

~~SECRET~~

MM 100-3381

~~SECRET~~

- INFORMANT PAGE -

b7D

T-1, [redacted] at Fernandina, Florida.

T-2,

[redacted]

Fernandina, Florida.

b2

b7D

T-3, is [redacted] and  
is in a position to be aware of the identity of many of

[redacted]

REFERENCE: Atlanta letter dated 8/18/50.  
Atlanta teletype dated 8/21/50.

~~SECRET~~

SAC, Atlanta

November 21, 1950

Director, FBI

DONALD LEE WEST, was  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Your file #100-559

Reurlet October 5, 1950.

Although, as you state in referenced letter, subject is not living at his residence in Douglasville, Georgia at the present time, the Bureau does not have any information as to where he is residing. When it is determined that subject has disposed of his belongings in Douglasville and has moved his residence to another area, the Security Index card on subject can be transferred at that time.

cc - Chicago (100-7192)

cc - Miami (100-3381)

Bureau file 100-20396 - 94

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/10/82 BY SP-1/CAF/BAK

JLQ:vab:im  
*im*

RECORDED - 64

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

NOV 21 1950

52 NOV 28 1950

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST was;  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bufile 100-20396)

DATE: 10/5/50

b6  
b7C

Reference is made to Chicago letter to Director dated August 22, 1950, Miami letter dated September 5, 1950, and report of SA [redacted] dated September 30, 1950 at Miami.

Captioned subject is a security index subject in the Atlanta Division. A review of captioned subject's file reflects his employment with Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois as a traveling representative has been verified by the Chicago division.

It is also noted subject's wife and family reside at 227 South Eighth Street, Fernandina, Florida, and that subject's wife is teaching in the Fernandina, Florida High School.

It is further noted subject has visited his wife and family on occasions at Fernandina, and no information has been received by the Atlanta division indicating subject has returned to his former residence in Douglasville, Georgia since leaving same in 1950.

Information has also been received by the Atlanta division that subject is attempting to sell his farm in Douglasville, Georgia.

In view of the above it would appear this matter does not fall specifically into the category wherein form FD 128 could be properly executed because of subject's apparent constant traveling status in connection with his employment.

It is, therefore, requested the Bureau give consideration to designating either the Miami or the Chicago office as office of origin in this matter.

WPH:CJV  
100-559  
CC: Chicago (100-7192)  
Miami (100-3381)

EX-100

RECEIVED  
OCT 11 1950  
3/15/82  
50-1635/102

DIRECTOR, FBI

11/2/50

SAC, ATLANTA

b6  
b7C

SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bufile 65-33599)

Re: Knoxville letter to Director 10/19/50.

Above referenced letter sets forth that subject had sent a communication on September 2, 1950 to Reverend DON WEST, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia. Reverend DON WEST is identical with DONALD LEE WEST, was., presently the subject of of a Security Matter - C case in the Atlanta division. The Bureau under Bufile 100-20396 is fully cognizant of WEST'S background and activities.

In response to the request set out in above referenced Knoxville letter to the Director, the Knoxville division has reference to Atlanta letter to Knoxville, instant caption dated November 22, 1948. This letter reflects a summary of the pertinent information in regard to WEST.

For the additional information of the Knoxville office, WEST no longer resides at Douglasville, Georgia. By letter dated August 22, 1950 the Chicago office advised that WEST is employed by the Home Missions Council of North America, a religious charity organization with head quarters in New York City and having a district office in Chicago, Illinois at 127 North Dearborn Street. Instant letter from Chicago reflected that WEST is employed as a traveling representative for the Home Missions Council of North America, and from September on will be traveling a great deal mainly along the Texas and Mexico border and particularly around Brownsville, Texas.

It is also pointed out that the Miami division has verified the employment as a school teacher and the residence in Fernandina, Florida for WEST'S wife.

PFT:GJV  
100-41142

CC: Knoxville (65-206)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/12/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100-20396-  
RECORDED  
87 NOV 4 1950

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO.

100-359

REPORT MADE AT <b>ATLANTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11-3-50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-10,22;8-7,28; 10-18,26-50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JOSEPH C. HOLMES</b> sg
TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

WEST has apparently been employed by the Chicago Office of the Home Missions Council of North America, Migrant Division, to work in connection with migratory laborers; is presently believed to be traveling in Texas for this reportedly religious charity organization. His mailing address is presently General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas. WEST has rented his farm near Douglasville, Georgia to tenant farmer. Former associate of subject reports WEST requested [redacted] Riverdale, Georgia to assist him in mailing out a large number of "peace tracts" advocating the cessation of the "senseless war in Korea" in 7-50. WEST in 7-50 was in contact with the Peace Information Center, New York City. In signed statement [redacted] of HOMER BATES CHASE, CPDO, District 31, stated that WEST had been known to him as a member of the CP.

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G.I.R.-2

- P -

T-1 of known reliability advised that between May 8, 1950 and October 9, 1950, DONALD WEST's first class mail was being forwarded to Room 839 - 127 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, as will appear hereinafter, this is the address of the Chicago Office of the Home Missions Council of North America.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>John C. Williams</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 1/22/59	100-359-10391-95	RECORDED 37
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) - Bureau (100-359) 2 - Chicago (100-7192) 2 - Dallas 1 - Miami (Information), (100-3381) 2 - Atlanta	NOV 12 1950 STAT. SECT.	INDEXED - 37

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51 NOV 24 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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 DATE 3/30/02 BY SP15K/PSK

100-359-10391-95  
11/9/20/50

AT. 100-559

T-1 informed that DON WEST has rented his farm in Douglas County, Georgia to a tenant farmer, [redacted] and has only returned to Douglasville, Georgia for two visits since May, 1950. He said that DON WEST spent only a few hours there on each of the two visits.

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T-1 informed that all of WEST's mail other than first class mail was being delivered at [redacted] of [redacted]

T-1 also informed that around July 6, 1950, DON WEST was in touch with the "Peace Information Center, Post Office Box 349, Grand Central Station, New York 17, New York".

T-1 advised that on October 9, 1950, DON WEST changed his forwarding address to General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas.

[redacted]  
Georgia, [redacted] called at the Atlanta Office on July 22, 1950, and furnished the following information: He said that he first became acquainted with DONALD LEE WEST when WEST was a minister in Meansville, Georgia, around 1938 or 1939. He said he became quite friendly with WEST and maintained this friendship for approximately one year, at which time he, [redacted]

[redacted]  
home, which at that time was [redacted] He informed that DON WEST brought HOMER BATES CHASE, Communist Party Organizer for District #31 [redacted] occasions and that HOMER BATES CHASE [redacted] home, [redacted] around 1946.

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AT. 100-559

[ ] informed that in the fall of 1948, at which time he was living at [ ], he was again [ ] DONALD WEST who at that time was active in the Progressive Party political campaign. During this period [ ] advised that he severed relations with HOMER BATES CHASE but that he maintained friendship with DON WEST inasmuch as WEST told him that he had resigned from the Communist Party and was no longer interested or active in the Party's work.

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[ ] advised that on July 18, or 19, 1950, he stopped at the Roadside Store just north of Jonesboro, Georgia on U. S. Highway 41, which is [ ]. He said that [ ] which [ ] from DON WEST postmarked Northport, Michigan around the 10th to 15th of July, 1950. He said this [ ] inquired [ ] would [ ] for WEST from a list which WEST would supply her and in which would be placed "Peace Tracts", advocating the "cessation of the senseless war in Korea." [ ] stated that [ ] that "we" would mail the letters from WEST's place at Blairsville, Georgia.

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On August 28, 1950, [ ] furnished a letter postmarked August 17, 1950, at Amelia City, Florida, addressed to him and bearing the return address "WEST, North Beach, Fernandina, Florida. The envelope bore the printed return address, marked through, "Home Missions Council of North America, Incorporated, Mid-West Office, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois." The letter contained therein, which appeared to be from DON WEST, was personal in nature and indicated DON WEST had recently visited [ ] Atlanta.

[ ] informed that during the early part of August, 1950, DON WEST visited him at which time WEST told him that he was employed in a traveling capacity by the Home Missions Council and that the purpose of this organization was to provide education for the children of migratory farm workers throughout the United States. [ ] advised that WEST was making approximately \$5,000 a year and had an \$150 a month expense account.

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AT. 100-559

[redacted] stated that DONALD LEE WEST told him that he, WEST, plans to maintain his legal residence with his wife in Fernandina, Florida, that he had rented his farm in Douglasville, Georgia, to a tenant farmer and expected to spend most of his time traveling in Texas. He said WEST told him that his wife would continue to teach school in Fernandina, Florida.

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T-1 informed that during the period August 8, 1950 through October 17, 1950, DONALD LEE WEST was in touch with the following organizations and publications:

Rumanian News, Washington, D. C.  
The Yugoslav Information Center, 36 Central Park South,  
New York City.  
The Legation of Rumania, Washington, D. C.

-----  
Special Agent JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, Jr., interviewed

[redacted]  
[redacted] Georgia on August 28, 1950, relative to his association with the information concerning DONALD LEE WEST. [redacted] who is the [redacted] mentioned above, furnished the following signed statement:

"Aug. 28, 1950  
Atlanta, Georgia

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I, [redacted]  
Apt 3 [redacted] Atlanta, Georgia, give the following voluntary signed statement to Special Agent JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, Jr., who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. I have been informed that I may have an attorney and that this statement may be used in a court of law. No threats, promises or inducement were made to me.

AT. 100-559

(Signed statement of [redacted] continued.)

During 1947, 1948 and 1949 I was acquainted with HOMER BATES CHASE, District Organizer for the Communist Party for the State of Georgia, and through him became acquainted with many individuals. I have known DONALD LEE WEST since 1941 and DON WEST has been known to me as a member of the Communist Party.

HOMER BATES CHASE told me that DONALD LEE WEST was a member of the Communist Party. [redacted] told me that DON WEST was a member of the Communist Party but had quit.

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/s/ [redacted]

WITNESSES:

/s/ W. WINTON WARREN, Sp Agt. FBI., Atlanta, Ga., 8-28-50.  
/s/ JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, Jr., Sp Agt. FBI, Atlanta, Ga.,  
8-28-50."

WEST is described as follows:

Name	DONALD LEE WEST
Age	41 Years
Born	June 6, 1908 at Cartecay, Georgia
Race	White
Sex	Male

AT. 100-559.

Height	6' 2"
Weight	185 Pounds
Eyes	Blue, one eye does not focus
Hair	Dark Brown, thin in front
Occupations	Farmer, writer, minister and teacher.
Scars and Marks	Thumb and first two fingers missing, left hand.
FBI Number	814505

- P E N D I N G -

AT: 100-559

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

For the information of the Dallas Office, DONALD LEE WEST has been the subject of an Atlanta Security Matter Case for a number of years. Until February 20, 1950, he was carried in the Atlanta Office as a Key Figure in the Communist Organization... However, since the fall of 1948 WEST has had no known active association with the Communist Party. He reportedly disagreed with HOMER BATES CHASE, Communist Party District Organizer for District #31, Georgia, and as far as this Office knows WEST has not been active in Communist matters since that time. However, he is presently carried as a Security Index Subject in this Office.

AT. 100-559

L E A D S

THE CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois,

If deemed advisable will ascertain present activities, whereabouts and itinerary of subject at Home Missions Council of North America, 127 Dearborn Street.

THE DALLAS DIVISION

At Lubbock, Texas,

Will check available sources in an effort to determine whether WEST is presently residing in Lubbock and endeavor to find out what he is doing.

Will ascertain whether there are any migrant labor camps in the Lubbock area and if so interview the individuals in charge for information concerning DON WEST's activities.

THE MIAMI DIVISION

Miami is being furnished a copy of this report inasmuch as it appears likely that DON WEST may establish his legal residence there. His wife and two daughters reside at Fernandina, Florida.

THE ATLANTA DIVISION

At Atlanta, Georgia,

Will continue efforts to keep track of DON WEST through available informants..



AT. 100-559

b7D

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT PAGE

T-1 is   
Douglasville, Georgia.

REFERENCES:

Report of Special Agent BENNETT M. HIRSH,  
Miami, dated September 30, 1950.

Atlanta letter to Director dated September 5, 1950.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO. 100-7192

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 11/24/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/20/50	REPORT MADE BY JAMES THOMAS mf
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject presently in Texas and can be reached at General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas.

- RUC -

Details

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised on November 20, 1950 that he had learned from an employee of the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn, whose name he did not know, that WEST is presently employed by the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn, Chicago, and that he is presently in the state of Texas and can be reached at General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas.

The source stated that WEST was in a constant travel status for the organization and that his itinerary is unknown to the informant.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 1/25/59 #16	96	RECORDED - 94
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-20396) 3 - Atlanta (100-559) 1 - Dallas (Information) 2 - Chicago	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>COPY IN FILE</b></p> <p>NOV 20 1950 RECEIVED NOV 20 1950 RECEIVED</p> </div>	

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Chicago File # 100-7192

LEAD PAGE

One copy of this report is being designated for Dallas inasmuch as Subject is employed in their area.

Chicago file # 100-7192

TRANSMIT PAGE

T-1      A pretext telephone call to an unidentified employee of the Home Missions Council of North America, Central C-1165 by SA OLIVER R. H. B.

