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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.
SM - C
(OO: ATLANTA)

DATE: 1/10/57

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/RJK
ON 8/21/82

Rerep SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, dated 10/23/56 at Atlanta, and NY let to Director, 12/14/56.

The following is a documentation of MOSES B. SHERR, 243 West 70th Street, NYC:

The June, September and November, 1950, issues of the "NEW YORK GUILD LAWYER" list MOSES B. SHERR as being a member of the Board of Directors of the New York Chapter, NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD. The "NEW YORK GUILD LAWYER" is self-described as "published monthly by the New York Chapter of the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD."

The following concerning the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD is set forth in the "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", prepared by the Committee on Un-American Activities, US House of Representatives, 5/14/51:

1. Cited as a Communist Front. (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 3/29/44, p. 149).
2. Cited as a Communist Front which "is the foremost legal bulwark of the CP, its front organizations and controlled unions", and which "since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the CP and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents". (Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, Report on the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD, House Report #3123, 9/21/50).

RUC.

VJA:va

2-Bureau (100-20396) RM
1-Atlanta (100-559) RM
1-NY 100-22129
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RECORDED 12/23/56 20396-168
INDEXED 12/23/56 20396-168
JAN 11 1957
EX-126
FILE
271 (2) ON
MAILED 1/15/57
FBI NEW YORK
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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CONFIDENTIAL

REPORTING OFFICE CHICAGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN ATLANTA	DATE 2-8-57	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 9/20,21;10/1,2,4,15,30,31; 11/7,8,30;12/21,31/56;1/18/57
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, Was.		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY lls
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF [REDACTED] DATE 5/15/82		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

SYNOPSIS:

Informants advised Communist Party meeting held 7/56, where it was announced DON WEST was to be speaker at home of [REDACTED] reported member of CP, 7/56; Chicago Peace Committee meeting held 7/56, where it was announced WEST would speak in Chicago 7/56; meeting of Progressive Party of Illinois held 2/52, where it was announced WEST would speak in Chicago 3/52. Articles concerning WEST appeared in "Daily Worker" issue of 2/56 and "National Guardian" 2/56. Meetings of Socialist Union of America, Chicago Branch, held 7/56, reflected SUA support of WEST and "The New Southerner" newspaper. Socialist Workers Party, Chicago Branch, meeting 4/56 reflected WEST agreed to take "The Militant," the SWP newspaper. WEST spoke at meeting held for him at "Vilnis," 7/56. WEST in contact with members of CP and CP front groups, Chicago, 1956. ~~IX~~

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Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review 3/31/92

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

APPROVED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE [Signature]	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
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AGENCY ICC RAB-
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 2/15/57
HOW FORW. [REDACTED]
BY [REDACTED]

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CONFIDENTIAL

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DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

All informants mentioned in this report have furnished reliable information in the past unless otherwise indicated.

The following organizations have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450:

American Peace Crusade
Communist Party, USA
Labor Youth League
Socialist Workers Party

The following publications and organizations, which have not been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450, are characterized in the Appendix section of this report:

Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship
Chicago Peace Committee
"The Militant"
"National Guardian"
Progressive Party of Illinois
Socialist Union of America
"Vilnis" (Surge)

I. BACKGROUND

A. Occupation

On March 28, 1956, JOE AZBELL, City Editor, "Montgomery Advertiser," a daily newspaper at Montgomery, Alabama, advised a new publication was scheduled to be printed at Montgomery called, "The New Southerner." AZBELL advised the editor and publisher of this paper is DONALD LEE WEST and stated he had obtained information that WEST

- 2 -
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CG 100-7192

either was or had been a "known Communist."

The masthead of "The New Southerner" for April, 1956 lists the editor and publisher, DONALD LEE WEST, and the address as Post Office Box 6043 Carolyn Station, Montgomery, Alabama.

The last issued publication of "The New Southerner" was dated "Summer 1956" and no additional publications have been issued.

B. Credit

The files of the Chicago Credit Bureau were searched on October 30, 1956, by clerk [redacted] and reflected no record for DONALD LEE WEST. b6 b7C

C. Criminal

The records of the Records and Communications Section, Chicago Police Department, were searched by Patrolman [redacted] on October 31, 1956, and reflected no record for DONALD LEE WEST. b6 b7C

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

A Communist Party (CP) meeting was held on the North Side of Chicago on July 26, 1956. The informant advised that [redacted] stated at this meeting that DON WEST was to be a guest speaker at her home on July 28, 1956, and that five hundred invitations had been mailed out for this affair. (S) b6 b7C

[redacted] (T-1 on 8/8/56) (S) was an active member of a CP club on the North Side of Chicago as of January 20, 1956. (S) b6 b7C 142

[redacted] (T-1 on 1/20/56) (S)

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Current Contact with Informants

Confidential informants, who are generally familiar with CP and CP front group activity in the Chicago area, were contacted and they advised that they could furnish no additional information concerning DON WEST.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Chicago Peace Committee (CPC)

A meeting of the CPC was held at 166 West Washington Street, Chicago, on July 17, 1956. The informant advised that it was announced at this meeting that DON WEST of "The New Southerner" was to be a speaker at the home of

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[redacted] Chicago, on July 21, 1956. ~~(S)~~

[(T-2 on 7/23/56)] ~~(S)~~

[redacted] is the doctor most frequently used by CP people and is considered very loyal by the CP. ~~(S)~~

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[(T-3 on 12/30/54)] ~~(S)~~

B. The "Daily Worker"

The "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

A picture and article concerning DON WEST, who was described as a preacher, teacher, editor, and poet, appeared in the February 12, 1956, issue of the "Daily Worker," on page seven, columns three, four and five.

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CG 100-7192

C. "National Guardian"

A picture and article concerning DON WEST appeared on page three, column one of the February 6, 1956, issue of the "National Guardian." This article reflected that DON WEST had been driven out of Dalton, Georgia, for his "left wing teachings."

D. Progressive Party of Illinois (PP)

A meeting of the Southwest Chapter, PP of ^{CHICAGO} Illinois, was held at the home of NELLIE DE SCHAAF, 759 West 72nd Street, on February 29, 1952. The informant advised that NELLIE DE SCHAAF announced at this meeting that DON WEST was to speak at the Halsted Street Institutional Church, 1935 South Halsted, on March 2, 1952.

[(T-4, an agency which collects security information in the Chicago area, on 3/1/52)]

NELLIE DE SCHAAF was present at a meeting of the Executive Board, Southwest Section, PP of Illinois, held at 3437 South Emerald Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on April 12, 1951.

[(T-5 on 4/24/51)]

NELLIE DE SCHAAF attended a meeting of the American Peace Crusade (APC) on September 20, 1955, at 166 West Washington Street, Chicago.

[(T-2 on 9/25/55)]

E. Socialist Union of America (SUA)

A Chicago SUA meeting was held at SUA Headquarters, Chicago, on July 1, 1956. PERRY CARTWRIGHT announced at

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CG 100-7192

this meeting that DON WEST was going to be in Chicago and he wanted to arrange a picnic for WEST for the first Sunday in August. It was decided at this meeting that, inasmuch as the SUA had already made arrangements for a SUA picnic on that date, WEST could attend as a speaker, but because of monetary difficulties the picnic would be devoted to fund raising for the SUA.

[(T-6 on 7/1/56)] (S)

PERRY CARTWRIGHT was a leading member of the Chicago SUA during approximately January, 1955 to August, 1956, at which time he resigned and his resignation was accepted by vote of the members. 244

[(T-6 on 10/5/56)] (S)

It is to be further noted that the masthead of "The New Southerner," April, 1956 issue, Volume one, Number one, lists PERRY CARTWRIGHT as one of the contributing editors.

A Chicago SUA meeting was held at SUA Headquarters, Chicago, on July 15, 1956. PERRY CARTWRIGHT spoke about DON WEST and stated that a meeting would be held for WEST in a private home on the South Side of Chicago on July 21, 1956, and that WEST would read his poems at this meeting. CARTWRIGHT said an identical meeting would be held during the following week on the North Side of Chicago, and that the purpose of this meeting was to raise funds for DON WEST and "The New Southerner" newspaper, of which WEST is Editor.

[(T-6 on 7/16/56)] (S)

A Chicago SUA meeting was held at SUA Headquarters, on July 22, 1956. PERRY CARTWRIGHT gave a report on the DON WEST affair which he had attended and which was held to raise money for WEST's newspaper, "The New Southerner." CARTWRIGHT reported that this affair was held on July 21, 1956,

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CG 100-7192

and had been very successful. He said that there must have been over 125 people present, with 102 paid admissions, and he expected the same results at a similar affair to be held for WEST on the North Side of Chicago on July 28, 1956.

[T-6 on 7/27/56] (S)

F. Socialist Workers Party (SWP)

A meeting of the Chicago Branch of the SWP was held in Chicago on April 12, 1956. It was learned at this meeting that one thousand copies of "The Militant" would be distributed at Montgomery, Alabama, and that DON WEST, who was a white editor of "The New Southerner" had agreed to take "The Militant." The informant believed that this subscription was on an exchange basis.

[T-7 on 4/18/56] (S)

A meeting of the Chicago Branch, SWP was held on August 5, 1956, at SWP Headquarters, Chicago. Correspondence was read at this meeting from DON WEST, who wanted the SWP to conduct a petition campaign in order to put its candidate on the presidential ballot as a test case, in order to see what tactics the Election Board would use to deny it. (S)

[T-8 on 8/8/56] (S)

An SWP letter dated July 31, 1956, reflected that DON WEST, Editor of "The New Southerner," would be a main speaker on July 31, 1956, at the Greater St. John Baptist Church, 4825 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago. (S)

[T-9 on 8/10/56] (S)

G. "Vilnis" (Surge) Newspaper

DON WEST lectured at "Vilnis," 3116 South Halsted Street, Chicago, on July 27, 1956. The informant advised that NELLIE DE SCHAAF acted as chairman of the (S)

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CG 100-7192

meeting and the collection totalled \$42.00. ~~(S)~~

DON WEST spoke concerning "The New Southerner" and described the condition in which the Negro and the poor white sharecroppers live in the South. WEST stated that the House Committee on Un-American Activities had had his name in the headlines for some time, but that he was glad it could be carried in the headlines "for some good cause." ~~(S)~~

[(T-10 on 7/30/56)] ~~(S)~~

"Vilnis" (Surge) issue of July 27, 1956, page three, column two, carried an article regarding the above-described meeting.