REFERENCE:      Report of SA JAMES C. HOLMES dated 11/3/50 at Atlanta.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO. 100-8551 nlp

REPORT MADE AT DALLAS, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE 12-29-50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12-9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19-50	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

WEST has appeared briefly at Lubbock, Texas but has furnished San Antonio address each time. Only known Lubbock contacts are among ministers.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

- RUC

## DETAILS:

## AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Dallas T-1, of known reliability, advised that his records reflect that on November 7, 1950, DONALD LEE WEST furnished his address as 110 W. Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. He reported that on an earlier date WEST had given an address in Missouri which is not now recalled. T-1 reported that on about December 12, 1950 WEST advised that he would reappear at Lubbock and he did appear shortly thereafter, but on December 18 he gave his address again as 110 W. Cypress Street, San Antonio.

Dallas T-2, of known reliability, reported that he is aware that WEST, representing the Home Missions Council of North America was in Lubbock briefly and that he contacted various protestant ministers. He stated that WEST appeared in the company of [redacted] a Methodist [redacted] at Texas Technological College and that he addressed a meeting of protestant ministers on the subject of a unified National Council of Churches in Lubbock on October 27, 1950, however the informant did not hear his talk. He stated that in his brief contact with WEST nothing was said which made it appear that WEST intended residing in Lubbock.

The following persons advised that they do not know the subject and have not been contacted by him: [redacted] Texas State Employment

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 4/20/59		100-210396-97	RECORDED - 56
5 Bureau (100-20396) REPORT 2 San Antonio (Encl) 3 Atlanta (100-559) 2 Dallas		JAN 5 1951 STAT. SECT.	EX-4
55 JAN 18 1951 FILE			

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DL-100-8551

LEAD SHEET

THE SAN ANTONIO OFFICE

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Will verify subject's residence at 110 W.  
Cypress Street, and will endeavor to ascertain  
the nature of his activities in San Antonio.

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DL-100-8551

Service: [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted]

ENCLOSURE: TO SAN ANTONIO: 1 copy of the report of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES,  
Atlanta, 11-3-50.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

DL-100-8551

INFORMANT PAGE

Dallas T-1 is [REDACTED]  
Clerk, whose identity is protected since information furnished was from [REDACTED] b7D  
[REDACTED]

Dallas T-2 is the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] no requested that  
his identity be maintained confidential.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, Atlanta, 11-3-50.  
Report of SA DANIEL THOMAS, Chicago, 11-20-50.



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: Jan. 24, 1951

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

Card U.T.D.  
2-3-51 *new*

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was;  
SECURITY MATTER-C  
(BuFile 100-20396)

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ALIASES \_\_\_\_\_

RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Constant travel status, midwest and southwest.

United States.

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Missions Council of North America,

127 North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois.

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/17/82 BY SP/CSK/BK

95056

RECORDED - 63

JAN 26 1951

EX-15

PFT:CM  
100-559

62 FEB 5 1951

A. E. Leonard

SAC, Atlanta

March 21, 1951

Director, FBI

HAROLD LEE REIT, was.

SECURITY MATTER - C

Your file 100-559

Bureau file 100-20396 - 99

RECORDED - 24

27  
Rerep to Joseph C. Holmes, Atlanta, February 14,

1951.

The synopsis of rerep mentions Mrs. [redacted] however, she is not mentioned in the details of the report and the only reference to her appears in the administrative pages. Her name should not be included in the synopsis.

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On page three of rerep it is noted that [redacted] possessed literature written by the subject; however, she is not identified and the body of the report does not reflect the significance of her possession of this literature. It is noted that in the synopsis she is mentioned as having "apparently" attended the Second World Peace Congress at Warsaw, Poland, but no source is given for that allegation.

This report should be rewritten to eliminate such inconsistencies and in a style suitable for dissemination. Four copies of rerep are returned herewith.

Extensive investigation has been conducted in this case and the subject is in the Security Index. No summary has been prepared since October 27, 1948. Due to the voluminousness of the file, you are instructed to submit a summary report of this subject's activities since October, 1948.

Enclosure

cc: Dallas (100-2551)

San Antonio

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/20/82 BY SP-6/SP/ST

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

JPM:jjd

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

AT., 100-559

Company, both Atlanta, and formerly resided at 114 Harris Street, Atlanta, Georgia. OJALA stated that he has never been a member of the Communist Party.

The Atlanta files contain no information concerning JOHN OJALA.

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

On January 9, 1951, [redacted] Apartment 3, [redacted], advised SA EDWARD R. KEBLUSEK that he received a Christmas card from DON WEST in December of 1950 postmarked [redacted], Cuba. [redacted] stated it was his understanding that WEST's daughter is [redacted] in [redacted] and WEST might be residing there.

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Subject [redacted] is presently attending school in Cuba, the name and address of which is [redacted] Cuba.

On January 2, 1951, [redacted] [redacted], Apartment 4, [redacted] informed SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR. that while she was at Fernandina, Florida during the summer of 1950, she [redacted] DON WEST and his wife, and, knowing WEST was actively connected with the Communists, [redacted] which contained the following articles:

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A portion of a letter referring to World Peace Movement.

A pamphlet captioned Midwest Migrant Staff Letter put out by the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois.

The Migrant Staff Letter which she furnished was published August 3, 1950 at Chicago by the Home Missions Council of North America and contained a small item to the effect that DON WEST was a "full-time staff and resource leader" for the organization.

Mrs. [redacted] advised that during October of 1950, DON WEST, [redacted] had [redacted] to [redacted] Fernandina, Florida, and becoming irked by this matter, she read one of the letters. She stated that this letter was from a [redacted] of [redacted] Atlanta, Georgia. [redacted] wrote that he would not [redacted] DON WEST's [redacted] but believed his son-in-law [redacted]. Mrs. [redacted] stated that she had copied down a portion of the letter that she thought was pertinent, as follows: "I have been wanting to go back to Russia but they all say I would have no chance to get in and they all think I am crazy for wanting to trade this wonderful America for hateful Russia."

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AT., 100-559

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that [redacted] arrived from abroad at New York City on December 14, 1950 as a passenger on the French Line SS Liberte. This source stated that included in her baggage were the following items:

Poem written by DON WEST, Douglasville, Georgia, captioned "The Alien."  
Poem entitled "Little Scared One" by DON WEST.  
Poem entitled "Another Awful Story" by DON WEST.  
Poem entitled "In Civics Class" by HEDDY WEST, who is DON WEST's daughter.  
Letter dated November 12, 1950 signed by DON WEST.

The above listed poems paint a sad and pitiful picture of the life of small farmers and migrant workers. The poem entitled "Little Scared One" contained the following introductory note: "To a church leader who signed a peace petition, then, under pressure, back down and cried 'I was taken in by the Reds', as if the 'Reds' are the only ones who worked for peace".

Dr. [redacted] furnished SA [redacted] with two clippings from the Southern Farmer. The first, which [redacted] was entitled "The Genuine Article" by DON WEST. This article related DON WEST's alleged visit to one [redacted] of [redacted] Kentucky. The article related that [redacted] was riding DON WEST around in the vicinity of [redacted] Kentucky and pointed out a 1500 acre estate which he said was owned by a Louisville, Kentucky business man who owned it as a "hobby". DON WEST quoted farmer [redacted] as saying of the houses on this estate, "But among these mansions and fine barns are families living in shacks unfit for animals. Babies have been found with their faces half eaten off by rats. If I had this land, I'd want to see it split up into little farms so people who need to could make a living on it." WEST also quoted [redacted] in speaking of Negroes, "Negroes--brought to this country in chains. Sold like cattle, still treated like animals in some places though we do take them to fight in our wars."

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The other article entitled, "They're Being Pushed Off the Land" by DON WEST appeared in the January, 1951 issue of the Southern Farmer. It was written in the same vein as the above described article and depicted deplorable conditions among migratory workers in Texas and among small farmers in general.

~~Communications Industry~~  
Donald Lee West, Employed by "Southern  
Farmer" (Empl - PENDING -  
card)

AT., 100-559

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, advised that DON WEST's first class mail is presently being forwarded to him at General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas.

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, advised that DON WEST's second class mail is being received by [redacted] [redacted] Douglasville, a friend and associate of DON WEST, and that [redacted] has in recent past forwarded WEST's mail to several different Texas cities including Lubbock and San Antonio. He informed that he will obtain complete addresses in the near future.

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For the information of the Knoxville Office, [redacted] [redacted] Apartment 3, [redacted] had previously furnished information that around July 18, 1950, he stopped at the roadside store just North of Jonesboro, Georgia, which is [redacted]. He said that [redacted] which she had received from DON WEST [redacted] North Port, Michigan, around the 10th to the 15th of July, 1950. He said [redacted] inquired whether [redacted] would [redacted] for WEST from a list which WEST would supply her and in which would be placed "peace tracts" advocating the "cessation of this senseless war in Korea". [redacted] stated that the [redacted] that "we" would mail the letters from WEST's place at Blairsville, Georgia.

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It has been ascertained that [redacted] address on October 31, 1950 was [redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee, and that [redacted] family had apparently moved with him to Chattanooga.

AT., 100-559

LEADS

The Dallas Division

At Lubbock, Texas

Will determine where DON WEST's mail is presently being forwarded and make arrangements to be advised when he furnishes any change of address.

The San Antonio Division

\*AT San Antonio, Texas:

Will verify subject's residence at 110 West Cypress Street and will endeavor to ascertain the nature of his activities in San Antonio and to identify his contact there.

The Knoxville Division

At Chattanooga, Tennessee

Will interview [redacted] relative to her reported [redacted] from DON WEST in July, 1950.

Will endeavor to obtain a signed statement from her concerning DON WEST's letter and any information she may have relative to Communist activities on the subject's part.

The Atlanta Division

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At Douglasville, Georgia

Will continue to maintain contact with Mr. [redacted] and [redacted]

At Atlanta, Georgia

Will continue efforts to follow DON WEST's activities through informants.

AT., 100-559

INFORMANT PAGE

Confidential Informant T-1

SA JOSEPH A. CULLEN, New York City,  
who was present during a search of  
[redacted] baggage by  
U. S. Customs Officials at NYC on  
December 14, 1950.

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REFERENCE: Report of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES. Atlanta, dated 11-3-50.  
Report of SA [redacted] Dallas, dated 12-29-50.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

**SECRET**

SA FILE NO. 100-7986 JMW

REPORT MADE AT SAN ANTONIO	DATE WHEN MADE 2/19/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/20/50- 1/12, 22, 23; 2/7, 10/51	REPORT MADE BY MILES L. JOHNSON
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject is residing temporarily at 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas, the [redacted] Communist Party sympathizer. Subject read poetry at meeting 1/21/51 at which [redacted] in San Antonio, attended. Subject stated he travels among "Wet Back" Mexican and Negroes and would possibly make trip to Harlingen, Texas and to Michigan in the near future.

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b7C

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK  
Reason-FBIM II, 1-2.4.2 2  
Date of Review 3/30/92

- P -

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

**DETAILS:**

AT SAN ANTONIO

On October 20, 1950, T-3, of known reliability, advised SAC C. E. WEEKS that DON WEST, who was known to him as "The Poet of the Revolution" had been in town for a week or ten days and had been [redacted] with [redacted] at [redacted] T-3 advised that subject was planning to leave October 21, 1950 for Lubbock, Texas.

T-3 described the subject as a reformed Congregational Preacher who, he reported, was now out contacting transients and was driving a cream colored Chevrolet bearing Illinois license 775-994.

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T-3 advised that [redacted] is and has been a Communist Party sympathizer in the San Antonio area for a number of years and may possibly be a Communist Party member.

On January 22, 1951 T-1, of known reliability, reported that a meeting was held on the evening of January 21, 1951 at the home of Mrs. [redacted]. She stated that DON WEST came to this meeting with [redacted]

B

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: C. E. Weeks SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-7986-100 FEB 24 1951 RECORDED - 143 INDEXED 143 5/11/
COPY IN FILE COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (100-20396) 3 Atlanta (100-559) 3 San Antonio 60 MAR 15 1951 COPIES DESTROYED	SECRET

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SA 100-7986

~~SECRET~~

Mr. and Mrs. [ ] Mrs. [ ] advised those present that the purpose of the meeting was to hear DON WEST read his poetry. DON WEST spoke briefly concerning his career as a minister in Georgia and his many experiences among "Wet Back" Mexicans and "negroes" who, he stated, were in the minority and are ill treated by the majority groups. He related that he traveled quite a bit among the "Wet Back" Mexicans and Negroes and would possibly make a trip to Harlingen, Texas and to the beet fields of Michigan in the very near future.

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T-1 advised that the subject's poems were written in blank verse and she described them as "poems of despair based on the misery of the 'Wet Backs' and 'negroes'". She stated that during the time WEST was speaking and reading his poems he did not change his expression and appeared to be a very sober, serious minded person.

T-1 advised that [ ] came to the meeting late, apparently so he need not be introduced, and brought with him a book which appeared to be a Russian information bulletin which had a large number of pictures of Russian agriculture. [ ] stated to T-1 he came to the meeting because he liked to hear the subject speak and read poems.

[ ] is, according to T-4, of known reliability, one of the leading members of the Communist Party group in San Antonio.

On the evening of January 23, 1951 Special Agent H. HILTON MC KEE and the writer observed an individual who, by description, was apparently identical with subject, present at the home of [ ]

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b7C

On February 7, 1951 T-2, of known reliability, advised that Mrs. [ ] had mailed a number of leaflets and pamphlets to a number of ministers in San Antonio, each group of literature including a leaflet which contained a verse written by DON WEST. Included among the literature mailed were leaflets in praise of Russia and those published by the Peace Information Center of New York City.