H. Additional Information Pertaining to Associates of Subject in Chicago Area

DON WEST attended a party at the home of MANDEL TERMAN on January 28, 1956. ~~(S)~~

[(T-11 on 1/30/56
T-12 on 2/6/56)] ~~(S)~~

The February, 1956 issue of "Friendship," the monthly bulletin of the Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship (CCASF), reflected that MANDEL TERMAN was Chairman of that organization. ILL

DON WEST, Editor of "The New Southerner" of Dalton, Georgia, was scheduled to speak at a meeting at the home of HARVEY O'CONNOR, Winnetka, Illinois, on January 29, 1956.

[(T-4 on 10/31/56)] ~~(S)~~

Concerning HARVEY O'CONNOR, Mr. BENJAMIN GITLOW, Former Executive Secretary of the CP, while testifying for

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CG 100-7192

the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, 76th Congress, identified HARVEY O'CONNOR as a member of the CP. ILL

DON WEST, Editor of "The New Southerner" had recently been in contact with [redacted] in Chicago. b6
b7C

[redacted] (T-13-on 8/7/56) b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] attended a Community-Club South Side Labor Youth League (LYL) [redacted] meeting on May 21, 1956, at [redacted] Chicago. ILL

[redacted] (T-14 on 5/25/56)

HENRY NOYES left Chicago on August 7, 1956, for Berea, Kentucky, where he was to meet DONALD WEST. The informant advised that NOYES was going to spend a two or three week vacation at West's farm, Douglasville, Georgia.

[redacted] (T-15, who has not been contacted sufficiently to determine his reliability, but who is in a position to know, on 8/8/56) (S)

HENRY NOYES was a member of the CP as of August, 1955. ILL
KY.
GA.

[redacted] (T-3 on 4/55) (S)

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APPENDIX

ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR PUBLICATIONS

The following organizations and/or publications which have been utilized in this report and which have not been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450, are characterized in the attached appendix pages:

~~SECRET~~

CHICAGO COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 7, 1956, that the CCASF since its inception in Chicago in the 1940's has never failed to propagandize for Russia and the Russian way of life. This source further advised that the CCASF has been using speakers who were known to the source as members of the Communist Party since the first meetings in the 1940's. The source advised that the program of the CCASF has always included speakers, movies, and pamphlets praising every aspect of Russia including its foreign policy and has been extremely critical of the United States domestic and foreign policies.

The Communist Party, USA, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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CHICAGO PEACE COMMITTEE

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in October, 1956, that the Chicago Peace Committee (CPC) was set up in December, 1955, at the direction of the CP Illinois-Indiana District, to be a local "Peace Committee" to replace the American Peace Crusade (APC) which had dissolved. The purpose of the CPC was to issue a bulletin from time to time, to organize forum meetings, and to organize mass meetings from time to time.

The CPC was dissolved on September 18, 1956, at the direction of the CP Illinois-Indiana District, because it was no longer serving the purpose of the CP.

The APC and the CP-USA have been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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"THE MILITANT"

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 27, 1956 that "The Militant" is staffed, controlled and published as a weekly newspaper of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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"NATIONAL GUARDIAN"

The 1949 Report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities cited the "National Guardian" as a publication launched in New York in 1948 aiming at national circulation, which it found to be, from its inception, notoriously Stalinist in its staff, writers, management, and content. (1949 Report of the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, Page 334).

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PROGRESSIVE PARTY OF ILLINOIS

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 6, 1951, that the Progressive Party of Illinois was under the control of the Communist Party and has been under Communist Party control since the inception of the Progressive Party in Illinois.

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SOCIALIST UNION OF AMERICA (SUA)

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on November 8, 1954, advised that the SUA was formed by a minority group which broke away from the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) primarily because the minority group believed that the organization should enter the Communist Party (CP) and other left-wing groups with the intention of swinging these groups right or left, thereby making a revolution possible in a shorter time. The SUA was formally founded at what was called the Midwest Founding Conference held November 21, 1953, at Detroit, Michigan.

The SWP and CP have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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VILNIS (SURGE)

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that "Vilnis" is a daily Lithuanian language newspaper published at 3116 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois, by the Workers Publishing Company, Inc. "Vilnis" was founded in 1920 by a group of Communists. The policy of "Vilnis" since that time has been to support the Communist Party. The present policy of the paper is to support the Soviet Union's foreign policy particularly with regard to Soviet domination of Lithuania and to condemn the foreign policy of the United States.

"Vilnis" offices, according to the source, have been the Chicago headquarters of various Communist dominated Lithuanian organizations.

"Vilnis", issue of May 8, 1931, p 2, contained a statement that at a "Vilnis" stockholders meeting held a year previously a resolution was adopted declaring that "Vilnis" was a Communist newspaper.

An editorial in the May 7, 1933, issue of "Vilnis", p 1, over the signature "Communist Party, Lithuanian Fraction, Central Bureau", contains the statement, "By supporting 'Vilnis' you are supporting our entire Communist movement."

The "Vilnis" Almanac for 1937, published by "Vilnis", 3116 South Halsted Street, Chicago, p 2, column 1, contains an advertisement for "Vilnis" describing it as a "Lithuanian Communist Daily Newspaper."

"Vilnis" was found "to be Communist initiated and controlled or to be so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin solar system" by the California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, p 225.

The Massachusetts Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, p 280, describes "Vilnis" as being a "Lithuanian Daily which the Communist Party admits is under Communist influence."

- RUC -

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CG 100-7192

ADMINISTRATIVE

The information furnished on 3/28/56, by JOE AZBELL, Montgomery, Alabama, was received by an unidentified employee of the Atlanta Office.

The files of the Chicago Credit Bureau were caused to be searched on 10/30/56, at the request of Investigative Clerk [redacted]

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The files of the Records and Communications Section, Chicago Police Department, were searched on October 31, 1956, at the request of Investigative Clerk [redacted]

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Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

Date of Activity And/or Description of Information

File Number where Located

T-1

[redacted]

CP meeting, 7/26/56

100-7192-34

Characterization of [redacted]

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(S) T-2

[redacted]

b2
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GPC meeting, 7/17/56

" 33

Characterization of NELLIE DE SCHAAF

T-3

[redacted]

Characterization of [redacted]

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Characterization of HENRY NOYES

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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CG 100-7192

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-4 Security Unit, Chicago Police Department.	2/29/52	100-19003-1707, page 5
	1/29/56	Instant report
T-5 [redacted]	Characterization of NELLIE DE SCHAAF	
T-6 [redacted]	SUA meeting, 7/1/56	100-32524-8
	Characterization of PERRY CARTWRIGHT	
	SUA meeting, 7/15/56	" 7
	SUA meeting, 7/22/56	" 9
T-7 [redacted]		100-645-4104, page 3
T-8 [redacted]		100-7192-30
T-9 [redacted]		" 37

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b7D

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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CG 100-7192

Identity
of Source

Date of Activity
And/or Description
of Information

File Number
where
Located

T-10

100-32524-10

T-11

100-7192-26

T-12

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b7D

" 27

T-13

" 31

T-14

Characterization of

b6
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T-15

" 29

Chicago
(Requested)

b6
b7C
b7D

Current Informant Check

The following informants were contacted on the dates indicated and advised they were unable to furnish any additional information concerning DON WEST:

PSI

10/2/56
10/4/56
10/4/56
10/4/56
10/15/56

100-7192-36

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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CG 100-7192

Source

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Former
[REDACTED]

Source of Information
(Protect Identity)

Documentation of Organizations

Organization
Chicago Council of American-Soviet
Friendship
Chicago Peace Committee
"The Militant"
Progressive Party of Illinois
Socialist Union of America

"Vilnis", (Surge)

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REFERENCES

Atlanta letter to Chicago dated 8/31/56.

Atlanta airtel to Chicago dated 12/21/56.

~~ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE~~

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman *LB*

DATE: January 31, 1957

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont *AB*

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
DISTRICT NUMBER 31
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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

SYNOPSIS:

The breakdown of the estimated Communist Party (CP) membership by states reflects four members in the State of Georgia. The correctness of this figure is backed up by the following information: In June, 1956, CG 5824-S* advised there were three registered CP members in the State of Georgia according to 1955-1956 CP registration figures. No record of the names of these three individuals was maintained by the CP nor made available to this informant. Since July, 1956, it is known that Gloria Jacqueline Hollis, who has had a long history of communist activity, moved from New York to Georgia. Information developed through our investigations and from confidential informants indicates that the four members of the CP residing in Georgia are Donald L. West, R.F.D. 4, Douglasville, Georgia; John Eber Hester, Jr., c/o Donald L. West, R.F.D. 4, Douglasville, Georgia; Nannie Leah Washburn, R.F.D. 4, Douglasville, Georgia; and Gloria Jacqueline Hollis, Georgia. *(S)*

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b7c

There has been limited CP activity in Georgia. No CP meetings are held and no records are being maintained to our knowledge. Therefore, inasmuch as these four individuals are not openly active as CP members it would be extremely difficult to prove legally that they are CP members today. There is no doubt in our minds, as reflected by our investigations, that these four are communists. They are all included in our Security Index. *(S)*

It must be remembered with respect to CP membership in the United States, the estimated membership as of 12/31/56 was 17,360. Since 1948, when the twelve top CP leaders were arrested for conspiracy to violate the Smith Act of 1940, no

100-3-33

cc Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Baumgardner
Mr. Simpson
RDS:hif:pat
(6)

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Memorandum to Mr. Boardman
Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
DISTRICT NUMBER 31
100-3-33

membership cards have been issued by the Party and particularly since 1951 the CP has been very security conscious. All membership records are maintained by trusted Party members only and they are required to keep such records in appropriate codes which do not identify members by name. While we have identified a high percentage of the communists in the country, in many instances we cannot identify these individuals as members of the CP since there are no membership records to check against. Our information regarding membership generally has been obtained from live informants, technical and microphone surveillances and highly confidential investigative techniques. (S)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is believed we should avoid, whenever possible, publicly naming members of the CP. In the event information concerning these four individuals is furnished outside the Bureau, we should make certain that it is not attributed to the FBI and that the Bureau will not be required to produce legal evidence concerning their CP membership.