On February 10, 1951 T-3 advised that he had ascertained that a book of the subject's poems had been published which was entitled "Clods of Southern Earth" by DON WEST. This book was copyrighted in 1946 by Boni and Gaer, Inc., 15 East 40th Street, New York 16, New York, and was illustrated by HAROLD PRICE. The foreword of the book entitled "Appreciation" stated in part, "especially should I express appreciation to....." and set out the names of a number of persons, included among which was "To Mary LOUKOGER who symbolizes the strength of character and mind of a dawning South". This book contained a photograph of DON WEST on the back cover.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SA 100-7986

~~(S)~~  
[T-3 advised that he would inform the San Antonio office in the event the subject had left this area.]

The records of the Identification Division of the San Antonio Police Department and the San Antonio Retail Merchants Credit Association were checked and no record was found regarding subject.

P E N D I N G

~~SECRET~~

SA 100-7986

~~SECRET~~

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

It is noted that Chicago letter to the Bureau dated August 22, 1950 reflected that information obtained by pretext telephone call on August 8, 1950 to the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, revealed that the subject would return from Florida in September, 1950 to Chicago for one month and would then travel to Texas where he would spend the winter. Further, that he was working as a traveling representative of H. M. C. N. A. and would travel a great deal, mainly along the Texas-Mexican border and particularly around Brownsville, Texas.

~~SECRET~~

SA 100-7986

L.E.A.D.S

~~SECRET~~

THE SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

At San Antonio, Texas

Will contact [T-3] for information regarding the subject's activities and possible departure from San Antonio.

~~SECRET~~

SA 100-7986

~~SECRET~~  
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The identities of the confidential informants mentioned in this report of SA MILES L. JOHNSON dated 2/19/51 at San Antonio, are:

T-1:

[REDACTED]

Apt. 10

San Antonio

(Who furnished information to SA H. HILTON L.C. KEE and requested that her identity remain confidential.)

~~(S)~~ T-2:

[REDACTED]

b7D

San Antonio, Texas

(Who requested that his identity remain confidential.)

T-3:

[REDACTED]

San Antonio, Texas

(Who requested his identity remain confidential.)

T-4:

[REDACTED]

who furnished information to SA [REDACTED]

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b7D

REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED], Dallas, 12/29/50.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

# - FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Atlanta**

FILE NO. **100-8551**

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REPORT MADE AT <b>DALLAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2-27-51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2-21-51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div> <b>mlw</b>
TITLE  <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ADMINISTRATIVE

*yes*  
WEST left forwarding address as 110 West Cypress, San Antonio, Texas, on 12-28-50.

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Dallas T-1, of known reliability, advised that his records now reflect that on December 28, 1950, subject left his forwarding address as 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. It was noted that it has been previously reported that he left the same order on December 18, 1950, and the informant stated that it is possible that in posting from one record to the other he inadvertently recopied the order as December 28, 1950, instead of December 18, 1950.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>J. D. Brown</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>	<b>100-20396-101</b>	<b>RECORDED - 9</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  ② Bureau (100-203969) 1 - San Antonio (info) 2 - Dallas <b>MAR 15 1951</b>	<b>MAR 2 1951</b>	
COPIES DESTROYED <b>4/22/59</b>		

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DL 100-8551

LEADS

A copy of this report is designated for the San Antonio Office since that office is conducting investigation at San Antonio to verify subject's address in that city.

DL 100-8551

b7D

INFORMANT PAGE

Dallas T-1 is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] whose identity is kept confidential since the information furnished is from [REDACTED]

REFERENCE:

Report SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, Atlanta, 2-14-51



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: March 10, 1951

~~SECRET~~

Rerep of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES dated 2/14/51, Atlanta.

Referenced report indicates that on January 9, 1951,

[redacted] Georgia, advised that he had received a Christmas card from DON WEST in December of 1950, postmarked [redacted] Cuba. It is to be noted that [redacted] was formerly active in the Progressive Party in Atlanta, and has recently been cooperating with the Atlanta division. [redacted] went on to state that it was his understanding that WEST was visiting [redacted] who is presently attending school in Cuba, the name and address of which is [redacted] Cuba. At the time [redacted] made available the original information stated that probably WEST was residing with his daughter in Cuba. However, recently [redacted] states that he has heard that WEST is now back in Texas where he is traveling among the Mexican and negro migratory workers.

San Antonio has advised in the report of SA MILES L. JOHNSON, dated February 19, 1951, at San Antonio, that WEST is residing temporarily at 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas.

The above information is being called to the attention of the Bureau as it is thought that possibly the Bureau may through its legal attache in Havana determine any activities which DON WEST engaged in while he visited his daughter and, further, any activities which may have been noted on the part of [redacted]. It is felt that at least the Bureau would probably wish to call to the attache's attention, the fact that WEST's daughter is now attending school in Cuba. (S) ~~SECRET~~

ERK:CJV  
100-559

RECORDED - 14

INDEXED - 14

MAR 12 1951

~~SECRET~~

60 MAR 19 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 CSH/PSR  
Reason for Ext. 1-2.4.2.1.3  
Date of Review 3/13/92

G. I. R. - 7

SAC, Atlanta

March 21, 1951

Director, FBI

DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Your file 100-559  
Bureau file 100-20396

West is a Security Index subject and appears to be in constant travel status as an employee of the Home Mission Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, traveling extensively along the Mexican Border. It is important that his whereabouts be known inasmuch as he is in the Security Index, and efforts should be made to complete arrangements whereby his movements will be reported to the Bureau.

Chicago should advise as to the feasibility of establishing coverage of the subject's itinerary through his employer in Chicago. Atlanta should carefully review its file to determine if other coverage might be developed in order that this investigation may be brought to a logical conclusion in the near future.

cc: Chicago (100-7192)

JPM:jjd

RECORDED - 110 100-20396-103  
MAR 23 1951

60

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI  
RECEIVED CIVIL ROOM

MAR 21 2 50 PM '51

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BK

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

143  
MAR 27 1951

Date: March 21, 1951

To: Legal Attache  
Havana, Cuba

From: Director, FBI

Subject: ~~ARMED AND DANGEROUS~~, was.  
~~RECENTLY VISITED~~ ~~CHICAGO~~  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bureau File 100-20396

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK~~

Test is the subject of a Security Index card, Atlanta origin.  
He is presently employed by the Home Mission Council of North America,  
Chicago, Illinois, and is traveling extensively along the Mexican border.  
Test has [redacted] who is reported by the Atlanta  
office to be attending school at the [redacted] Cuba. The subject apparently visited Cuba in December,  
1950, as he sent a Christmas card to an acquaintance which was post-  
marked at Montecito, Cuba.

The subject does considerable writing concerning the conditions  
of southern tenant farmers and his chief activity at present seems to be  
propagandizing in this regard.

The foregoing is furnished for your information and in the event  
you receive any data regarding the activities of his daughter or  
concerning subject's visits to Cuba you should furnish same to the [redacted]

cc: Atlanta (100-559) **RECORDED - 113**

cc: Foreign Service Desk  
JPM:jdd

**100-20396-104**  
MAR 29 1951  
EU

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

**RECEIVED-WVIR FROM**  
**FBI**  
**APR 2 1951**

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bufile 100-20396)

DATE: April 7, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BJK

Rerep of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, dated February 14, 1951, at Atlanta; bulets to Atlanta, dated March 21, 1951; Louisville letter to Bureau, March 30, 1951, entitled "COMMUNIST PARTY, USA, DISTRICT NUMBER 6, LOUISVILLE DIVISION, INTERNAL SECURITY - C, (ORGANIZATION)

Enclosed herewith are corrected copies of referenced report.

The Louisville division in referenced letter advised that a source of information, a former Communist Party member in Louisville, Kentucky, had advised that subject, District Organizer in Kentucky prior to 1936, had returned and was now in charge of the Communist Party in Kentucky. No information has been developed by the Atlanta division indicating that WEST, a Security Index subject, Atlanta origin, is in charge of the Communist Party in the State of Kentucky, but an article published in the "Southern Farmer", in the November, 1950 issue entitled "The Genuine Article" by DON WEST, relates a visit to one JIM RANKIN of Lyndon, Kentucky, and attributes to RANKIN certain remarks concerning the deplorable conditions of negroes and small farmers.

The Chicago division advised that a pretext telephone call on August 8, 1950 to the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, disclosed that subject, an employee, would return from Florida in September, 1950 to Chicago for one month, and would then travel to Texas, where he would spend the winter, and further that he was working as a traveling representative of the Home Missions Council of North America, and would travel a great deal, mainly along the Texas-Mexico border, and particularly around Brownsville, Texas.

FBH:CJV  
100-559  
Encl.

CC: Chicago (100-7192)  
Dallas (100-8551) (Encl.)  
Knoxville (100-907) (Encl.)  
Louisville (100-213)  
San Antonio (100-7986) (Encl.)  
Atlanta file 100-3563

RECORDED - 29  
INDEXED - 29  
EX-92

APR 9 1951

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61 APR 20 1951

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AT 100-559

The Dallas division advised that informant stated that subject was at Lubbock, Texas during the latter part of 1950, but on December 28, 1950, gave his address as 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas.

HORACE WRIGHT, Postmaster, Douglasville, Georgia, advised subject's first class mail was presently being forwarded to General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas.

The San Antonio division advised that informant's report subject, during October, 1950, was [redacted] 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas, a Communist Party sympathizer in that area, and that he was observed on January 22, 1951, accompanied by [redacted] at a meeting held at 128 West Evergreen Street, San Antonio, at which time he related that he traveled extensively among "wetback" Mexicans and Negroes, and would possibly make a trip to Harlingen, Texas, and to the beet fields of Michigan in the very near future. The San Antonio division stated that an informant would advise that division in the event subject left that area.

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The San Antonio, Chicago, and Dallas divisions are requested to make appropriate investigation and furnish the Atlanta and Louisville divisions with any information that the subject has returned to the State of Kentucky and is presently in charge of the Communist Party in Kentucky. It is specifically requested that the Chicago division expeditiously verify subject's employment with the Home Missions Council of North America to comply with the instructions contained in SAC letter Number 26, series, 1951, dated March 13, 1951, requesting that employment of all Security Index subjects be verified and Form FD 122 submitted to the Bureau before April 12, 1951.

For the information of the Bureau and the Chicago division, a file review in the Atlanta division fails to indicate other coverage regarding the subject's itineraries and residences that might be developed in order that this investigation might be brought to a logical conclusion.



AT 100-559

WEST's daughter was attending school at Caleigo Irene Tolan, 24 de Febrero, Mantanzas, Cuba, and that subject possibly visited her during December, 1950.

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Subsequent to January 9, 1951, [ ] advised that subject had returned to Texas, where he was traveling among the migratory workers.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR.:

On January 2, 1951, [ ]

[ ] advised that she was at Fernandina, Florida, during the [ ] WEST and his wife at which time she observed the following items:

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A portion of a letter referring to World Peace Movement.

A pamphlet captioned Midwest Migrant Staff Letter published by the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, which pamphlet was published on August 3, 1950, and contained a small article to the effect that WEST was "full-time staff and resource leader" for the organization.

[ ] advised that during October of 1950, WEST, [ ] had [ ] Fernandina, Florida, and becoming angered by this action on the part of the subject, [ ] She stated [ ] a [ ] Atlanta, Georgia, and contained information to the effect that [ ] would not be able to use WEST [ ] but believed [ ]

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T-1 of known reliability, on December, 14, 1950, advised that the following poems had been written by WEST:

"The Alien"  
"Little Scared One"  
"Another Awful Story"

AT 100-559

T-1 further advised that the following poem was written by [redacted] DONALD LEE WEST's daughter: "In Civics Class".

T-1 further advised that the above listed poems paint a sad and pitiful picture of the life of small farmers and migrant workers. The poem entitled "Little Scared One" contains the following introductory note: "To a church leader who signed a peace petition, then under pressure, back down and cried 'I was taken in by the Reds!', as if the 'Reds' are the only ones who worked for peace".

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

Doctor [redacted] furnished two clippings from the "Southern Farmer". The first clipping, appearing in the November, 1950 issue, was entitled "The Genuine Article" by DON WEST. This article related DON WEST's alleged visit to one JIM RANKIN of Lyndon, Kentucky. The article related that JIM RANKIN was riding DON WEST around in the vicinity of Lyndon, Kentucky, and pointed out a 1500 acre estate which he said was owned by a Kentucky businessman who owned it as a "hobby". WEST quoted farmer JIM RANKIN as saying of the houses on this estate, "But among these mansions and fine barns are families living in shacks unfit for animals. Babies have been found with their faces half eaten off by rats. If I had this land, I'd want to see it split up into little farms so people who need to could make a living on it." WEST also quoted RANKIN as follows: "Negroes—brought to this country in chains. Sold like cattle, still treated like animals in some places though we do take them to fight in our wars."

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The other article entitled, "They're Being Pushed Off the Land" by DON WEST, appeared in the January, 1951 issue of the "Southern Farmer". This article was written in the same vein as the above described article and depicted deplorable conditions among migratory workers in Texas and among small farmers in general.



ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, advised that DON WEST's first class mail is presently being forwarded to him at General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas.

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, advised that DON WEST's second class is being received by [redacted] a friend and associate of DON WEST, and that [redacted] has in the recent past forwarded mail to several different Texas cities, including Lubbock and San Antonio. He informed that he will obtain complete addresses in the near future.

For the information of the Mobile office, [redacted]

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[redacted] had previously furnished information that around July 18, 1950, he stopped at the roadside store just north of Jonesboro, Georgia, which was [redacted] by [redacted] He stated that [redacted] which she had received from DON WEST, postmarked Northport, Michigan, around the tenth to the fifteen of July, 1950. He advised [redacted] inquired whether [redacted] would [redacted] for WEST from a list which WEST would supply her and in which would be placed "peace tracts" advocating the "cessation of this senseless war in Korea". [redacted] stated [redacted] further stated that "we" would mail the letters from WEST's place at Douglasville, Georgia.

On March 26, 1951, [redacted] advised that her anticipated residence address would be care of Mrs. [redacted] Alabama; and that her husband will be working and residing in Kingsport, Tennessee, where she might visit him on occasions. (Atlanta letter to Director, dated March 26, 1951, captioned [redacted] SECURITY MATTER - C).

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It is requested that the Knoxville division disregard the lead set forth in report of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, dated February 14, 1951, in Atlanta, pending possible receipt of advice from the Mobile division that Mrs. [redacted] is visiting her husband at Kingsport, Tennessee.

JOHN OJALA, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, advised that he was born in Finland, in March, 1878, and entered the United States at New York about March, 1908. He stated that he received his final

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (cont'd)

citizenship papers in United States District Court, Madison, Wisconsin, around 1914 or 1915, and stated that he has been active in the Socialist Party in Madison, Wisconsin, and Atlanta, Georgia. He stated that he was last employed as a tailor by George Muse Clothing Company and Park-Chambers Company, both Atlanta, and formerly resided at 1114 Harris Street, Atlanta, Georgia. OJALA emphatically stated that he has never been a member of the Communist Party.

[redacted] Apartment 4, [redacted]  
[redacted] Atlanta, Georgia, on January 2, 1951, advised that subsequent to October of 1950, she read a letter addressed to DONALD LEE WEST, which letter was from [redacted]

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b7C

[redacted] Atlanta, Georgia, which contained the statement, "I have been wanting to go back to Russia, but they all say I would have no chance to get in and they all think I am crazy for wanting to trade this wonderful America for hateful Russia."

AT 100-559

LEADS

Two copies of the corrected report are being furnished the Knoxville division for informational purposes, inasmuch as coverage of the lead previously set out for that division may be necessary upon advice from the Mobile division.

DALLAS DIVISION

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Will determine where DONALD LEE WEST's mail is presently being forwarded and make arrangements to be advised when he furnishes any change of address.

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Will maintain contact with [redacted] Associated Employers, 1037 Milan Building, for information regarding subject's activities and possible departure from that area.

MOBILE DIVISION

AT FLORALA, ALABAMA

Will interview Mrs. [redacted] relative to her reported receipt of a letter from DONALD LEE WEST in July, 1950.

Will endeavor to obtain a signed statement concerning DONALD LEE WEST's letter and any information which she may have relative to Communist activities on the part of the subject.

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ATLANTA DIVISION

AT DOUGLASVILLE, GEORGIA

Will maintain contact with [redacted] and [redacted] regarding activities of subject and his whereabouts.

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Will continue efforts to follow DONALD LEE WEST's activities through available informants.

AT 100-559

INFORMANTS

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Confidential Informant T-1: SA JOSEPH A. CULLEN, New York City, New York, who was present during a search of [REDACTED] baggage by United States Customs Officials at New York City on December 14, 1950.

REFERENCE: Report of SA MILES L. JOHNSON, dated February 19, 1951, at San Antonio  
Bulet to Atlanta, March 21, 1951.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO. 100-8551 mcj

REPORT MADE AT <b>DALLAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/24/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/17/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.,</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

b6  
b7C

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Subject received mail briefly during March, 1951 at Lubbock, Texas, and on 3/30/51 had mail forwarded to Big Spring, Texas. On 4/4/51 had mail forwarded to 110 W. Cypress, San Antonio, Texas. Stop placed.

- R U G -

**DETAILS:**

At Lubbock, Texas:

Dallas T-1, of known reliability, advised that his records reflect that Subject had his mail forwarded to Big Spring, Texas, on March 30, 1951, after receiving mail for a brief interval at Lubbock. On April 4, 1951, he requested that his mail be forwarded to 110 W. Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. T-1, advised that he will probably be informed when Subject returns to Lubbock, if he does return. Upon receipt of such information he will notify the writer.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>H. H. Hawkins</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED <i>4/22/69 #16</i>		106	RECORDED - 95
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		APR 27 1951	
2 - Bureau (100-20396) 1 - Louisville (100-213) INFO. 1 - San Antonio (100-7986) INFO. 3 - Atlanta (100-8551) 2 - Dallas		<b>COPY IN FILE</b> 	

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100-8551

DL

L E A D S

Copies of this report are designated for the Louisville Office and the San Antonio office since information has been secured that Subject may be a leader in the Communist Party in Kentucky and the San Antonio office is conducting investigation in an effort to establish his present address and employment.

THE ATLANTA DIVISION

At Atlanta:

Will advise the Dallas office when the stop placed with T-1 may be removed.

100-8551  
DL

INFORMANT PAGE

b7D

Dallas T-1 is [REDACTED] Lubbock, Texas, whose identity is being protected due to the fact that the information furnished is contained in [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED] Atlanta, 4/7/51.  
Atlanta Letter to Bureau dated 4/7/51.

Form No. 3

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **ATLANTA**

FILE NO. 100-559 cjv/bjo

REPORT MADE AT: <b>ATLANTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>5-4-51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>4-26-51</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
TITLE: <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was., Don Lee West, Don West, Reverend Donald L. West, [Jim Webb, Jim Weaver]</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**INVESTIGATIVE  
SUMMARY REPORT**

**SYNOPSIS:**

*SA [unclear] 4/8/51*  
*4/8/51*  
DONALD LEE WEST temporarily resides 110 West Cypress Street, Lubbock, Texas. Employed by Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois. Informants advise subject active in Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia until November, 1948, at which time submitted resignation as co-chairman. Disagreed with HOMER BATES CHASE, District Organizer, District 31, CP, USA. Inactive in CP, USA matters since November, 1948. Subject admitted CP, USA membership to an acquaintance during 1948. Signed statement obtained from another acquaintance reflecting subject was a CP, USA member. Subject wrote articles for the "Southern Farmer" magazine and farmed at Douglasville, Georgia until 1950. During 1950, accepted position with Home Missions Council of North America, traveling extensively among migratory workers. Subject active regarding a "peace appeal." Visited his daughter in Cuba and returned to Texas, where he associates with known CP, USA members or sympathizers. Continues to write articles for the "Southern Farmer" magazine and also writes poems.

- P -

**DETAILS:**

**RESIDENT AND BUSINESS ADDRESSES**

*1* ~~Confidential~~ Informant T-1, of known reliability, on April 17, 1951, advised that on April 4, 1951,

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>107</b> <b>RECORDED - 81</b> <b>INDEXED - 81</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: <b>5 - Bureau (100-20396)</b> <b>3 - Atlanta</b>		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: FILE
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>		JACKETED: <b>EX-121</b>



AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

WEST indicated that he was residing at 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas.

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, on November 20, 1950, advised that he had learned from an unidentified employee of the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, that WEST was presently employed by the Home Missions Council of North America, and that he was at that time in the State of Texas, and could be reached at General Delivery, Lubbock, Texas. T-2 further advised that WEST was in a constant travel status for that organization.

#### BACKGROUND

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-3, of unknown reliability, on April 23, 1951, advised that WEST was elected for a third or fourth year as Principal of Lula High School, Lula, Georgia, but resigned his position to accept a scholarship offered by the Rosenwald Fund.

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-4, of unknown reliability, on April 23, 1951, was interviewed in connection with another matter under investigation, and volunteered information that WEST [redacted] during the summer of 1946 [redacted] at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia, and [redacted] WEST in view of his past teaching record and the fact that he was a graduate of Oglethorpe University. He advised that WEST was discharged [redacted] due to his failure to comply with instructions that [redacted] of Oglethorpe University should [redacted] inasmuch as these editions might have an influence on the reputation of the school. He advised that WEST was discharged [redacted] 1948, prior to the completion of his contract which required that WEST remain on the payroll following his dismissal.

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~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-5, of unknown reliability, on January 23, 1950, advised that MABEL CONSTANCE WEST, subject's wife, was teaching in the Fernandina High School, Fernandina, Florida, and that her contract of employment would expire June 14, 1950. T-5 further advised that he was not acquainted with WEST, but believed he resided in Georgia. He stated that Mrs. WEST has two daughters, [redacted] who live at Decker Apartments, Fletcher Avenue, Fernandina, Florida. T-5 advised that Mrs.

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~~WEST~~  
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AT 100-559

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WEST had indicated to him that she would like to see her husband obtain a teaching position at Fernandina, Florida, and mentioned that her husband was obtaining a Master's Degree somewhere in Georgia.

(S) Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, prior to April 4, 1950, advised [ ] that WEST had very few visitors and spent most of his time either working on his farm or writing at Douglasville, Georgia.

(S) Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, prior to April 4, 1950, advised [ ] that he had been in contact with WEST frequently during the past eighteen months and stated that WEST is apparently living a quiet life on his farm, although he had recently been to Fernandina, Florida to visit his wife.

(S) Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, prior to September 30, 1950, advised [ ] that WEST had been in Fernandina, Florida apparently during the week prior to August 29, 1950, inasmuch as on this date, he advised that he was leaving Fernandina and could be reached at 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago 2, Illinois. [ ] further advised that subject [ ] was attending at [ ] Cuba.

[ ] Confidential Informant T-5, prior to September 30, 1950, advised [ ] Mrs. WEST obtained permission to leave a few days early from her duties as teacher at Fernandina High School, inasmuch as she was going to Michigan to join her husband who was working among the migratory fruit pickers there.

Mr. [ ] Hapeville, Georgia, on July 22, 1950, advised that during the early part of August, 1950, WEST [ ] and stated that he was employed in a traveling capacity by the Home Missions Council, the purpose of this organization being to provide education for the children of migratory farm workers throughout the United States.

(S) Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, prior to December 29, 1950, advised [ ] that WEST represented the Home Missions Council of North America, was in Lubbock, Texas, briefly, and that he contacted various Protestant ministers. [ ] T-9 stated WEST appeared in the company of [ ] Methodist [ ] at Texas Technological College, and that WEST on October 27, 1950, addressed a meeting of Protestant ministers on the subject of a unified National Council of Churches in Lubbock, Texas.

[ ] Atlanta, Georgia, on January 2, 1951, advised that

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AT 100-559

WEST's daughter was attending school in Cuba, and that subject possibly visited her during December of 1950, inasmuch as he received a Christmas card from WEST postmarked Monterey, Cuba.

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Subsequent to January 9, 1951, [ ] advised WEST had returned to Texas, where he was traveling among the migratory workers.

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITIES AND SYMPATHIES

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T-4 on April 23, 1951, volunteered further information that [ ] WEST concerning his background at the time [ ] [ ] with Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia, during which conversation WEST admitted that he was a former member of the Communist Party of the USA, but had terminated his affiliation with that organization during 1936.

The Communist Party, USA has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Confidential Informants T-10 and T-11, of unknown reliability, and Confidential Informant T-12, of known reliability, prior to March 11, 1949, advised that WEST was very active in the Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia during October and November of 1948, and that WEST had been contacted by NAT ROSS, his brother-in-law, Southern Organizer of the Communist Party, USA, on three or four occasions during the three months prior to October of 1948. T-10, T-11, and T-12 further advised that WEST had not been very active in Communist Party, USA matters during the period from October through December of 1948. (S)

On January 10, 1951, [ ] Apartment 3, [ ] Atlanta, Georgia, advised that persons most prominent in the leadership of the now defunct Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia were DONALD WEST, [ ] [ ] and HOMER BATES CHASE. [ ] further stated two other persons took an active interest in the Peoples Progressive Party and although they were not part of the top leadership, they were extremely active in Progressive Party activities. [ ] [ ] named these individuals as [ ] described

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AT 100-559

by [ ] as a self-admitted member of the Communist Party, USA, and [ ] who, according to Confidential Informant T-21, of known reliability, was a constant contact of HOMER BATES CHASE in 1949 and 1948. (S)

[ ] of Cartersville, Georgia, on April 7, 1949, advised [ ] was a constant contact of HOMER BATES CHASE while [ ] was in Atlanta, and according to [ ] [ ] Communist Party, USA, meetings in the absence of HOMER BATES CHASE.

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Confidential Informant T-13, of known reliability, on December 30, 1947, advised that HOMER BATES CHASE was the District Organizer, District #31, of the Communist Party, USA. (S)

Confidential Informant T-13 further advised on November 8, 1948, that he attended a meeting of the Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia at 85 Alexander Street, Atlanta, Georgia, on November 6, 1948, and that at this meeting, DONALD WEST had submitted his written resignation as co-chairman of the Progressive Party in Georgia. T-13 advised further that a motion was made at the meeting and carried to table the resignation of WEST. (S)

(S) Confidential Informant T-7, prior to December 12, 1949, advised [ ] that several articles which were written by WEST were published in the "Southern Farmer."

In connection with WEST'S reported contribution to the "Southern Farmer" magazine, the letter appeared in the "Letters to the Editor" section of the Atlanta Constitution on September 19, 1949, signed "K.S., Atlanta", and is set out below:

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"What Line?