This memorandum should be routed to Assistant Director J. P. Mohr. Where public source information concerning the activities of these four individuals was available it has been set out under the individual summaries.

Ad
JFB

JS

JFM

I think OK to
give names
and public
source information
to Cong. Preston

~~SECRET~~

OK.
f

Memorandum to Mr. Boardman
Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
DISTRICT NUMBER 31
100-3-33

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DETAILS:

Pursuant to the Director's request, there is submitted below a summary of the information pertaining to the four individuals who are the current members of the Communist Party (CP) in Georgia:

1. Donald L. West, R.F.D. 4, Douglasville, Georgia. West has a history of CP activity dating back to 1934. He served on a CP national election committee in 1936; was CP organizer in Kentucky in 1937; and held CP membership card number 96336 in 1947. In 1955, [] described West as a comrade who had the faculty to straighten out difficult CP problems. [] advised that one [] was to be assigned in Georgia as a []. This same informant stated that in November, 1955, [] had stated he was going to Dalton, Georgia, to work for the newspaper, "The Southerner," which West was then editing for the Church of God. West met with [] and Edward Eugene Strong in New York in January, 1956, to discuss this assignment of []. Strong is a national CP official who was indicted in 1956 for violation of the Smith Act of 1940. West in November, 1955, also met with other CP officials regarding [] assignment. [] did not go to Georgia, but was subsequently arrested in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and returned to Boston to face charges under the Smith Act. Other informants have advised that in August, 1956, CP members in Chicago were staging a rally to raise funds for West following his expulsion from the Church of God for his refusal to take an oath at a public meeting that he was not a communist.

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Public Source Material: West is referred to as a CP organizer for Kentucky and/or the South in articles in the "Daily Worker" for 6/19/34, 11/1/35, 7/20/36, 10/5/36 and 6/22/37. The issue of 3/13/34 carries a poem by Donald L. West entitled "Listen, I Am a Communist." He invoked the Fifth Amendment when questioned regarding his past CP connections before a county grand jury, Dalton, Georgia, in October, 1955. He was thereafter expelled from the Church after his refusal to take an oath at a public meeting that he was not a communist. These activities of West were the subject of articles appearing in the "Dalton News," Dalton, Georgia, in January, 1956.

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Memorandum to Mr. Boardman
Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
DISTRICT NUMBER 31
100-3-33

On 5/1/58 the Adjutant General advised that under the current review program Hester's character of disposition has been changed from General (Under Honorable Conditions) to Honorable. See 100-373305-34 MET

2. John Eber Hester, Jr., c/o Donald Lee West, R.F.D. 4, Douglasville, Georgia. Hester has participated in CP and CP front activities since early 1949. In March and April, 1949, he was in attendance at CP meetings in Omaha, Nebraska, and during 1949 and 1950 was associated with members of the CP in Omaha. Hester was described in April, 1950, by Warren Batterson, then the organizational secretary of District 32, CP, USA, as being a very enthusiastic worker for the CP. Hester was inducted into the U. S. Army on 9/15/52 at Omaha, Nebraska, and was discharged therefrom on 2/3/54 under the provisions of AR 615-370 (discharge of disloyal or subversive personnel). Hester was reported to be a member of the Civil Rights Congress (designated by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450) in July, 1952, and February, 1953. He was in attendance at meetings of this organization on various dates from 1952 through December, 1954. In December, 1954, Hester was reported to be attending CP membership indoctrination classes in Chicago, Illinois. Hester was described on 8/16/55 as literature director of a Labor Youth League (LYL) club in the Chicago area during 1954 (designated by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450). He was an active participant in the affairs of the LYL in the Chicago area until July, 1956. During 1955 and until July, 1956, Hester was in attendance at meetings of various CP front organizations in the Chicago area, including the Midwest Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, an affiliate of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born (designated by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450). In March, 1956, it was reported that Hester held a responsible position in the sale and distribution of the "New Challenge" in the Chicago area at that time. The "New Challenge" is a publication issued by the LYL.

Public Source Material: On Labor Day, 9/5/49, at an American Federation of Labor (AF of L) parade held in Omaha, Nebraska, Hester, together with three other individuals, attempted to pass out leaflets denouncing the Mundt Bill. This leaflet contained information that it was issued by the CP in Nebraska. Following a scuffle which ensued with the AF of L union men, Hester, together with his companions, was arrested and released on 9/20/49 at Central Police Court, Omaha. Municipal Judge P. Wheeler dismissed all of the above individuals, stating that the leaflet distributors had a right to hand out the leaflets but that others had a right not to accept them.

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Memorandum to Mr. Boardman
Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
DISTRICT NUMBER 31
100-3-33

3. Nannie Leah Washburn, R.F.D. 4, Douglasville, Georgia. Her brother, William H. Leathers, who was a member of the CP in 1932-1935, has described Washburn as an "old CP member" who as early as 1934 was arrested for circulating "insurrection literature." She was arrested in July, 1950, in Atlanta, Georgia, and fined \$50 for circulating the "Stockholm Peace Petition." (The "Stockholm Peace Petition" has been cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as communist on July 13, 1950.) She attended a conference of the American Peace Crusade, Washington, D. C., in June, 1953, and another conference of this organization in New York in December, 1953. (The American Peace Crusade has been designated by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450.) She attended a world peace conference held in Stockholm, Sweden, in November, 1954, and early in 1955 lectured on this conference throughout the Midwest under the sponsorship of the American Peace Crusade. She indicated to an informant that while in Europe in 1954 she had been the guest of CP members in Paris and London. In 1954 she was a regular subscriber to the "Daily Worker" and distributed this newspaper in the Atlanta area. An informant advised that Washburn was one of the main speakers at a meeting of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Women for Peace held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 13, 1955. (The American Women for Peace has been designated by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450.) Her brother, on October 10, 1956, also stated Washburn had attempted to persuade [redacted] a former CP member, to reaffiliate herself with the CP during the year 1956. ~~EX~~

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Public Source Material: Washburn was arrested in September, 1934, and indicted for circulating "insurrection literature." This indictment was nolle prossed in August, 1939, since the portion of the state code under which she was indicted was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court. She was arrested in May, 1936, and charged with disorderly conduct and inciting insurrection and fined \$102. The Atlanta "Constitution" on 6/13/36 reflects she was arrested in a group of whites and Negroes attending a CP meeting. She was arrested in July, 1950, for circulating the "Stockholm Peace Petition" and fined \$50. All of these arrests took place in Atlanta, Georgia.

4. Gloria Jacqueline Hollis, 6 Gibbon Street, Rome, Georgia. She was an active member of the CP in Washington, D. C., from 1946 to 1952. From 1946 to July, 1953, Hollis was active in fifteen CP front organizations in Washington, D. C., holding position

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Memorandum to Mr. Boardman
Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
DISTRICT NUMBER 31
100-3-33

of executive secretary of Civil Rights Congress (designated by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450) in 1951 and leadership positions in others. In 1951-1952 she attended affairs at the Polish, Rumanian and Soviet Embassies. Some of her front activities continued even after her expulsion from the Party in 1952 on suspicion of disloyalty to the Party. In July, 1953, she contacted Betty Gannett, national CP office, to protest that the District of Columbia CP would not permit her to return to active membership. Gannett promised to check into the matter and attempt to arrange a transfer to the CP in Atlanta. While we have no evidence that the transfer was effected, the fact remains she is in Georgia and her efforts to arrange such a transfer is indicative of her continued adherence to the communist ideology. Hollis exhibited a hostile attitude toward Bureau Agents when attempts were made to interview her in January, 1955.

Public Source Material: No public source material is available connecting her with the CP.

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 12/14/56

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.
SM - C
OO: ATLANTA

Re report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, dated 10/23/56,
at Atlanta, Georgia.

NY 559-S* was recontacted by SA [redacted] on 12/6/56. Informant identified a photograph of JIM WEST as being the individual he actually had in mind when he furnished information on DON WEST on 7/6/56. NY 559-S* had mistakenly referred to DON WEST when he furnished the information on 7/6/56.

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The information was originally set forth in NY letter to Director dated 7/12/56, in the case entitled, "CP, USA, DISTRICT NUMBER 8, EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA: IS-C." This letter was disseminated to Chicago, Cleveland, Newark, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh Offices. The Bureau and the auxiliary offices mentioned are therefore, requested to make the following changes in this dissemination letter:

Strike out NY file "100-22129 (DON WEST)" and insert instead NY file 100-20669 (JIM WEST). On page three of the letter, last paragraph, last line, strike out "DON" and insert "JIM." The necessary corrections are being made to the New York Office files.

- 2 - Bureau (100-20396) (RM)
- 2 - Atlanta (100-559) (RM)
- 2 - Chicago (RM)
- 2 - Cleveland (RM)
- 2 - Newark (RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia (RM)
- 2 - Pittsburgh (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-20669) (JIM WEST) (#7-6)
- 1 - New York (100-22129)
- 1 - New York [redacted]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 5/25/82

VJA:bml
(17)

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CLASS. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/31/92

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

58 JAN 3 1957

SUBV. CONTROL
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CONSOLIDATION
No action

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NY 100-22129

A documentation of MOSES B. SHERR is being prepared for the Atlanta Office, as requested in referenced report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE dated 10/23/56.

- 2 -

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Report Form
FD-72 (5-12-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORTING OFFICE 7. ATLANTA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN ATLANTA	DATE 2/25/57	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/8,12,14/57
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, Was.		REPORT MADE BY CHARLES PAUL ROSE	TYPED BY MEL
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

SYNOPSIS:

DONALD LEE WEST resides Rt. #4, Douglasville, Ga., and is occupied as a farmer at the same address. Contacts of WEST set forth. JOHN EBER HESTER, JR. resides with WEST, and is employed as a farm laborer by WEST. Information re HESTER set forth. WEST not known to publish issue of "The New Southerner" since summer edition 1956.