"I have just read in this month's issue of Southern Farmer an article by D. L. WEST praising a certain Georgia minister for being what Mr. WEST calls a "practical Christian". It seems, according to this article, he earns this praise for attacking our foreign policy toward Russia; believing peace can be ours if we want it (meaning we, and not Russia, are to blame for the threat of war in the world); for "practicing Christian democracy" by fearlessly taking Negroes into his church and in his home; for attacking the KKK, Columbians and other "Fascist" organizations (the Communist Party not being mentioned). Mr. WEST goes on to say this preacher has had the "honor" of being denounced as a Communist, thus indicating this was a sign of his being right.

"I ask you, is this pure Communist-line propaganda? You answer it.

"To be sure one should have the right to criticize his country. But for a minister of the Gospel to turn aside from the faith and join hands with the Communists, who are to the core haters of God and all that is good, only proves that we are in the time spoken of in II Thes. 2:3, the "falling away" among the believers".

Confidential Informant T-14, who in the past has furnished reliable information concerning Communist Party, USA activities in Atlanta prior to December 12, 1949, advised in July of 1949, [redacted] who was very active in the Peoples-Progressive Party of Georgia, and was formerly a close associate of WEST, advised that "DON WEST is provoking CHASE and the entire group of the Peoples Progressive Party".

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Confidential Informant T-13, prior to December 12, 1949, advised that [redacted] in the early part of May, 1949, and told him that NAT ROSS had, on his last visit to Atlanta, tried to get DON WEST and HOMER BATES CHASE together. T-13 also quoted [redacted] as stating that he, [redacted] and DON WEST were trying to get rid of the Communist influence in the Progressive Party. (S)

Confidential Informant T-14, prior to December 12, 1949, advised that an unidentified informant had told him that WEST had stated that he, WEST, had been dropped from the Communist Party, USA because he was "too rugged an individualist".

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[redacted] formerly of Cartersville, Georgia, and who now resides in Atlanta, Georgia, and who, according to his own admission, was recruited into the Communist Party, USA by HOMER BATES CHASE, advised in the spring of 1949, that WEST was not actively connected with the Communist Party, USA in Georgia.

[redacted] Confidential Informant T-11, and Confidential Informants T-13, T-15, and T-16, of known reliability, advised that WEST had not been active in the Communist Party, USA during the three months period ending September 30, 1949. ~~XX~~

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[redacted] Hapeville, Georgia, on July 22, 1949, advised that WEST had brought HOMER BATES CHASE to [redacted] Atlanta, Georgia, and that CHASE [redacted] during 1946. [redacted] advised that in the fall of 1948, he was again associated with WEST who at that time was active in the Progressive Party political campaign. He advised that he severed relations with HOMER BATES CHASE, but maintained a friendship with WEST, inasmuch as WEST told him that he had resigned from the Communist Party, USA, and was no longer interested or active in the party's work.

[redacted] advised that on July 18 or 19, 1950, he stopped at the roadside store just north of Jonesboro, Georgia, on U. S. Highway 41, which store is [redacted] and that at the time [redacted] which she had received from DON WEST postmarked Northport, Michigan, around the tenth or fifteenth of July, 1950. [redacted] advised [redacted] inquired whether [redacted] for WEST from a list which WEST would supply her, and in which would be placed "peace tracts", advocating the "cessation of the senseless war in Korea."

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SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR. interviewed [redacted] [redacted] Hapeville, Georgia, on August 28, 1950, relative to his association with the information concerning WEST. At that time [redacted] who is the [redacted] [redacted] furnished the following signed statement:

SECRET

AT 100-559

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"Aug. 28, 1950  
Atlanta, Georgia

"I, [redacted]  
Atlanta, Georgia, give the following voluntary signed statement to Special Agent JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR., who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. I have been informed that I may have an attorney and that this statement may be used in a court of law. No Threats, promises or inducement were made to me.

"During 1947, 1948 and 1949 I was acquainted with HOMER BATES CHASE, District Organizer for the Communist Party for the State of Georgia, and through him became acquainted with many individuals. I have known DONALD LEE WEST since 1941 and DON WEST has been known to me as a member of the Communist Party.

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HOMER BATES CHASE, told me that DONALD LEE WEST was a member of the Communist Party. My [redacted] told me that DON WEST was a member of the Communist Party but had quit.

/s/ [redacted]

"Witnesses:

/s/ W. WINTON WARREN, Sp Agt. FBI., Atlanta, Ga., 8-28-50.  
/s/ JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR., Sp Agt. FBI., Atlanta, Ga.,  
8-28-50."

(S) Confidential Informant T-7 advised that during the period from August 8, 1950 through October 17, 1950, WEST was in touch with the following organizations and publications: Rumanian News, Washington, DC, the Yugoslav Information Center, 36 Central Park South, New York City, the Legation of Rumania, Washington, DC.

(S) Confidential Informant T-17, of known reliability, on December 14, 1950, advised [redacted] that the following poems had been written by WEST:

"The Alien"  
"Little Scared One"  
"Another Awful Story"

(S) T-17 further advised [redacted] that the above listed poems paint a sad and pitiful picture of the life of small farmers and migratory

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workers. The poem entitled "Little Scared One" contains the following introductory note: "To a church leader who signed a peace petition, then under pressure, backed down and cried 'I was taken in by the Reds', as if the 'Reds' are the only ones who worked for peace."

Doctor [redacted] furnished two clippings from the "Southern Farmer". The first clipping, appearing in the November, 1950 issue, was entitled "The Genuine Article" by DON WEST. This article related DON WEST's alleged visit to one JIM RANKIN of Lyndon, Kentucky. The article related that JIM RANKIN was riding DON WEST around in the vicinity of Lyndon, Kentucky, and pointed out a 1500 acre estate which he said was owned by a Kentucky businessman who owned it as a "hobby". WEST quoted farmer JIM RANKIN as saying of the houses on this estate, "But among these mansions and fine barns are families living in shacks unfit for animals. Babies have been found with their faces half eaten off by rats. If I had this land, I'd want to see it split up into little farms so people who need to could make a living on it." WEST also quoted RANKIN as follows: "Negroes--brought to this country in chains. Sold like cattle, still treated like animals in some places though we do take them to fight in our wars."

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The other article entitled, "They're Being Pushed Off the Land" by DON WEST, appeared in the January, 1951 issue of the "Southern Farmer". This article was written in the same vein as the above described article and depicted deplorable conditions among migratory workers in Texas and among small farmers in general.

(S) Confidential Informant T-18, of known reliability, on October 20, 1950, advised [redacted] that WEST, who was known to him as the "poet of the revolution" had been in San Antonio, Texas for a week or ten days and had been staying with [redacted] 110 West Cypress Street. [redacted] T-18 described [redacted] as a Communist Party sympathizer in the San Antonio area for a number of years and possibly a Communist Party, USA member.

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(S) Confidential Informant T-19, of known reliability, on January 22, 1951, advised [redacted] that a meeting was held on the evening of January 21, 1951, at 128 West Evergreen Street, San Antonio, Texas, and that WEST and [redacted] attended this meeting. [redacted] T-19 advised [redacted] that the purpose of the meeting was to hear WEST read his poetry, and WEST spoke briefly concerning his career as a minister in Georgia and his many experiences

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among "wetback" Mexicans and members of the Negro race, who, he stated were in the minority and are ill treated by the majority groups. [T-19 advised] that WEST traveled quite a bit among the "wetback" Mexicans and members of the Negro race, and would possibly make a trip to Harlingen, Texas, and to the beet fields of Michigan in the very near future.

(S) [T-19 further advised] that WEST's poems were written in blank verse and were described as poems of despair based on the misery of the "wetbacks" and Negroes.

(S) [T-19 further advised] that [redacted] who according to Confidential Informant T-20, of known reliability, was a leading member of the Communist Party, USA in San Antonio, Texas, came to the meeting late apparently so he need not be introduced and brought with him a book which appeared to be a Russian information bulletin which had a large number of pictures of Russian agriculture. [T-19 advised] that [redacted] mentioned he came to the meeting because he liked to hear the subject speak and read poems.

[Confidential Informant T-18, on February 10, 1951, advised] that he had ascertained that a book of subject's poems had been published which was entitled "Clods of Southern Earth" by DON WEST. [T-18 advised] that this book was copyrighted by Boni and Gaer, Incorporated, 15 East Fortieth Street, New York 16, New York, and was illustrated by HAROLD PRICE.

[T-18 further advised] the foreword of this book entitled "Appreciation" stated in part, "especially should I express appreciation to....." and set out the names of a number of persons, included among which was "To MARY LOU KOGER who symbolizes the strength of character and mind of a dawning South."

(S) [T-18 added] that this book contained a photograph of WEST on the back cover.

The following is the identification record for subject under FBI #814505, which record was made available by the FBI laboratory:

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

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CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD, Phila, Pa.	DON WEST #139318	3/15/34	susp. char. susp. of larc. of auto	Discharged
PD, Danville, Va.	<del>JAMES ALLEN WEAVER</del>	7/28/34	inv.	rel.

- PENDING -

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INFORMANTS

Confidential Informant T-1: [redacted]  
[redacted] Lubbock, Texas, whose identity is being protected due to the fact that the information furnished is contained in [redacted]

Confidential Informant T-2: A pretext telephone call to an unidentified employee of the Home Missions Council of North America, Central 6-1165, by SA DANIEL THOMAS.

Confidential Informant T-3: [redacted] Lula, Georgia, who requested that his identity be kept confidential.

Confidential Informant T-4: [redacted] Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia.

Confidential Informant T-5: [redacted]  
[redacted] Fernandina, Florida, who requested that his identity be kept confidential.

Confidential Informant T-6: [redacted]  
[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia.

Confidential Informant T-7: [redacted]  
[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia.

Confidential Informant T-8: [redacted]  
Fernandina, Florida.

Confidential Informant T-9: [redacted]  
[redacted] Lubbock, Texas.

Confidential Informant T-10: [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant T-11: AT 1338, whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant T-12: AT 1340, whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant T-13: [redacted]  
[redacted] Atlanta, Georgia, who has on numerous occasions volunteered reliable information concerning Communist Party activities in Atlanta and in the State of Georgia.

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AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

INFORMANTS (cont'd)

Confidential Informant T-14: [redacted]  
[redacted] who has requested his identity be protected.

Confidential Informant T-15: AT-1342, whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant T-16: [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant T-17: SA JOSEPH A. CULLEN, New York City, New York, who was present during a search of [redacted] baggage by United States Custom Officials at New York City on December 14, 1950.

Confidential Informant T-18: [redacted]  
[redacted] San Antonio, Texas, who requested his identity remain confidential.

Confidential Informant T-19: [redacted]  
[redacted] San Antonio, Texas, who requested her identity remain confidential.

Confidential Informant T-20: [redacted] who furnished information to SA [redacted]

Confidential Informant T-21: [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

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REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated 4-24-51

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 06-18-2010

Form No. 3

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO.

100-559 cjb/bjo

REPORT MADE AT: <b>ATLANTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>5-4-51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>4-26-51</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
TITLE: <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was., Don Lee West, Don West, Reverend Donald L. West, Jim Webb, Jim Weaver</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
SUMMARY REPORT

SYNOPSIS:

*SP-1 CWT/100  
4/29/51  
4/25/51*

**DONALD L. WEST** temporarily resides 110 West Cypress Street, <sup>SAN ANTONIO</sup> ~~San Antonio~~, Texas. Employed by Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois. Informants advise subject active in Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia until November, 1940, at which time submitted resignation as co-chairman. Disagreed with **W. B. BETH GASH**, District Organizer, District 31, CP, USA. Inactive in CP, USA matters since November, 1940. Subject admitted CP, USA membership to an acquaintance during 1940. Signed statement obtained from another acquaintance reflecting subject was a CP, USA member. Subject wrote articles for the "Southern Farmer" magazine and lived at Douglasville, Georgia until 1950. During 1950, accepted position with Home Missions Council of North America, traveling extensively among migratory workers. Subject active regarding a "peace appeal." Visited his daughter in Cuba and returned to Texas, where he associates with known CP, USA members or sympathizers. Continues to write articles for the "Southern Farmer" magazine and also writes poems.

- P -

DETAILS:

CONFIDENTIAL AND SUSPECTED

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, on April 17, 1951, advised that on April 4, 1951,

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECORDED AND INDEXED:	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:  5 - Bureau (100-20396)  3 - Atlanta		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	CHECKED OFF:
		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	JACKETED:
		ROUTED TO:	FILE

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: May 21, 1951

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Pufile 100-20396)

Rebulet dated March 21, 1951. Reference is also made to San Antonio's letter to Chicago dated May 1, 1951 entitled "Home Missions Council of North America, IS - C".

Referenced bulet instructed the Chicago Office to advise as to the feasibility of establishing coverage of the subject's itinerary through his employer, The Home Missions Council of North America, 124 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

In this connection, the Bureau's attention is directed to Chicago letter dated August 22, 1950, in which was contained the information that Mr.

advised SA GUY HILL COX on August 3, 1950 that the of the above organization consisted of and

Attention is also directed to the report of SA DANIEL THOMAS dated November 24, 1950 at Chicago, wherein it was reported that a pretext telephone conversation with an unidentified employee of this organization elicited the information that the subject's itinerary was not known to the informant.

In view of the small size of the Chicago branch of the Home Missions Council of North America and their lack of knowledge of the subject's projected movements, when recently contacted, it is believed inadvisable to attempt coverage through this medium.