- C -

~~ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 5/25/82~~

DETAILS: AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

The following organizations have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order #10450:

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 CSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/31/92 3/31/82

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 5 Bureau (100-20396) (RM) (1 - 100- The New Southerner) 5 - Atlanta (100-559) (1 - 100-5631) (1 - 100-5642)		100-20396-170 10 FEB 27 1957 RECORDED - 60 EX-123	
3 COPIES DESTROYED 4/20/59 #16		SUB CONTROL	

AGENCY 100 RAB
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 3-6-57
HOW FORW. 100
BY 100/90

50 MAR 7 1957

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Civil Rights Congress

Communist Party, USA

Communist Political Association,
its sub-divisions, subsidiaries,
and affiliates, including the
Virginia League for Peoples Education

Labor Youth League

The following publications, which have not been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order #10450, are characterized in the Appendix section of this report:

"The Daily Worker"

"The National Lawyers Guild"

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence

[Confidential Informant T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 8, 1957,] that DONALD LEE WEST presently resides on a farm owned by WEST in a remote section of Douglas County, Georgia. He stated WEST's mailing address is Rural Route #4, Douglasville, Georgia. (S)

B. Employment

[T-1 stated on February 8, 1957,] that WEST is actively engaged in farming, and at this time is plowing certain portions of his farm preparatory for spring planting. He stated for approximately six months WEST has been occupied as a farmer at his place of residence. (S)

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II. CONTACTS OF THE SUBJECT

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 15, 1956, that during August, 1956, subject had been in contact with one OLLIE D., Box 6054, Asheville, North Carolina. The informant stated that "OLLIE D." indicated she was sending WEST a copy of a book entitled "Sons of the Stranger". ~~(S)~~

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on October 5, 1956, that Post Office Box 6054, Asheville, North Carolina, is the box of Mrs. OLIVE DARGAN. ~~(S)~~

The 1955 Asheville City Directory, Asheville, North Carolina, lists Mrs. OLIVE DARGAN as residing at 58 Balsam Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina.

Confidential Informant T-4, who had access to reliable information, on an unknown date furnished a ~~(S)~~ mailing list obtained from the President of the Virginia League for Peoples Education. This list included the name of OLIVE DARGAN, Asheville, North Carolina.

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on October 12, 1949, that FIELDING BURKE, Balsam Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina, was a subscriber as of that date to "The Daily Worker". FIELDING BURKE is a pen name utilized by OLIVE DARGAN. ~~(S)~~

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised during September 1954, that OLIVE T. DARGAN, 58 Balsam Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina, had contributed one dollar (\$1.00) to the Civil Rights Congress. ~~(S)~~

In May, 1952, [REDACTED] at the home of Mrs. OLIVE DARGAN, 58 Balsam Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina, advised that Mrs. DARGAN had written a book entitled, "Sons of the Stranger", which book she stated

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dealt with the poor working conditions of the laborers in different mining areas. [] advised that on one or two occasions while she was residing at Mrs. DARGAN's residence, Mrs. DARGAN commented that Communism has some good points, and it was her opinion the Russian people wanted peace. She stated Mrs. DARGAN had also offered the opinion that the United States was the aggressive country rather than Russia.

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[] stated she had known Mrs. DARGAN for many years, and she had no information to the effect Mrs. DARGAN is a member of the Communist Party, or any organization, which might be considered disloyal to the United States.

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Confidential Informant T-7, who had access to reliable information, advised on July 3, 1956, the subject, while in New York was told to see MOSES B. SHERR, 243 West Seventieth Street, New York, New York.

The June, September, and November, 1950 issues of the "New York Guild Lawyer" lists MOSES B. SHERR as being a member of the Board of Directors of the New York Chapter, National Lawyers Guild.

The "New York Guild Lawyer" is self-described as "published monthly by the New York Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild."

Confidential Informant T-1 on December 4, 1956, identified a photograph of JOHN EBER HESTER, JR. as the individual who has resided with the subject on his farm, Route #4, Douglasville, Georgia, and who is employed for all practical purposes as a laborer at the same address.

Confidential Informant T-8, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 22, 1956, that as of that date LOU DISKIN had in his possession certain notes and papers. On one sheet of paper, written in longhand under the caption of "Transfer" were eight names, including the name JACK HESTER.

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~~CH~~ Confidential Informant T-9, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 11, 1956, that LOU DISKIN was recently National Communist Party Co-ordinator in the National Industry, and is presently Organizational Secretary of the Foster (Packing) Division in the "Illinois-Indiana Communist Party District".

On March 21, 1956, T-9 advised that [redacted] of the Illinois-Indiana District of the Communist Party, had in her possession registration forms pertaining to individuals in the Foster Division of the Communist Party, which registration form had been completed during the 1956 Communist Party registration drive for this district. This registration form, which did not bear the name of an individual, for security reasons, reflected that a male, twenty-three years of age of the white race, whose national origin was reflected as Scotch-Irish, had been in the organization for three months, whose mass activity was listed as Labor Youth League (LYL), had been registered in this division.

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On September 4, 1956, [redacted] Acme Industrial Company, 222 North Laflin Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised that HESTER, an [redacted] of that company, is a white, male, born [redacted] of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

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Confidential Informant T-10, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 23, 1954, that JACK HESTER had recently been attending classes held regularly in Chicago on membership indoctrination into the Communist Party.

Confidential Informant T-11, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 15, 1956, that EARL DURHAM, who shared an apartment with JOHN EBER HESTER, JR. at [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, at that time had designated HESTER to aid in receiving and housing certain out-of-state visiting delegates to the National LYL Conference.

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[X] Confidential Informant T-9 advised on October 5, 1955, that EARL DURHAM is a member of the District Committee of the Illinois-Indiana District, Communist Party, as of October, 1955. [X] The informant advised in January, 1956, that EARL DURHAM was the Mid-West Co-ordinator, and a leading official in the LYL. The informant advised EARL DURHAM was responsible for many of the preparations for the National LYL Teenage Conference to be held in Chicago on February 11-13, 1956. [X]

[X] Confidential Informant T-2 advised on August 28, 1956, that HENRIETTA BUCKMASTER was a contact of the subject, and the subject had been at her apartment in New York City during 1956. [X]

[X] Confidential Informant T-12, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on June 21, 1950, that HENRIETTA BUCKMASTER was known to him throughout the period of the forties until 1945, as a devoted member of the Communist Party. [X]

[X] Confidential Informant T-13, who has access to reliable information, advised on December 31, 1956, that the subject has various accounts with the Austell Bank, Austell, Georgia. According to the informant, there has not been any unusual deposits or withdrawals during the previous three month period. [X]

III. INFORMATION RE NEW SOUTHERNER

[X] T-2 advised on January 15, 1957, that he had determined the last issue of the "New Southerner" published by WEST during July, 1956, which was described as the summer edition, was published in Montgomery, Alabama, by the printing concern operated by AUBREY WILLIAMS.

AUBREY WILLIS WILLIAMS, owner of the Southern Farmer, Inc., Montgomery, Alabama, according to the March 19, 1954, edition of the "New Orleans States", a daily newspaper published in New Orleans, Louisiana, appeared as a witness before the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee at New Orleans that date, and admitted having worked in the interest of the Civil Rights Congress, and having signed the Stockholm

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AT 100-559

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Peace Petition, but stated he had requested his name be removed from association with both after he learned they were Communist inspired movements. WILLIAMS denied that he had ever been a Communist Party member, or under Communist discipline.

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AT 100-559

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APPENDIX

ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR PUBLICATIONS

The following organizations and/or publications which have been utilized in this report, and which have not been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450, are characterized in the attached Appendix pages:

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AT 100-559

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"THE DAILY WORKER"

"The Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

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"THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD"

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated May 14, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., contains the following information concerning "The National Lawyers Guild":

1. Cited as a Communist Front, (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, page 149).
2. Cited as a Communist Front, which "is the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations and controlled unions", and which "since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents". (Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, Report on the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD, House Report #3123, September 21, 1950):

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~~SECRET~~ADMINISTRATIVE

DONALD LEE WEST is a current Security Index Subject of the Atlanta Office.

This case has been re-evaluated in the light of security index criteria, and continues to fit that criteria.

A review of WEST's Security Index Card reflects information thereon is current and accurate. The Atlanta Office has a suitable photograph of WEST.

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed, and T symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identities of the source must be concealed.

INFORMANTS

IDENTITY OF SOURCE	DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE NUMBER WHERE LOCATED
T-1 [REDACTED] P.O. Douglasville, Ga. (Advisable)	Residence and Employment 2/8/57	SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE	Instant report
" "	Identification of JOHN EBER HESTER, JR. 12/4/56		100-5642-2
T-2 LT. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] GBI, Atlanta, Ga. (Requested)	Subject's contact of OLIVE DARGAN 8/15/56		100-559-692
" "	Subject's contact of H. BUCKMASTER 8/28/56		100-559-697
" "	Information re "New Southerner" 1/15/57	SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE	Instant Report

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AT 100-559

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IDENTITY OF SOURCE	DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE NUMBER, WHERE LOCATED
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T-3 MARK SUMNER, PO, Asheville, N. C.	Information re OLIVE DARGAN 10/5/56		100-559-710
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T-4 Trash Cover Richmond Division	Information re VLPE		
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T-5 N. Y. ND426	Characterization of OLIVE DARGAN		
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T-6 [REDACTED]	Characterization of OLIVE DARGAN		
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T-7 [REDACTED]	WEST told to see SHERR 7/3/56	b2 b7D	
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T-8 [REDACTED]			
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T-9 CG 5824-S*	Characterization of LOU DISKIN		
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" "	Characterization of EARL DURHAM		
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" "	Communist Party Registration Form pertaining to 1956		CG 100-22977-174
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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

- 12 -

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

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IDENTITY OF SOURCE	DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE NUMBER WHERE LOCATED
T-10 [REDACTED]	HESTER attending CP indoctrination Course Chicago	b2 b7D	CG 100-22977- 154, pg. 4
T-11 [REDACTED]			
T-12 LOUIS F. BUDENZ (Requested)	Characterization HENRIETTA BUCKMASTER		
T-13 [REDACTED] Austell, Ga. (Requested)	Information re WEST's account 12/31/56	ALDEN F. MILLER b6 b7C b7D	Instant Report

REFERENCE

Report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, Atlanta, 10/23/56

Report of SA [REDACTED] 2/8/57, Chicago

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b7C

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

- 13 -

~~SECRET~~

SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

December 30, 1957

Director, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST
SECURITY MATTER - C

Enclosed is one Photostat of the subject's testimony before the "Communism in the Mid-South" public hearings, Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, Memphis, Tennessee, 10-28/29-57.

Enclosure

NOTE ON YELLOW:

On Security Index. On 10-20-56 subject was subpoenaed before the Whitfield County Grand Jury, Dalton, Georgia, and questioned concerning his past communist connections. On 11-14-55 the Assistant Attorney General of the State of Georgia advised subject declined to answer questions invoking the Fifth Amendment. Subject at that time was a minister of the Church of God of the Union Ascended. He was expelled from the church in 1-56 after his refusal to take an oath in a public meeting that he was not a communist. On 2-15-56 a highly placed informant advised that subject had visited Communist Party Headquarters in New York City and another informant advised that Isidore Gibby Needleman was contacted by an unknown individual concerning fund-raising activities in behalf of subject.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 5/5/92

TC:am am
(4)

RECORDED-92

100-20396-171

MAILED 10
DEC 30 1957
COMM-FBI

JAN 7 1958

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

MAIL ROOM ☐

EX-117
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Reporting Office ATLANTA	Office of Origin ATLANTA	Investigative Period 3/6/58 1/14; 2/3, 19, 21, 26; 3/3/58
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, Was.		Report made by CHARLES PAUL ROSE Typed By: MEL
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF DATE 5/25/62		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

WEST continues to reside Rt. 4, Douglasville, Ga., and is occupied as a farmer at same address. WEST subpoenaed to Public Hearings, Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, Memphis, Tenn., 10/28-29/57, and took the Fifth Amendment to past associates or affiliation. Subject has written articles for "Southern Newsletter" 1957, which is described as edited by a Communist Party member in Chicago. One article by WEST in "Southern Newsletter" reprinted in "National Guardian".

Class. & Ext. By **SP-1 GSK/RSK**
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review **3/31/02**

- C -

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

DETAILS: The following organization has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450:

The Communist Party

Approved <i>[Signature]</i> Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-20396) RM 3 - Atlanta (100-559)	100-20396-172 16 MAR 10 1958 REC-32

AGENCY **RAB**
REQ. BY
DATE FORW. **3/12/58**
HOW FORW. **2-6**
BY **MEL**

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SUBV. CONTROL~~

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All other organizations, publications, and individuals mentioned in this report will be described in the Appendix Section of this report.

I. BACKGROUND

(S) [T-1 advised on May 17, 1957, and again on June 20, 1957, that the subject was residing on his farm, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia. [T-1] stated WEST was occupied as a farmer, and raised a truck garden, which he peddled one or two days weekly in the City of Atlanta. [T-1] advised on November 13, 1957, that WEST continues to reside on his farm and is employed as a farmer and peddler at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia. He stated that JACK or JOHN HESTER resided with WEST during the year 1957, until late September or early October, 1957. [T-1] stated that HESTER was employed as a farm laborer, and assisted WEST with his peddle route. (S)

[T-1 advised on December 19, 1957, that WEST continues to reside at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, where he is occupied as a farmer and peddler. (S)

[redacted] advised that they had been acquainted with WEST since approximately 1949 as [redacted]. They stated that WEST is occupied as a farmer residing on his farm Route 4, Douglasville, and has a peddle route which he works in Atlanta, Georgia. They stated that WEST is a hard working individual, and they have no reason to question his honesty or loyalty to the United States. They stated that JACK HESTER resided on the farm of WEST during 1957 until the fall of 1957, and was employed as a farm laborer. They stated HESTER returned to Chicago during the fall of 1957. b6 b7C

II. ACTIVITIES AND WRITINGS OF SUBJECT

Subject's Testimony Internal
Security Subcommittee Hearings,
Memphis, Tennessee

The October 26, 1957, edition of the "Memphis Commercial Appeal", a daily newspaper of Memphis, Tennessee, carried a press release issued by the Internal Security Subcommittee,

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Committee of the Judiciary, U. S. Senate, Hearings on Communism, Memphis, Tennessee, October 28-29, 1957. This article announced that a hearing in the Mid-South area would be held by the committee in Memphis on October 28, 1957, and among those witnesses subpoenaed was DONALD LEE WEST of Douglasville, Georgia.

The October 28, 1957, issue of the "Memphis Press and Press-Scimitar" final edition, a daily newspaper of Memphis, Tennessee, reported portions of the interview in public session by the Committee of DONALD LEE WEST, Route 4, Douglasville. WEST was described as a farmer, and former preacher.

The following are excerpts of the subject's testimony before the "Communism in the Mid-South" Public Hearings, Senate Internal Subcommittee, Memphis, Tennessee, October 28-29, 1957":

"MR. MORRIS: Have you been in charge of the Communist Party in Atlanta, Georgia?

"MR. WEST: Sir, I would like to say at the beginning that on any questions relative to my past political associations or affiliation, or religious beliefs or political, I will have to respectfully claim the rights of the Fifth Amendment of our Constitution. I might say further that I am not a member of any political organization. I am only working only on the matter of running a farm, trying to make a living thereby.

"MR. MORRIS: Well, were you a member of the Communist Party three days ago?

"MR. WEST: I would have to claim the Fifth Amendment on that, sir.

"MR. MORRIS: Were you a member of the Communist Party this morning when you first came into this courtroom?

"MR. WEST: I am sorry, sir, I will have to take the Fifth Amendment on all such questions.

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"MR. MORRIS: Are you a Communist now?

"MR. WEST: I have just said voluntarily that I was not a member of any political organization, including the Communist Party.

"MR. MORRIS: As of this afternoon session?

"MR. WEST: True, sir.

"MR. MORRIS: As of this afternoon session, 20 minutes after 2 o'clock in the evening, October 28th?

"MR. WEST: That is right.

"MR. MORRIS: At 12:30 this morning, October 28th, were you a member of the Communist Party?

"MR. WEST: I have already said, sir, I would have to claim the Fifth on all questions regarding my past associations or affiliations.".....

"MR. MORRIS: Now, your wife is JEANNETTE WEST?

"MR. WEST: I would take the Fifth on that.....

"MR. MORRIS: Do you have a sister, BELLE, - B-e-l-l-e?

"MR. WEST: I would have to claim the Fifth on that.....

"SENATOR JENNER: Do you honestly believe the truthful answer to questions propounded to you by Mr. MORRIS concerning your wife and your sister would tend to incriminate you?

"MR. WEST: I would take the Fifth on that, sir, have to.

"MR. MORRIS: Mr. Chairman, in view of the responses of the witness, I would rather not prolong this too long. But Mr. MANDEL has compiled a long series of exhibits, --we of course have enough evidence and information, the sum total of which that he, this witness today, has been one of the more prominent Communist organizers in the South over a period of years.

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AT 100-559

"I wonder if, Mr. Chairman, subject to more questions by Mr. SOURWINE and yourself, -- I would like to offer this in the record, and they will become part of the record....."

A review of the subject's testimony fails to reflect the subject furnished any substantial information concerning his activities or associations.

Writings of Subject

[T-2 on September 24, 1957, furnished] the September issue of the "Southern Newsletter", Volume II, No. 7. According to page 2 of the "Southern Newsletter", it has an address of Post Office Box 1307, Louisville, Kentucky, and EUGENE A. FELDMAN is the Editor. This pamphlet carried an article entitled "Seeds of Freedom, How Southern Whites Oppose Slavery", by DON WEST. In this article, WEST states that some people think of the Old South as being divided as for or against slavery. WEST in his article states that this is not so, and that only a few white people own slaves. He quotes writings of authors written in the 1840's and 1850's to substantiate his point that a great many Southern whites were abolitionists as well as Northerners. WEST's article appears on pages 7 and 8 of the "Newsletter".

On page 14 of the same edition of the "Southern Newsletter", which is the back cover of the "Southern Newsletter", the following letter appears:

"Intelligent articulation is a crying need today. This is particularly true in and about the South. EUGENE FELDMAN in his 'Southern Newsletter' is striving to keep alive and give a medium for such expression.

"For a long time I've known Mr. FELDMAN's work--and admired it. His efforts to keep alive this organ for positive expression deserves our best support.

"Since circumstances and events made it seem advisable and necessary to suspend

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"publication of the 'New Southerner' for the time being, I urge all those who supported or subscribed to it to lend whatever aid you can to Mr. FELDMAN's efforts in this NEWSLETTER.

"There are many fine spirits in the South today, and among both our races. But just as in the days of slavery, so many of their sentiments must remain buried and unknown. They must and do remain inarticulate. There is no medium for expressing that sentiment.

"Thus it is that every effort to give voice to this sentiment deserves our support.

"Don West,
RFD 4,
Douglasville, Ga."

[On November 18, 1957, T-3 furnished] a copy of the "Southern Newsletter" for November, 1957, Volume II, No. 9. A review of this publication reflects that the same letter, as above quoted, was reprinted on page 17 under the caption, "SUPPORT THE SOUTHERN NEWSLETTER".