On May 11, 1951 SA RICHARD J. BAKER, under pretext, telephonically contacted an unidentified woman at the Home Missions Council and was advised that while WEST travels extensively throughout Texas, he is maintaining a base of operations at the home of friends and checks in with them every few days. She furnished the address of these friends as 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas.

For the information of the San Antonio Office, The Chicago files contain no information identifiable with nor is there any indication of Communist influence in the Home Missions Council of North America.

No further action in this matter will be taken by this office unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

RUC

RJB:mll  
100-7192cc: Atlanta (100-459)  
2. San Antonio (100-20396)

RECORDED - 73

INDEXED - 73

MAY 28 1951

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EX-72

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-103X/BK

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 29, 1951

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

**SECRET**SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was Don Lee  
West, Don West, Reverend Donald  
L. West, Jim Webb, Jim Weaver  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bufile 100-20396)b6  
b7CRerep SA [redacted] dated 5-4-51, at Atlanta, and  
San Antonio letter to New Orleans, 5-11-51.

For the information of the Mobile Division, WEST is a Security Index Subject, Atlanta Division origin, and has written numerous articles and poems published by the "Southern Farmer", Montgomery, Alabama. Subject, in 1934, wrote a poem entitled "Listen, I Am A Communist", which poem appeared in the "Daily Worker"; was listed by the Communist Party during 1937 as Georgia born organizer of the Communist Party in Kentucky. Informants advised subject became a Communist in 1934, was a member during 1945-48, closely associated with Communist Party members and sympathizers in Atlanta, was active in now defunct Communist Party infiltrated and dominated Progressive Party of Georgia. Subject admitted Communist Party membership to an acquaintance in 1948; has associated with Communist Party members or sympathizers in Texas during recent months, while employed by Home Missions Counsel of North America, Chicago, Illinois, and traveling extensively among migratory workers in the Midwest.

On May 11, 1951, [redacted]  
[redacted] Georgia, advised that on May 11, 1951 [redacted]  
telegram from Fernandina, Florida, which read as follows:

"We plan to drive to Atlanta after school today and would like to stop by to see you folks. DONALD is driving.

(Signed) CONSTANCE WEST

[redacted] advised subject, his wife and daughter, HETTY, arrived at [redacted] in their 1948 or 1949, light gray, tudor Fleetline Chevrolet, at approximately 10:00 P.M., on May 11, 1951. He advised subject mentioned he was still employed by the Home Missions Counsel of North America, Chicago, Illinois, but that [redacted] of the "Southern Farmer" magazine, Montgomery,

FBH/ds  
100-559

RECORDED - 39

2 c/c Dallas (100-855) INDEXED - 39  
2 " San Antonio (100-7986)  
2 " Miami (100-3381)  
2 " Mobile  
c/c New Orleans  
c/c Chicago (100-7192)

**SECRET**

EX-16

MAY 31 1951

COPIES DESTROYED 4/28/59 #16

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Class. & Ext. by SP-1 CSH/PAK  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2  
Date of Review 3/18/97

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 CSH/PAK

61 JUN 8

Communication in custody  
Donald Lee West  
author, poet, editor  
empty card

Atlanta, 100-559

~~SECRET~~

Alabama, had offered him a full-time job, which he intended to accept in the near future. He stated that subject mentioned he would travel extensively throughout the southeastern states, in an effort to build up subscriptions to the "Southern Farmer" magazine, and he planned to visit rural churches offering them certain pecuniary benefits for subscriptions to that magazine obtained through their efforts.

[ ] advised that subject's wife mentioned she intended to complete the present school year as a teacher at Fernandina, Florida, but had been offered a position with the Jacksonville, Florida public schools, and was seriously considering accepting a teaching position in that city.

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b7C

[ ] advised subject, his wife and daughter departed [ ] at 7:30 A.M., May 12, 1951, and subject stated he intended to visit his mother, at Blairsville, Georgia, over the week-end, drive his wife back to Fernandina, Florida, inasmuch as she had to be at work on May 14, 1951, and that he would return to Lubbock, Texas, before accepting the job at Montgomery, Alabama.

The Dallas Division is requested to maintain contact with [ ] [ ] Lubbock, Texas, with whom a stop has been placed in order that change of address may be presently ascertained.

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b7C

It is requested that the San Antonio Division maintain contact with [ ]

[ ] San Antonio, for information regarding subject's activities in that area, and possible departure for Montgomery, Alabama, to accept a position with the "Southern Farmer" magazine.

The Mobile Division is requested to discreetly attempt to ascertain whether subject has accepted full-time employment with the "Southern Farmer" magazine, and possibly determine his anticipated arrival date at Montgomery, Alabama.

The Miami Division will, through confidential informants, attempt to ascertain subject's destination following his departure from Fernandina, Florida, after leaving his wife in that city, and any information concerning future plans.

Copies of this letter are being furnished the Chicago and New Orleans Divisions for information purposes, inasmuch as subject was reportedly

~~SECRET~~



Atlanta, 100-559

~~SECRET~~

planning to work in the vicinity of Hammond, Louisiana and may terminate his employment with the Home Missions Counsel of North America, of Chicago, Illinois.

- 3 -

~~SECRET~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : *qf* Legal Attache, Havana, Cuba

DATE: June 22, 1951  
Havana, Cuba

31

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-20396

Class. & Ext. By *SP-1 GSK/BK*  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 *2, 3*  
Date of Review *3/17/96* *3/11/82*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Rebulet March 21, 1951.

[redacted] through a source available to him in [redacted] Cuba,  
has determined that [redacted] has been [redacted] in [redacted]  
[redacted]  
She was reported to be [redacted] in the [redacted] and to have considerably  
more freedom than [redacted]. She was said to have  
taken a number of pictures. In December, 1950, she was visited by her  
mother and her sister, but it was impossible to obtain their exact names as  
they apparently stayed at the school and were not registered in any hotel  
in [redacted] *(S)*

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Informant's source reported that [redacted] left [redacted] on June  
8, 1951, and that she was said to be going to [redacted]  
Florida. A check of outgoing airline passenger lists in Havana around this  
date has failed to confirm that [redacted] left Cuba from Havana by this  
means. *(S)*

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b7C

Following is a description of [redacted] furnished by source:

Name	[redacted]
Age	[redacted]
Height	5' 6"
Weight	125 lbs.
Eyes	Green
Hair	Blond

An extra copy of this letter is attached for forwarding to  
Atlanta, the office of origin in this case.

CDA: JES  
100-167

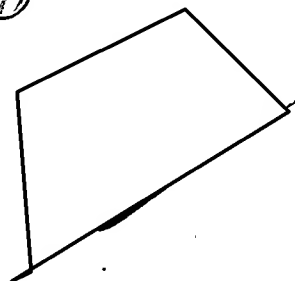
RECORDED - 67

100-20396-110

INDEXED - 67

JUN 30 1951

~~SECRET~~



*7-18*  
*cc - to all by*  
*form letter*  
*61 JUL 12 1951*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO. 100-8551 mjd

REPORT MADE AT <b>DALLAS, TEXAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6-28-51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6-5, 23, 25-51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
--	----------------------------------	--	---

b6  
b7c

TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>
---------------------------------------	---

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject has not returned to Lubbock, Texas, since April, 1951.

- RUC -

DETAILS: At Lubbock, Texas

Confidential Informants T-1 and T-2, of known reliability, each advised that they have not had contact with subject since about April 4, 1951, when he advised that he would be in San Antonio, Texas, at 110 W. Cypress Street. These informants stated that they believe he would be in contact with them if he had returned to Lubbock.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. O. Hawkins</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED <u>4/22/59 #16</u> COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-20396) 3 - Atlanta (100-559) 2 - Dallas <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">COPY IN FILE</div>		<b>100-20396-111</b>	RECORDED - 153  EX - 80
		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">SEARCHED</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">SERIALIZED</div> </div>	

DL 100-8551

INFORMANT PAGE

Confidential Informants T-1 and T-2 are

[redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

b7D

[redacted], Lubbock, Texas, whose identity is maintained confidential since information furnished comes from their records.

REFERENCE: Atlanta letter to Bureau dated 5-29-51.

FD-72  
(1-10-49)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

NO FILE NO. 100-13779

REPORT MADE AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.	DATE WHEN MADE 6-30-51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-20, 27-51	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] CTC:dc
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, Was. Don Lee West, Don West, Reverend Donald L. West, Jim Webb, Jim Weaver			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  No information developed that subject has been in the area of Hammond, La., during recent weeks.  ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE. Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/RSK Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.22 Date of Review 3/18/91 3/18/82  DETAILS: AT HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  [REDACTED] Perrone Building, upon interview advised the writer that he was a [REDACTED] among the [REDACTED] growers of the Hammond area and that he sees a number of these growers quite frequently inasmuch as they come to him for advice on legal, financial and other matters. [REDACTED] stated he has never heard of the name DONALD LEE WEST or any of the other aliases used by the subject and he did not believe the subject has been in this particular section of the State of Louisiana.  The writer also interviewed Sergeant [REDACTED] of the Hammond Police Department and [REDACTED] of Hammond. Sgt. [REDACTED] stated he has never heard of the name DONALD LEE WEST or any of the aliases used by the subject.  AT NATALBANY, LOUISIANA  [REDACTED] Natalbany, advised the writer that he has never heard of the names DONALD LEE WEST, JIM WEAVER, JIM WEBB, or any aliases used by the subject. [REDACTED] stated that during the strawberry season, a large number of the itinerant strawberry pickers [REDACTED] as			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. M. Lopez	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-20396-117 RECORDED - 115 EX-60 JUL 3 1951 13 SECRET STAT SECT	
5-Bureau (100-20396) 3-Atlanta (100-559) 1-San Antonio (Info.) (100-7986) 2-New Orleans  COPY IN FILE			

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/12/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

2-7-80  
01-act 10/10/80

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COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/59 #16

~~SECRET~~

well as a large number of the strawberry growers themselves, and he believed that if any person did come from some other section into this area and began contacting the working class of people, he would certainly have known about it either through gossip or through various other sources.

AT TICKFAW, LOUISIANA

[redacted] advised he does not recall ever hearing the names WEST, WEAVER or WEBB. ~~(S)~~

AT HAMMOND, LOUISIANA

[redacted] informed that he has never heard of the name DONALD WEST, nor has he heard the names WEBB ~~(S)~~ or WEAVER.

[redacted] advised he has never heard of the names DONALD LEE WEST, JIM WEBB or JIM WEAVER. Mr. [redacted] ~~(S)~~ related that he did not believe the subject has ever been in this area, otherwise, he feels certain that he would have been advised one way or another concerning this fact.

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AT SPRINGFIELD, LOUISIANA

[redacted] (no route or box number) advised he comes in contact with practically every grower in Tangipahoa Parish, and that he is quite positive subject has never been in this area.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

~~SECRET~~

NO 100-13779

~~SECRET~~  
ADMINISTRATIVE

One copy of this report is being furnished to the San Antonio Office in view of the subject's activities in that area.

REFERENCE:

Letter from San Antonio to New Orleans dated May 11, 1951.

Report of SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR., dated August 9, 1948, at Atlanta, Georgia.

Letter from Atlanta to Bureau dated May 29, 1951.

~~SECRET~~

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**SECRET**

FORM No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

FILE NO.

100-559 cjb

REPORT MADE AT <b>ATLANTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/21/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/2, 20, 24, 27; 8/2, 7, 8/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>III</b>
TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C.</b>	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  <b>Yes</b> <b>1cc - DIR</b> <b>9-19-51</b> <b>5TH</b> <b>ho</b>  <b>G. I. R. - 9</b> <b>Class. &amp; Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK</b> <b>Reason FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2-5.3</b> <b>Date of Review 3/17/96</b>  <b>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.</b>		Acquaintance advises DON LEE WEST employed by "Southern Farmer" magazine, Montgomery, Alabama. Subject continues to travel extensively throughout southeastern states.  <b>- P -</b>  [On April 28, 1951, Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that DON LEE WEST had recently gone to Hammond, Louisiana, where he planned to work among the migratory workers in the strawberry district surrounding Hammond, Louisiana. T-1 advised that subject had [redacted] with [redacted] 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas, since October 10, 1950.  On May 11, 1951, [redacted] Georgia, advised that he had [redacted] from DON WEST, stating that he was coming to Atlanta, Georgia, and would stop in Atlanta on the night of May 11.  [On May 11, 1951, Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised that subject was employed by the Home Missions Council of North America, traveling extensively throughout Texas, and was maintaining a base of operations at 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas, the home of a friend.  On May 14, 1951, [redacted] Savannah, Georgia, advised that on May 11, 1951, [redacted] b6 b7C b7D	
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>John C. Bells</b> <b>COPIY IN FILE</b> <b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b>  <b>(5) - Bureau (100-20396)</b> <b>2 - Chicago (100-7192)</b> <b>2 - Mobile</b> <b>2 - San Antonio (100-7986)</b> <b>3 - Atlanta</b>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-20396-113</b> <b>RECORDED - 29</b> <b>INDEXED 29</b> <b>EX-130</b> <b>SECRET</b> <b>AUG 25 1951</b> <b>STAT. SECT.</b>	

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186 SEP 22 1951



AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

he [ ] from Fernandina, Florida, which read as follows:

"We plan to drive to Atlanta after school today and would like to stop by to see you folks. DONALD is driving.