[T-3 on December 23, 1957, furnished] a copy of the "Southern Newsletter" for December, 1957, Volume II, NO. 10. A review of this publication reflects an article on pages 6, 7, and 8, entitled "HILL-BILLY", "PLOWBOY", "WOOL-HATS", and "CRACKERS" by DON WEST. This article has a sub-title of "Prejudice Against the Poor White?". This article states that the terms "HILL-BILLY", "PLOWBOY", "WOOL-HATS", "CRACKERS", "RED-NECK", "PEKER-WOOD" and "COUNTRY-HICKS", along with other terms, have been used to defame individuals fitting the above descriptive terms as persons being responsible for some of the racial conditions that exist in the South today. WEST states that this is not so, and states as follows:

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".....Such stereotypes by which a whole group is condemned cannot unite. They are splitting words. Hate and spite and force are suggested by their usage. They tend to turn the plowboys and crackers and hill-billies toward the Faubus camp. And God knows in this crusade for decency and love and brotherhood and peace, we need every possible friend and ally.

"I would say to those who have accepted such a shortsighted view, who have used such terms in a derogatory sense: look elsewhere for the culprit. Not the poor Southern white working man or farmer, be he hill billy or lowlander, but look to the big white houses on the hills. Look toward those who control the radio T. V., schools, press and pulpit. You will find the old aristocratic Southerner and no doubt you'll find roots reaching all the way to Wall Street....."

WEST concluded the article stating as follows:

".....Those who own the wealth and the means, and use them, to shape and twist the minds and spirits of the many are the responsible ones....."

The January, 1958 edition of "The National Guardian" reprinted in substance the above-mentioned article from the December, 1957, edition of the "Southern Newsletter" captioned "HILL-BILLY, PLOWBOY, WOOL-HAT AND CRACKER". In a preface to the article, the following appeared as an Editor's note:

"In the Nov. 4, 1957 issue, the GUARDIAN reprinted a satirical piece from the Charleston Gazette about a mythical character called Bollweevil J. Whitetrash and his role in the Little Rock riots. Last week came a letter from DON WEST, Southern poet, teacher, organizer and farmer, objecting to the article. 'It occurred to me,' he said, 'that you might like to print my article on the background and plight of the poor white Southerner. It just happens to be one of my life-long interests and I am working now on a book dealing with the anti-slavery sentiment in the South prior to and during the Civil War. It is tragic that history has been so much misrepresented on this issue.' The GUARDIAN is glad to print excerpts from the WEST

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AT 100-559

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"article, which appeared in the December, 1957, issue of the Southern Newsletter (\$3 a year, P.O. Box 1307, Louisville, Ky.)."

FARM RESEARCH, INC.

On June 28, 1957, T-4 furnished the current mailing list of FARM RESEARCH, INC., Room 1206 - 39 Cortlandt Street, New York, New York. The name DON WEST, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, appeared on that list. (S)

NEW SOUTHERNER

[On February 3, 1958, T-5 advised] that to his (S) knowledge WEST has not published an edition of the "New Southerner" since the summer edition published in July, 1956.

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APPENDIX

FARM RESEARCH

In the booklet "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., dated January 2, 1957, the following information was noted concerning Farm Research:

- "1. Cited as a Communist-front organization financed from the Robert Marshall Foundation, 'one of the principal sources for the money with which to finance the Communist Party's fronts generally in recent years.'

(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, pp. 50 and 147.)

- "2. Cited as a Communist front which is 'used to appeal to special occupational groups * * *'

(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 91.)"

9 ~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

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JOHN EBER HESTER

On March 21, 1956, T-2 advised that [redacted]

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[redacted] of the Illinois-Indiana District of the Communist Party, had in her possession registration forms pertaining to individuals in the Foster Division of the Communist Party, which registration forms had been completed during the 1956 Communist Party registration drive for this district. This registration form, which did not bear the name of an individual, for security reasons, reflected that a male, twenty-three years of age of the white race, whose national origin was reflected as Scotch-Irish, had been in the organization for three months, whose mass activity was listed as Labor Youth League (LYL), had been registered in this division. (S)

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On September 4, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] Acme Industrial Company, 222 North Laflin Street, Chicago, Illinois, advised that HESTER, [redacted] of that company, is a white, male, born [redacted] of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

(S) Confidential Informant T-6, advised on December 23, 1954, that JACK HESTER had recently been attending classes held regularly in Chicago on membership indoctrination into the Communist Party.

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AT 100-559

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THE NATIONAL GUARDIAN

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., contains the following information concerning the "National Guardian":

- "1. Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a 'progressive' weekly. *** Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, "Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the ROSENBERGS and MORTON SOBELL," August 25, 1956, p.12.)

11 ~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

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THE NEW SOUTHERNER

[T-5] advised on February 3, 1958, ~~(S)~~ that to the best of his knowledge "The New Southerner" has not been published since the summer edition of 1956. [T-5] stated that this ~~(S)~~ publication is prepared, edited, and published by DONALD LEE WEST, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AT 100-559

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SOUTHERN NEWSLETTER

(S) [T-2 on September 24, 1957, advised] that the "Southern Newsletter" is edited and printed in Chicago, Illinois, by RICHARD CRILEY, member of the State Committee of the Communist Party of Illinois.

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~~SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. R. R. ROACH

DATE: December 18, 1957

FROM : MR. J. G. SHORT

1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Liaison Section
1 - Mr. J. G. ShortSUBJECT: "COMMUNISM IN THE MID-SOUTH"
PUBLIC HEARINGS, SENATE INTERNAL
SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE, MEMPHIS
TENN., 10/28, 29/57ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSL

Official printed transcript of above hearings enclosed. Review of transcript discloses that it contains testimony of following subjects of Bureau security-type investigations, all of whom were uncooperative and invoked the U. S. Fifth Amendment in refusing to answer questions as to their Communist Party membership and related matters:

DONALD L. WEST (100-20396), Atlanta, office of origin
[redacted] (100-360282), Chicago, office of origin
[redacted] (100-99518), Omaha, office of origin
SAMUEL REECE (100-79497), Knoxville, office of origin
REUEL STANFIELD (100-6971), Cincinnati, office of origin
[redacted] (100-344731), Knoxville, office of origin
OLGA ZENCHUK (100-333354), Memphis, office of origin

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All of the above individuals are currently included in the Security Index.

In addition to the foregoing, Dr. Ralph Franklin of Morehouse, Ma, who is on the Security Index, testified and was a cooperative witness. His testimony is analyzed in a separate memorandum for his file (100-411216, St. Louis, office of origin). A separate memorandum has also been prepared on the testimony of Lawrence E. McGurty (100-347486, Memphis, office of origin), who is on the Security Index and who was a partially cooperative witness.

[redacted] (100-373128, New York, office of origin, on Security Index) appeared at the hearings under subpoena, but was excused from testifying until a later date in order to obtain counsel.
Enclosure

62-88217

- 1 - 100-20396 (West, Atlanta) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-360282 [redacted] Chicago) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-99518 [redacted] Omaha) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-79497 (Reece, Knoxville) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-6971 (Stanfield, Cincinnati) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-344731 [redacted] Knoxville) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-333354 (Zenchuk, Memphis) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-373128 [redacted] New York) Enclosure
- 1 - 100-205295 (Lorch, Little Rock) Enclosure
- 1 - [redacted] Louisville) Enclosure

JGS:rjl 631 JAN 14 1958

100-20396
NOT RECORDED

133 JAN 9 1958

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Memorandum to Mr. R. R. Roach

GRACE LORCH (100-205295, Little Rock, office of origin, not on Security Index) appeared at the hearings under subpoena but refused to answer any questions. A request may be made to have her cited for contempt of the Senate because of the above refusal. b7D

[redacted], a former Bureau informant on communist matters at Louisville, Kentucky, appeared and was a cooperative witness. She testified briefly as to her experiences as a Bureau informant in the CP.

The transcript also includes the testimony of two state government officials, JO M. FERGUSON, Attorney General of Kentucky, and A. SCOTT HAMILTON, Commonwealth Attorney, Louisville, Kentucky, both of whom testified concerning the need for U. S. legislation to implement the power of the states to prosecute seditious acts against the state governments.

Two copies of the official printed transcript of above testimony were sent to the Memphis Office by Bureau letter dated 12-4-57, entitled: "Senate Internal Security Subcommittee Hearings, Memphis, October 28-30, 1957" (62-88217). A copy of the complete printed transcript is also being furnished to the Louisville Office for information by Bureau letter in above file. Bufiles also reflect that the above hearings received considerable amount of publicity in the local press, clippings of which are filed in pertinent Bureau files.

Photostats of the original stenographic transcript of above hearings were also made available to the Bureau. For convenience in review and filing, portions of the latter transcript relating to witnesses on whom the Bureau has case files are attached to the copies of this memorandum which are designated for the respective case files of those witnesses.

ACTION:

Forward this memo and designated copies to the Subversive Control Section for information, appropriate action, and filing.

The complete printed transcript of above hearings should be filed as an exhibit in 62-88217, no indexing of this exhibit is necessary.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 3/7/58

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.
SM - CClass. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2
Date of Review 3/22/92 3/22/82

Enclosed is the report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE dated 3/7/58 at Atlanta, Ga., in captioned case, as well as sufficient copies of letterhead memorandum evaluating informants utilized therein.

REFERENCE

Report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, Atlanta, 2/25/57.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The files of the Atlanta Office do not contain sufficient information to completely characterize [redacted] listed as [redacted] the "Southern Newsletter". Inasmuch as [redacted] is only referred to by WEST in a letter, no further attempt to characterize him is being made.

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b7CINFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Description of Information and/or Date of Activity	File Where Located
T-1 is [redacted] Carrier, USPO, Douglasville, Ga.	Residence and occupation of subject 5/17/57 - 6/20/57	100-559-730
" "	Information re subject's residence 11/13/57	100-5642-27

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2 - Bureau (100-20396) (8 encs.) RM

3 - Atlanta (100-559)
CPR:mel
(5)

16 MAR 10 1958

63 MAR 17 1958

~~SECRET~~

SUBV. CONTROL

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF [redacted]
DATE 5/25/82

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

Identity of Source	Description of In- formation and/or Date of Activity	File Where Located
(T-1 continued)	Subject's residence ✓ and employment ✓ 12/19/57 ✓	100-559-737
T-2 is CG 5824-S*	Furnished "Southern Newsletter" ✓ 9/24/57 ✓	100-5722-1A1
""	Characterization "Southern Newsletter" ✓	
""	CP Registration 1956 ✓ (JACK HESTER) ✓	CG 22977-174
(S) T-3 is Atlanta office subscription	11/57 ✓ edition "Southern Newsletter" ✓	100-5722-1A2
""	12/57 ✓ edition "Southern Newsletter" ✓	100-5722-1A3
T-4 is NY 2053-S*	Subject's name on mailing list of Farm Research ✓ 6/28/57 ✓	100-559-731
T-5 is i+ [redacted] [redacted] GBI, Atlanta, Ga. (requested)	Information re "New Southerner" ✓ 2/3/58 ✓	Instant report

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at 100-559

Identity of Source	Description of In- formation and/or Date of Activity	File Where Located
T-6 is [redacted]	HESTER attended CP Indoctrination Course Chicago ✓ b2 b7D	CG 100-22977-154, page 4 (S)

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- X Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
- X The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
- Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
- X A suitable photograph X is is not available.
- X Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
- Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are
- X This report is classified ~~Confidential~~ because (state reason)
- it contains information, the unauthorized disclosure of which may be prejudicial to the national security.

- X Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)
- WEST recently appeared at a Senate Internal Security Subcommittee Hearing concerning Communism held Memphis, Tenn., and declined to furnish any information, taking the Fifth Amendment. It is not believed an interview would be productive.
- This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
- X This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)
- WEST appeared before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee holding hearings Memphis, Tenn., 10/28-29/57, and relied upon the Fifth Amendment. WEST, according to NY 559-S* was at CP Headquarters 2/10/56, NYC, in the company of EDWARD EUGENE STRONG, CP functionary. WEST during 1956 made several speeches to SWP Groups in the Chicago area and during 1955, according to informants, offered employment to Smith Act subject, Boston Division.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

March 7, 1958
Atlanta, Georgia

~~SECRET~~

DONALD LEE WEST, with aliases
SECURITY MATTER - C

Confidential Informants [T-1, T-2, T-3, T-5, and T-6] mentioned in the report of Special Agent Charles Paul Rose at Atlanta, Georgia, dated March 7, 1958, captioned as above, have furnished reliable information in the past. (S)

[T-4] was in a position to furnish reliable information. (S)

This memorandum is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/P5K
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2
Date of Review 3/22/92 3/22/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF Copied
DATE 5/21/82

AGENCY RAB
REQ. REC'D
DATE 3/12/58
BY NET

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COPIES DESTROYED 4/28/59

#16

100-20896-173

ENCLOSURE



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April 4/14/1958

Mr Hoover Sir i am writing about m.
W 11-1

Don west that lives in Douglas county
i and my wife traded with for a
vehicle for an 30-50 Baisses and he
told me that he would pay me \$350
a day for the work that i did for him
we moved in his place of feb 10th
and i cleared up a But 15 and a
new ground land and so he told me i
would help him milk he would give me
Milk and Butter for that. which i agreed
to do and he told my wife that he wanted
her to churn Every Friday and when she
would get through he would give her a
few Rotten pates and one gallon of Milk
and no pay and so we had planted a Ack
Garden and it was up and he got mad
Because i did not

REC-19

100-20396-174

11 APR 29 1958

EX-135

5-11

4-24-58
RDS:JWS
ECS

During some business in his field - and
Carried me out and told me to get off
his place and is asked him a Best paying
me for our work and he told me 110-000
Money and he charged me \$15 Dollars for
moving over his place and wanted me
to work over Sunday and in The Point
why he is nothing But a Slave Driver and
they say he do every Body like That get
Peoples out there and get his work done
and then Drive Them off and Don't pay
Them any Thing The white peoples say
that he is a communist
So I want my wife he owes me for
2 months work and he want pay me
So will you please Sir See About this
I'll be his Name in D I want

My Name is

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He

D. L. West

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

thins

May 27, 1958

DONALD LEE WEST

BACKGROUND

Summary
Donald Lee West was born on June 6, 1908, in Eljay, Gilmer County, Georgia. He received his elementary school training at Mount Berry School, Rome, Georgia, and received his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. He presently resides on Rural Free Delivery 4, Douglasville, Georgia, and is self-employed as a farmer. (100-20396-132)

ACTIVITIES

Donald Lee West testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee in hearings held in Memphis, Tennessee, October 28-29, 1957, concerning "Communism in the Mid-South." (62-88217-2404)

Martha Nichols Edminston, whose last known address was Rural Route Number 3, Waynesville, Ohio, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities at hearings held in Cincinnati, Ohio, July 12, 13, 14, 15, and August 8, 1950, in "Hearings Regarding Communist Activities in the Cincinnati, Ohio, Area." Martha Edminston testified that Donald Lee West was a Communist Party member in Ohio during 1940. (61-7582-1712)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

EX-138

100-20396-175

100-20396

K. G. Clark/ef/mtb
(6)

REC-24

20 JUN 5 1958

JUN 12 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

ABH K

1. - Mr.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PJR

April 24, 1958

C-19

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Georgia

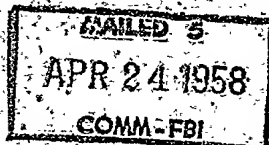
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Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated April 16, 1958, has been received, and I appreciate the motive which prompted your communication.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, I must advise that the difficulties between you and your employer are not within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI. I am unable, therefore, to assist you in this matter. You may, however, desire to discuss your problems with local law enforcement officials in Douglasville, Georgia.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover
Director

1 - Atlanta

NOTE TO SAC, ATLANTA:

Correspondent advises he went to work on the farm of Don West in Douglas County, Georgia, on February 10 for \$3.50 per day. Correspondent's wife was also to perform some work for which she would be paid in potatoes and milk. Because he did not burn some bushes, West ordered him off the farm and refused to pay what the correspondent believes he and his wife have earned. Correspondent asks the Bureau to "see about this man" and also states that the "white peoples say that he is a communist."

MAY 2 1958

(NOTE TO ATLANTA CONTINUED, PAGE 2)

(SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE 2)

MAIL ROOM ☐

RDS:pw:ers

(4)

[REDACTED]

NOTE TO ATLANTA, CONTINUED

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b7C

①
Don West, mentioned by the correspondent, is undoubtedly identical with Donald Lee West, the subject of a current security investigation of your office. West is on the Security Index. (Atlanta file 100-559, Bufile 100-20396)

The above is furnished for your information. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Due to the size of [REDACTED] Georgia, and the fact that correspondent is obviously a farm laborer and a letter from the FBI may cause considerable comment in the area, the confidential mailing address is used as the return address on the envelope addressed to the correspondent.

5

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 6/11/58

FROM : SAC, Atlanta

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.
SM - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

[redacted] a meeting of the U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., in Douglasville, Ga. on the night of 4/29/58. During this meeting the Exalted Cyclops of the unit said DON WEST, a Communist, resided in Douglas County. One of the spectators stated that permission had been asked of E. L. EDWARDS, Imperial Wizard of the Klan, to visit DON WEST, the Exalted Cyclops, saying he would personally take the Sheriff fishing so he could not interfere if such a visit were authorized. However, EDWARDS reportedly refused the permission, saying he would handle the matter as he did not want the local unit of the Klan to become involved.

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It will be noted that [redacted] He stated he is of the opinion that EDWARDS did not desire that the Klan be involved in any way in such a visit, and was merely "stalling" when he told the representative of the [redacted] Ga. unit that he would handle the matter. [redacted] stated that EDWARDS might authorize a motorcade to travel along the road on which WEST resides, but certainly does not believe EDWARDS would authorize any additional activity.

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No additional information has been received which would indicate further consideration has been given the matter.

- ② - Bureau (100-30496) (Rm)
2 - Atlanta (1 - 100-559)
(1 - 161-562) LM, JF

HEK:mel

(4)

REC-83

16 JUN 13 1958

FBI

JUN 13 1958

SUBV. CONTROL

RECEIVED

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66 JUN 19 1958

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office ATLANTA	Office of Origin ATLANTA	Date 6/30/58	Investigative Period 6/19, 20, 23/58
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, was.		Report made by CHARLES PAUL ROSE	Typed By: SBB
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

Synopsis:

*0-1, 8-31-59, Atlanta
annual report
Ans: 9-4-59
opt. by 9-20-59
sufficiently in
interviewing*

SECURITY MATTER - C

Class. & Ext. By **SP-1 GSK/PSK**
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review **8/22/92** **8/22/92**

WEST continues to reside Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., and is employed as a farmer at the same address. WEST authored articles appearing in the "Southern Newsletter," editions of March and April, 1958. According to informant, the House Committee on Un-American Activities was contemplating subpoenaing WEST for hearings to be held 7/1/58, Atlanta, Ga.

DETAILS:

Confidential Informant **T-1** advised on June 20, 1958, that WEST continues to reside on his farm located on Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, which farm is situated on the Chattahoochee River in an extreme rural portion of Douglas County. He stated WEST is employed as a farmer at that address.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

AGENCY **RAB**
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. **7-11-58**
HOW FORW. **R/S**
BY **TC/awm**

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-20396) (RM) 3 - Atlanta (100-559)		100-20396-177	REC-99
COPIES DESTROYED 4/20/58 #16		14 JUL 3 1958	EX-101

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF **Class**
DATE **5/27/81**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~

SUBV. CONTROL

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

Confidential Informant [T-2] on March 17, 1958, furnished the March 1958 edition of the "Southern Newsletter." A review of this publication, Pages 6 through 9, reflects an article, "Ill-fed, Ill-clad, Ill-housed, and Illiterate," by DON WEST. This article by WEST is a book review of "American Concentration Camps," by CARLOS B. EMBRY, David McKay Company, Publishers. In this article, WEST points out the general poor living conditions under which the Indians in the United States presently live. WEST cites historical instances of brutality against the American Indians by the white settlers and points out the contributions made by Indian culture to the present-day way of life in the United States. In addition WEST mentions some of the accomplishments of the Indians in the United States today.

[T-2] on April 29, 1958, furnished the April edition of the "Southern Newsletter" for April 1958. A review of this publication reflects an article appearing on Pages 8 and 9 by DON WEST, captioned, "Is He on His Way Out? The Little Farmer."