Signed CONSTANCE ~~WEST~~

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[ ] stated subject, his wife, and daughter [ ] arrived [ ] in their 1948 or 1949 light gray, two door, fleetline Chevrolet at approximately 10:00 P.M. on May 11, 1951. He advised subject mentioned he was still employed by the Home Missions Council of North America, Chicago, Illinois, but that [ ] of the "Southern Farmer" magazine, Montgomery, Alabama, had offered him a fulltime job which he intended to accept in the near future. He stated that subject mentioned he would travel extensively throughout the southeastern states in an effort to build up subscriptions to the "Southern Farmer" magazine, and he planned to visit rural churches, offering them certain pecuniary benefits for subscriptions to that magazine obtained through their efforts.

[ ] advised that subject's wife mentioned she intended to complete the present school year as teacher at Fernandina, Florida, but had been offered a job with the Jacksonville, Florida Public Schools, and was seriously considering accepting a teaching position in that city.

[ ] advised subject, his wife, and daughter departed from [ ] at 7:30 A.M. on May 12, 1951, and subject stated he intended to visit his mother at Blairsville, Georgia over the week-end, drive his wife back to Fernandina, Florida, inasmuch as she had to be at work on May 14, 1951, and that he would return to Lubbock, Texas before accepting the position at Montgomery, Alabama.

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Mr. [ ] Lula, Georgia, advised that DON WEST was observed to have visited [ ] at [ ] home in Lula, Georgia, one night during the week of May 20, 1951. He advised WEST apparently visited [ ] for a few hours and was driving a Chevrolet automobile with Illinois license plates.

[ ] Prior to June 19, 1951, Confidential Informant T-3 ~~of~~ known reliability, advised that subject picked up mail in care of General

~~SECRET~~

MRS DONALD LEE WEST

~~SECRET~~

Delivery, Fernandina, Florida on June 4, 1951. [T-3] further advised that [ ] had been [ ] San Antonio, Texas to Fernandina, Florida. [T-3] further advised that subject departed from Fernandina, Florida on June 14, 1951, advising that he could be reached in care of General Delivery, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

[ ] Fernandina, Florida, on June 12, 1951, advised that subject's wife had resigned from her position with the school system in Fernandina, Florida, and had accepted a position with the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Duvall County, Florida for the next school term.

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[ ] Prior to July 2, 1951, Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that subject was in Pine Bluff, Arkansas on June 23, 1951, and advised that he could be reached in care of General Delivery, Harlingen, Texas.

Prior to June 22, 1951, Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised that [ ] had been attending the [ ] located at [ ] in [ ] Cuba. T-5 advised that [ ] was [ ] and had considerably more freedom than other girls [ ] T-5 advised that subject's daughter took a number of pictures while in Cuba and during December of 1950 she was visited by her mother and her sister. T-5 further advised that [ ] left [ ] on June 8, 1951, and was reportedly enroute to [ ] Fernandina, Florida. (S)

On June 27, 1951, [ ] Georgia, advised subject had definitely accepted a job with the "Southern Farmer" magazine, Montgomery, Alabama, at a salary of \$650.00 per month, plus expenses. He advised subject's wife is traveling with subject this summer and that she intends to teach at Jacksonville, Florida during the fall of 1951. He further advised subject's [ ] presently has a job in Chicago, Illinois, and his daughter HETTIE is in music school at Teachers College, Tallahassee, Florida.

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(S) On June 28, 1951, Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that on June 1, 1951, subject indicated that he could be reached at [ ] San Antonio, Texas, or through [ ] Georgia.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(S) On July 2, 1951, Confidential Informant T-7, of unknown reliability, advised that approximately two weeks ago subject had made a visit to her residence, staying for approximately two hours and on departure, advised he was enroute to Macon, Georgia. [T-7] further (S) advised that subject's daughter HETTIE was with him at that time. (S) [T-7] further advised that subject had written a new book of poems entitled "The Road Is Rocky".

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES:

Sheriff MACK ABERCROMBIE, Douglasville, Georgia, advised that on July 22, 1951, a Mr. [redacted] (phonetic), who is [redacted] Georgia, telephonically contacted him and advised he was holding an individual who had broken into WEST's home. ABERCROMBIE advised that he proceeded to subject's farm, took into custody one [redacted] and placed him in the Douglas County Jail on a charge of breaking and entering. He advised that [redacted] claimed to be a friend of DON WEST, that he had previously attended the Unitarian work camp which was conducted by DON WEST on WEST's farm during the summer of 1948.

On July 24, 1951, [redacted] Douglas County Jail, Douglasville, Georgia, advised that he was a native of Hingham, Massachusetts, was [redacted] and left his home several weeks ago for a trip throughout the southern states. He advised that approximately one week ago he spent a day or two at the Unitarian work camp at Monteagle, Tennessee, where some individual whose name he did not recall, told him that DON WEST was presently living on his farm near Douglasville, Georgia. [redacted] advised that he first met DON WEST in the summer of 1948, at which time he spent a month attending the Unitarian work camp which was conducted by DON WEST on the WEST farm in Douglas County, Georgia. He stated that since that time he has corresponded several times with [redacted] but that he has had no correspondence with DON WEST. He advised that when he left Monteagle, Tennessee, he was practically out of funds and decided he would call on the WEST family for assistance in getting employment to obtain funds to continue his trip.

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b7c

[redacted] advised that upon his arrival at the WEST farm he noted that apparently a number of repairs were being made on the WEST house and assumed that some members of the WEST family were living there, but were away from home. He advised that he entered the WEST farmhouse by removing a windowpane, took a nap, and an hour or so later when

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

he made his exit through the window he was detained by a Mr. [ ] who had a shotgun and who ordered him to wait for the sheriff.

[ ] advised that during the month he spent with DON WEST in 1948, he worked on WEST's farm. He stated that the work camp was in no sense a school, that WEST made no lectures, and held no study groups, but that in numerous conversations with WEST, he received the impression that WEST was a rabid reformer who seemed intent on doing away with all racial prejudice and discrimination against members of the negro race and on improving the conditions of the poor farmer class. He advised that as part of the work program, he and the other young men and women who attended the work camp took a tour through Georgia, accompanied by DON WEST, and that on several occasions during this tour they met people who knew DON WEST by reputation. He advised that several of these unrecalled individuals made inquiry of WEST as to whether he was a Communist or not, but stated that he never heard WEST admit or deny that he was a Communist.

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On August 2, 1951, Sheriff MACK ABERCROMBIE advised that he had received a telegram from subject dated July 30, 1951, at Bonham, Texas, which advised that he did not wish to prefer any charges against [ ] for breaking and entering his residence. He advised that as a result of this advice from subject, [ ] was fined a nominal amount and released.

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On August 2, 1951, Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, advised that subject could presently be contacted at [ ] San Antonio, Texas.

- PENDING -

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will conduct appropriate investigation to determine whether subject has actually terminated his employment with the Home Missions Council of North America, Chicago, Illinois.

MOBILE DIVISION

AT MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Will conduct appropriate investigation to verify subject's employment with the "Southern Farmer" magazine, Montgomery, Alabama, and endeavor to establish a source of information as to the activities and itinerary of subject inasmuch as investigation indicates he will continue to be in a constant travel status.

SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Will maintain contact with [redacted] Employers Association, 1037 Milam Building, for information regarding subject's activities in that area, inasmuch as current investigation indicates subject is presently in that area.

ATLANTA DIVISION

b6  
b7C

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Will continue efforts to follow DONALD LEE WEST's activities through available informants and sources of information.

AT DOUGLASVILLE, GEORGIA

Will maintain contact with [redacted] and [redacted] both [redacted] regarding activities of subject and his whereabouts.

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (cont'd)

INFORMANTS

Confidential Informant T-1: [redacted]

[redacted] San Antonio, Texas, whose identity should be protected.

Confidential Informant T-2: Pretext telephone call on May 11, 1951 by SA RICHARD J. BAKER to the Home Missions Council of North America, Chicago, Illinois.

Confidential Informant T-3: [redacted]

[redacted] whose identity should be protected.

Confidential Informant T-4: [redacted]

[redacted] Pine Bluff, Arkansas, whose identity should be protected.

Confidential Informant T-5: [redacted]

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant T-6: [redacted]

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, whose identity should be protected.

Confidential Informant T-7: [redacted]

[redacted] Riverdale, Georgia, who requested her identity be concealed.

Confidential Informant T-8: [redacted]

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, whose identity should be protected.

REFERENCE: Atlanta letter to San Antonio, dated July 19, 1951.  
Havana letter to Bureau, dated June 22, 1951.  
Report of SA [redacted] dated June 30, 1951,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

~~SECRET~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 12, 1951

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, wa.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bu #100-20396)

Card U.T.D.

7-24-51 mde

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME

ALIASES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/5/92 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS Douglasville, Georgia RFD #4 (Douglas County, Georgia)

~~(Takes occasional trips out of Georgia)~~

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List) \_\_\_\_\_

O-559  
M:aej

RECORDED - 108

EX - 3

SEP 14 1951

59 OCT 3 1951

aej

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 12, 1951

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bu. #100-20396)

[redacted] Douglasville, Georgia, has advised that WEST is presently residing on his farm in Douglasville having returned to Douglas County early in the month of August. According to Mr. [redacted] WEST is now driving a two-tone brown Nash, 4-door sedan, late model, bearing a Texas tag F/B 3981.

San Antonio Division is requested to conduct appropriate investigation at Austin, Texas, in order to obtain the registration concerning the above tag.

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b7C  
b7D

According to Mr. [redacted] a [redacted] on the WEST farm is [redacted] by [redacted] and his family. [redacted] is an old time friend of WEST.

According to [redacted] WEST continues to receive numerous letters addressed to him at Douglasville, postmarked from various cities throughout the United States. This correspondence does not reflect the identity of the senders.

The above is for the Bureau's information. There is no indication that WEST is presently active in Communist Party affairs in the City of Atlanta.

100-559  
CDM:aej

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP1 GSK/RSK

cc: San Antonio (100-7986)

RECORDED - 24

SEP 14 1951

59 OCT 3 1951

X-67



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **ATLANTA**

FILE NO. 100-7192

REPORT MADE AT <b>CHICAGO, ILLINOIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/18/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/30/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> </div> <b>JJD:DK</b>
TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject resigned position at Home Missions Council of North America, Chicago, effective 9/1/51. Last known address to be Route #4, Douglasville, Georgia.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK**

**DETAILS:** AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised on August 30, 1951 that he had learned from an employee of the Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn, Chicago, whose name he did not know, that WEST had resigned from instant organization effective September 1, 1951 and that the last known address of WEST is Route #4, Douglasville, Georgia.

The source stated that at this time they did not know definitely whether WEST had obtained other employment but believed that he had not.

The source further added that WEST has not been in Chicago since November of 1950.

*1cc-DK  
10/15/51  
JJD*

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">H. T. O'Connor / B</div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 BUREAU (100-20396) 3 ATLANTA (100-599) 2 CHICAGO		100-7192-116	RECORDED - 129
COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/52		<i>JJD</i>	<i>OB</i>

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CG 100-7192

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

IDENTITY OF INFORMANT:

T-1

Is a pretext telephone call to unidentified employee of the Home Missions Council of North America, Central 6-1165 by SA [REDACTED]

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REFERENCE:

Report of SA [REDACTED]  
at Atlanta.

dated 8/21/51

DR

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT ATLANTA

FILE NO.

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REPORT MADE AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	DATE WHEN MADE 10/18/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/20; 3/19; 4/10; 5/25; 5/31; 6/11; 8/17; 9/24, 25; 10/17/51	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] DNB
TITLE DONALD LEE WEST, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject continued to reside at 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] until about 4/25/51. Informants advised WEST was in Oklahoma City in February, 1951; in Hammond, La., May, 1951; in Camp Warren, Minn., June, 1951; and last known to be in Georgia. WEST's latest book of poems is entitled "The Road is Rocky". Leaflets concerning this book were distributed by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and by [REDACTED] of CP in San Antonio. [REDACTED] CP member in San Antonio, is listed as [REDACTED] of "The Road is Rocky Publishing Committee".

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 5/10/82

G.I.R.-5

## DETAILS:

### AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS:

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-1, of known reliability, advised that he determined that [REDACTED] and DON WEST who [REDACTED] at 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas, returned to San Antonio from Oklahoma City on the evening of February 16, 1951. SA T-1 learned that when in Oklahoma City WEST and [REDACTED] of the "Farmers' Union of America" at which WEST talked. WEST stated that it was brought out at the above meeting that there were 150,000 members of the Farmers' Union in the State of Oklahoma, whereas there

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPY IN FILE COPIES OF THIS REPORT COPIES DESTROYED 4/20/59 #116 5-Bureau (100-20396) 3-Atlanta (100-559) 2-Houston 2-San Antonio (100-7986)	100-20396-117 OCT 23 1951 19	RECORDED - 104 INDEXED - 104
	<del>SECRET</del>	

57 NOV 16 1951

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-39035-1  
~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

were only 37,000 in Texas.

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[SA T-1 also advised] that WEST is alleged to have made a statement similar to the following: "I am not like some of these radicals. I believe in God." WEST also indicated that he planned to be in San Antonio for about three weeks and he indicated that he had a plan or idea of starting a "mass circulation" magazine like the "New Republic" which WEST stated would cost \$2,000 to \$2,500 to publish the first issue.

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[On March 19, 1951, SA T-1 advised] that DON WEST was still temporarily residing with [ ] and [ ] but was out of the City of San Antonio at that time on a "lecture tour" and WEST's itinerary was not known at that time.

On April 10, 1951, SA MILES L. JOHNSON observed a Chevrolet coupe bearing 1951 Illinois license Number 1-337-726 parked in the driveway at 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. The Secretary of State (Illinois), Springfield, Illinois, advised that 1951 Illinois license Number 1-337-726 was issued to Home Missions Council of North America, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

It has previously been reported that DON WEST was employed by the Home Missions Council of North America.

[On April 25, 1951, SA T-1 advised] that he learned that DON WEST was leaving San Antonio, Texas, on that date but his destination or itinerary was not known.

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-2, of known reliability, advised on May 1, 1951, that he had learned from [ ] that DON WEST was in Hammond, Louisiana, for the purpose of working among the strawberry pickers in the Hammond, Louisiana-area. (S)

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[On May 31, 1951, Confidential Informant San Antonio T-3, of known reliability, advised] that about two months prior to May 31, 1951, he was in the home of [ ] and [ ] 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas, and was introduced to DON WEST who was then [ ]. He stated that while he was in the [ ] home, [ ] gave him some literature which he believed to be Communistic and thought possibly some of the literature was "The Daily Worker" but he did not retain the literature and was not certain of the exact titles.

"The Daily Worker" is a well-known Communist newspaper published in New York City.

[On June 11, 1951, SA T-1 advised] that he had recently learned from [ ] that DON WEST was located near Camp Warren,

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Minnesota, "where he is agitating among the migratory workers."

The May, 1951 edition of "The Last Call" published at 1710 Polk Avenue, Houston, Texas, contained an advertisement entitled, "The Road is Rocky" which stated "See page 11 for information concerning DON WEST's forthcoming book of new collections of marvelous verse."

"DON WEST is known to millions in America for his poetry full of heart-felt warmth and love for the people and as Associate Editor of 'The Southern Farmer' for his excellent features and columns dealing with the problems of Southern farm folk."

The advertisement on page 11 of the same publication explains this book and states in part, "DON WEST has no thought of financial gain for himself and our Committee, in turn, is anxious to get the book to the public at the lowest possible cost."

"We plan a first edition of 5,000 copies. We already have orders for nearly 2,000. Retail prices of the popular edition is \$1.00 and \$2.50 for the clothbound."

"Please send in your orders at once and contact your friends, your union, your church, clubs, etc. for orders. This book should be in the hands of every worker and every American who believes in building a better land. (Our first order came from Local Number 72 D.P.O.W.A. for a copy for each of its members)."

The bottom of the advertisement was a coupon to be mailed in to obtain the publication, "The Road is Rocky" and stated in part:

"Mail to Mrs. HARRY KOGER, Secretary-Treasurer, The Road is Rocky Publishing Committee, 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas."

Referral/Consult

[redacted] was identified in an article in the May 7, 1951, edition of "The Daily Worker" as a member of the State Committee of the Communist Party in San Antonio, Texas.

The D.P.O.W.A. is the "Distributive, Processing and Office Workers of America."

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[SA T-1 advised] that [redacted] D.P.O.W.A. in San Antonio, Texas.

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(S) Confidential Informant San Antonio T-5, of known reliability, advised that the June, 1951 edition of "The Last Call" published at 1710 Polk Avenue, Houston, Texas, contained an advertisement soliciting sales of the publication entitled, "The Road is Rocky" by DON WEST. This issue also contained an article by ROY SMITH wherein DON WEST's photograph was set out and SMITH praised DON WEST's book "The Road is Rocky" wherein he states in part:

"DON WEST is more than a poet, more than a writer whose works get nice distribution. He is also a veteran fighter in the ranks of the people for the rights of man. For many years he has been the one clear, steady, courageous and hopeful voice raised in the deep south in behalf of the common people, Negro and white."

(S) SA T-5 advised that copies of "The Last Call" are received by some of the Communist Party members and Communist Party sympathizers in the San Antonio area.

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-6, of known reliability, advised that he obtained a mimeographed letter from [redacted] of the Committee to Publish "The Road is Rocky". This letter gives the address of 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas, and the mimeographed letter is addressed as follows: (S)

"Dear Friend:

"About DON WEST's new book. DON WEST, America's foremost poet of the people has turned his newest collection of poems, 'The Road is Rocky', over to a group of his friends for publication."

(S) The mimeographed letter, after praising other works of WEST's, requests that subscriptions to the book be made - \$1.00 for the popular edition or \$2.50 for the clothbound edition. Special pre-publication prices are given for lots of 25 or more. (S)

The above informant also obtained a four-page flyer containing selections from DON WEST's latest collection of poems which was also issued by the above Committee and indicates that [redacted] is the person to write in ordering this book.

(S) SA T-6 advised he obtained the mimeographed letter and flyer referred to above at the Modern Book Store, Chicago, Illinois, on June 19, 1951. SA T-6 advised that the Modern Book Store is the principal outlet of the Communist Party for Communistic propaganda in the Chicago area. (S)

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Confidential Informant San Antonio T-7, of known reliability, advised that on the afternoon of August 16, 1951, he [redacted] with [redacted] at [redacted]

[redacted] San Antonio, Texas. During the conversation with [redacted] the informant Communist literature, including three copies of "The Daily Worker" dated July 18, 19 and August 10, 1951, and also a copy of "Political Affairs", February, 1951 edition which publication indicated on the front cover that it was a review of the Communist Party National Convention held in New York City, December 28-31, 1950. (S)

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"Political Affairs" was identified by the Congressional Committee on un-American Activities in Report Number 1920, 5/11/48 as "an official Communist Party monthly theoretical organ."

(S) At the same time INMAN gave SA T-7 the above Communist literature. He gave him a two-page leaflet entitled, "A Few Selections from DON WEST'S Latest Collection of Poems" used by the Committee to publish "The Road is Rocky". The last paragraph of this leaflet stated, "Give your pre-publication orders to representative here or write to GRACE KOGER, 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. Popular edition, \$1.00 - clothbound \$2.50 (special rate for orders of 25 books or more to unions, churches, clubs, etc.)."

JOHN INMAN has been a leader in the Communist Party in San Antonio, Texas, for a number of years according to Confidential Informants San Antonio T-8 and T-9, both of known reliability. (S)

(S) SA T-1 advised he determined that the two-page leaflet, "A Few Selections from DON WEST'S Latest Collection of Poems Issued by the Committee to Publish 'The Road is Rocky'" referred to above were printed by the Carleton Printing Company, 111 North Street, San Antonio, Texas. The records of the San Antonio Retail Merchants' Association reflect that the Carleton Printing Company, 111 North Street, San Antonio, [redacted] by [redacted]

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San Antonio Confidential Informant T-10, of known reliability, who is now deceased, advised in 1942 that [redacted] was believed by the Informant to be a Communist and that [redacted] was a friend of [redacted]

[redacted] and other Communists known to the Informant. The informant also advised that [redacted] told him that [redacted] the Communist Party leaflets for the Party and when [redacted] was [redacted] in San Antonio, [redacted] and [redacted] told the Informant that they could get \$5.00 for the Communist Party from [redacted] any time they asked for it. (S)

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(S) SA T-3 advised that he [redacted] and [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, about September 20, 1951, [redacted]

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SA 100-7986

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and during the visit [redacted] told the informant about a book of poems entitled, "Clods of Southern Earth" by DON WEST and stated that she was selling it in the San Antonio area.

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On September 21, 1951, SA T-2 advised that he had recently learned from [redacted] that DON WEST was then residing on his farm a short distance from Atlanta, Georgia, and that WEST was going to write for the publication, "The Southern Farmer" at his home. (S)

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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## ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

## Identity of Informants

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-1 is [redacted] b7D  
[redacted] San Antonio, Texas, who furnished information to SA MILES L. JOHNSEN and who requested that his identity not be revealed.

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-2 is Security Informant [redacted] b2 b7D  
[redacted] who furnished information to SA MILES L. JOHNSEN and whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-3 is [redacted] (S) who b7D  
[redacted] furnished information to SA MILES L. JOHNSEN and who requested that his identity not be revealed. Referral/Consult

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-5 is Security Informant [redacted] b2 b7D  
[redacted] who furnished information to SA MILES L. JOHNSEN.

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-6 is Security Informant [redacted] b2 b6 b7C b7D  
[redacted] who furnished information to SA [redacted] (Chicago letter to San Antonio dated August 2, 1951).

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-7 is [redacted] b7D  
[redacted] San Antonio, Texas, who furnished information to SA MILES L. JOHNSEN and who requested that his identity not be revealed.

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-8 is Security Informant [redacted] b2 b6 b7C b7D  
[redacted] who furnished information to SA [redacted]

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-9 is Security Informant [redacted] ✓ b7D  
[redacted] who furnished information to SA [redacted]

Confidential Informant San Antonio T-10 is Security Informant [redacted] b2 b7D

By letter dated September 12, 1951, the Atlanta office advised WEST was residing on his farm in Douglasville, Georgia.

It is noted that the report of SA [redacted], New Orleans, La. dated 6/30/51 reflects that investigation was conducted with negative results concerning subject's being in the Hammond, La. area. b6 b7C

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No leads are being set out for Oklahoma City and Minneapolis Divisions as it is being left to the discretion of the Office of Origin to request investigation in those Divisions, if such investigation is deemed pertinent.

The Houston Division advised San Antonio by letter dated May 29, 1951, that "The Last Call" is [redacted] of [redacted] [redacted] Houston, Texas. The letter pointed out that informants who are familiar with Communist Party affairs in the Houston area have stated that [redacted] was very active within the Progressive Party during 1948 and early months of 1949, and described [redacted] as an [redacted] who has been sympathetic to the Communist Party but has never been a member of the Communist Party.

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The letter further pointed out that during 1950 [redacted] [redacted] and other members of the Communist Party who were quite active at that time in the Houston area resided [redacted] [redacted] located at [redacted]

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The letter also pointed out that the Houston office has received several complaints concerning the above publication and the type of material that is contained therein. The Houston letter also pointed out that DON WEST was in Houston during March, 1951, and spent his time in the company of [redacted] and at the residence of [redacted] who is considered the [redacted] of the Communist Party in Texas.

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It is noted that numerous poems by DON WEST have been published in "The Last Call". It is suggested that the Houston Division submit a report in instant case attributing information concerning "The Last Call" and its publisher and DON WEST to appropriate informants.

No effort will be made to obtain a copy of subject's book, "The Road is Rocky" unless specifically requested by the Office of Origin.

REFERENCE: Report of SA MILES L. JOHNSON dated 2/19/51 at San Antonio.  
Report of SA [redacted] dated 8/21/51 at Atlanta.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: December 5, 1951

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

Card U.T.D.

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

12-27-51 *ape*

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME

ALIASES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/17/82 BY SP-16SK/PSK

RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

Self-employed -- Farmer and writer

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

CDM:GJV

JAN 3 1952

4176

RECORDED - 40

EX - 87

DEC 6 1951

1 19

100-20396-118

ONE

200

DR

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**SECRET**

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **ATLANTA**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>HOUSTON, TEXAS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/4/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11/27,28/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ANTON DAL SASSO</b>	<b>AHF</b>
TITLE <b>DONALD LEE WEST, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

"The Last Call" is a monthly publication [redacted] at Houston, Texas. [redacted] has been described by informants as an [redacted] who has been sympathetic with the CP but has never been a Party member. He is also described as being "eccentric old man." According to informants, this publication follows no definite political theory, philosophy, or teachings, although the author has printed several poems taken from books written by DON WEST, which are Communistic. (S)

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- RUC -

Class. & Ext. By **SP-1 GSK/RSK**  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review **3/17/92**

**DETAILS:**

**AT HOUSTON, TEXAS**

"The Last Call" is a monthly publication [redacted] who resides at [redacted] Houston.

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According to Confidential Informants T-1, and T-2, both of known reliability and who are familiar with Communist Party affairs in the Houston area, [redacted] was very active within the Progressive Party during 1948 and early months of 1949. These informants described [redacted] as an [redacted] who has been sympathetic with the Communist Party but has never been a member of the Party. [redacted] was further described as an "eccentric old man" who has [redacted] located at the above address. (S)

C-DR  
4/21/51  
flm (C)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>A. F. [signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-22346-119</b> <b>DEC 10 1951</b> <b>24</b> <b>FIVE</b>	RECORDED - 26 INDEXED - 26
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**57 JAN 2 1952**

**SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

HO.  
100-8559

~~SECRET~~

Informants T-1 and T-2 advised the Progressive Party in Houston, Texas was controlled and dominated by Communist Party members during 1948. (S)

Informants advised that this publication, "The Last Call," does not appear to adhere to any definite political theory, philosophy, or teachings. It was pointed out at times this publication follows some of the Communist Party lines and also condemns various religious sects. At other times, this publication praises religion and its benefits to mankind. (S)

It has been noted that in the past this publication has carried poems which were written by DON WEST, subject of instant case, who has been reported to be sympathetic to the Communist cause.

- RUC -

~~SECRET~~

"  
COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY  
EMPLOYED BY  
DONALD Lee West  
(EMPL. CARD)  
The Last Call"

HO.  
100-8559

~~SECRET~~

- ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE -

Attention is invited to ~~the fact~~ that mention was made in the report of SA [ ] dated 10-18-51 at San Antonio, Texas that the May 1951 issue of "The Last Call" an advertisement appeared promoting the sale of DON WEST's book "The Road is Rocky."

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To date, this office has been unable to ascertain through informants and other available sources whether or not this was paid advertisement or whether it was promoted by [ ] of his own accord.

- CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS -

[ Confidential Informant T-1

Confidential Informant T-2 ]



(S)

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- REFERENCE -

Report of SA [ ] dated 10-18-51 at San Antonio, Texas.

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