This article by WEST discusses in a sentimental way the heritage of the small farmer and the American way of life historically. This article states that the small farmer today is losing his land, is one of the "most exploited", "hardest pressed," and has "the bleakest future of any segment of our nation."

On May 2, 1958, [redacted] Mississippi, contacted Special Agents [redacted] at Meridian, Mississippi, and stated at the beginning of his conversation that he was [redacted] although he did have an IQ of 152. [redacted] claimed people around his home town think he is possibly a Communist. [redacted] related that in a recent letter to the "Neshoba", Democrat newspaper of Philadelphia, Mississippi, he was accused of being probably not as American as he should be and of writing articles for questionable publications.

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AT 100-559

[] talked very rapidly and incessantly and claims that although he is not a Communist he wanted to find out about them and has been closely associated with certain persons that he first met through DONALD L. WEST, Douglasville, Georgia, in about 1954. [] stated he has "slept in the same bed with them" and has written some articles for them for various publications, names not furnished, other than the "Southern Newsletter." He stated all these persons are close friends and "confirmed Communist" according to their own admission. [] stated he has no further proof of this.

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Among the list of names furnished was DONALD L. WEST, Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia. [] made the following notation concerning subject: "WEST is a farmer who is working in the publishing field and is publishing the 'Southern Newsletter', P. O. Box 1307, Louisville 1, Kentucky, and address not now being used as the publication is being mailed from the home of PERRY CARTWRIGHT, Business Manager, 4746 1/2 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois, also a Communist."

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T-3 advised on June 19, 1958, that he had obtained information from [] House Committee on Un-American Activities, Washington, D. C., that the committee was contemplating subpoenaing DONALD LEE WEST to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, hearings scheduled to be held Atlanta, Georgia, July 1, 1958.

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The Communist Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

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7/9

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

~~SECRET~~

DATE: 6/30/58

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/12/92
3/22/02SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
(OO: ATLANTA)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Transmitted herewith are four copies of a report of Special Agent CHARLES PAUL ROSE, at Atlanta, dated 6/30/58, and four copies of a letterhead memorandum evaluating the informants utilized in instant report.

REFERENCES

Report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, at Atlanta, dated 3/7/58.

Bureau letter to Atlanta, dated 6/11/58, captioned, "HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES (HCUA) HEARINGS, ATLANTA DIVISION."

ADMINISTRATIVE

On 6/20/58, [redacted] Austell Bank, Austell, Georgia, reviewed the bank records of the subject in respect to his checking account and stated there was no unusual entries or withdrawals.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Description of Info and/or Date of Activity	Agent to Whom Furnished	File Where Located
T-1 is [redacted] Carrier, U. S. Post Office, Douglasville, Ga.	Residence and occupation, 6/20/58	CHARLES PAUL ROSE	Instant report

T-1 is [redacted]
Carrier,
U. S. Post Office,
Douglasville, Ga.

Residence and occupation,
6/20/58

CHARLES PAUL ROSE

Instant report

- 2 - Bureau (100-20396) (Encl. 8) (RM)
3 - Atlanta (100-559)

CPR:sbb
(5)

~~SECRET~~

EX-101

REC-99

100-20396-178

14 JUL 3 1958

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27 JUL 14 1958

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

Identity of Source	Description of Info and/or Date of Activity	Agent to Whom Furnished	File where Located
--------------------	---	-------------------------	--------------------

T-2 is office subscription to "Southern Newsletter"

"Southern Newsletter" for March 1958.

100-5722-1A5

"Southern Newsletter" for April 1958

100-5722-1A6

T-3 is Lieutenant

Info re WEST subpoenaing [redacted] by HCUA, 7/1/58

CHARLES PAUL ROSE

Instant report

Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, Georgia.

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T-4 is CG 5824-S*

Characterization of "Southern Newsletter"

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- X Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
X The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
X A suitable photograph X is is not available.
X Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are .
X This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL because (state reason)

data reported from T-2 and T-4 could reasonably result in identification of T-4, a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise effectiveness of that informant, or T-2, an investigative technique.

- X Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

this report is to bring investigation up to date prior to subject's subpoenaing by HCUA.

- This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.

X

This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

WEST appeared before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee holding hearings Memphis, Ten., 10/28-29/57, and relied upon the Fifth Amendment. [WEST, according to NY 559-S* was at CP Headquarters 2/10/56, NYC, in the company of EDWARD EUGENE STRONG, CP functionary. WEST during 1956 made several speeches to SWP Groups in the Chicago area and during 1955, according to informants, offered employment to Smith Act subject, Boston Division.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

Atlanta, Georgia
June 30, 1958

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

DONALD LEE WEST, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Confidential Informants [T-1 and T-2] ~~(S)~~ mentioned in report of Special Agent CHARLES PAUL ROSE, at Atlanta, Georgia, dated June 30, 1958, in above-captioned matter, are in a position to furnish reliable information.

Confidential Informants [T-3 and T-4] ~~(S)~~ have furnished reliable information in the past.

This memorandum is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

~~Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK~~
~~Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2~~
~~Date of Review 3/22/92 3/22/02~~

AGENCY RAB
REQ. REC'D _____
DATE FORW. 7-11-58
HOW FORW. R/S
BY TC/aww

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/94

~~SECRET~~

100-20394-178

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 10/10/58

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.
SECURITY MATTER - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated 6/11/58, captioned, "HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES (HCUA) HEARINGS, ATLANTA DIVISION," which set forth instructions regarding those persons appearing as witnesses or mentioned in the testimony of other witnesses at Committee on Un-American Activities Hearings.

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At the HCUA Hearing conducted at Atlanta, Ga., July 29, 30, and 31, 1958, copy of which transcript is filed in the 1A Exhibit Section of Atlanta File (100-5762), [redacted], a former Security Informant of the Boston Division, testified as to arrangements for sending one [redacted] as a colonizer to the South. In this regard [redacted] stated that [redacted] was instructed to meet with one [redacted] and [redacted], along with a fourth person who was to come to New York City from Dalton, Georgia. According to [redacted] he was told that this fourth person was an editor of a newspaper in the South known as "The Southerner". [redacted] advised that it was reported to him that this fourth person was DON WEST, whom he described as a minister, as very effective in labor organizations, and a Communist Party member. According to [redacted], WEST was to come to New York City to meet [redacted] participate in consultation in order to ascertain the value and the need for [redacted] to assist DON WEST in the South, both within the paper, "The Southerner", and within labor organizations and industries.

2 - Bureau (100-20396) (RM)
2 - Atlanta (100-559)
100-5762 (100-5762) (HCUA)

AFM:sbb

(4)

OBVIOUSLY CONTROL
REC.D - LBT

REC-8

5 OCT 13 1958

EX-136

SUBV. CONTROL

60 OCT 17 1958

AT 100-559

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Further inquiry was made of witness [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois, regarding DON WEST and also of [redacted], of Chicago, both of whom declined to answer questions regarding WEST, basing their declinations on the First Amendment.

According to House testimony records, WEST was subpoenaed for appearance at this hearing, however, he was excused from testifying based on information furnished to the Committee by Counsel JOE FORER, which information relates to WEST's wife having recently been in an automobile accident and the fact that WEST was subpoenaed away from the bedside of his wife to appear at this hearing.

Consideration has been given to requesting Bureau authority to interview subject WEST, however, he is not considered a friendly witness and it is not believed results of the interview would be of value. WEST has been the subject of a Bureau investigation for many years and is carried on the Security Index of the Atlanta Division.

An appropriate investigative report was submitted on WEST on June 30, 1958, and all pertinent data as developed during hearing has been previously reported to the Bureau.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7582)

DATE: OCT 3 1958

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-5762)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: HCUA HEARINGS,
ATLANTA DIVISION

DATE 2/3/82 BY SP6 BIA/LPT

ReBulet dated 6/11/58 setting forth instructions for office covering the locality of hearings of an Investigating committee.

WFO, by letter, forwarded copies of HCUA Hearing Transcript, which was received Atlanta 9/24/58.

A partial review of this transcript reflects that no witnesses testifying at this hearing were residents of that area covered by the Atlanta Office. One witness from Atlanta was subpoenaed, however, was never placed on the stand. This witness was DON WEST, subject of a security investigation; and an appropriate letter will be submitted regarding him under his individual case file in accordance with Bureau instructions.

It is further pointed out that of all persons identified or mentioned in testimony by friendly witnesses appearing at this hearing, only one, DON WEST, resides in that area covered by the Atlanta Office.

The Atlanta Office, upon further review of the transcript of testimony given at the HCUA Hearing, Atlanta, Ga., conducted 7/29,30,31/58, will submit memoranda on the individuals mentioned in testimony as well as those testifying, under individual case caption, to the Bureau and the office covering the last reported residence of the individual. That Office will be instructed to consider additional investigation of the individual, or if consideration should be given to requesting Bureau authority for interview of the individual. The Office will also be instructed to advise the Bureau of these persons' identity and of their subversive activity unless such information is currently in the Bureau's possession. The Bureau has further instructed that these memoranda contain a statement as to whether or not the individual has been the subject of a Bureau investigation and as to what action is being taken on any new information developed as a result of the hearings.

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - Boston (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Charlotte (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Chicago (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Louisville (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Mobile (Encl. 1)

- 2 - Philadelphia (Encl. 1)
- 2 - New York (Encl. 1)
- 2 - New Orleans (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Newark (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Richmond (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Savannah (Encl. 1)
- 2 - Atlanta

AFM/glw
(26)

50 OCT 10 1958

100-20396-
NOT RECORDED
174 OCT 10 1958

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL FILED IN 61-7582-3949-

AT 100-5762

The only friendly witnesses in the hearing were [redacted], and an unidentified Hungarian refugee. [redacted] was a former Security Informant of the Boston Office, and [redacted] is the [redacted]

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[redacted] to enforcement and control of the importation of Communist political propaganda on a countrywide basis, and who resides in New York City. The unidentified Hungarian refugee testified of his experiences in Hungary under Communism and his coming to the United States.

Based on the testimony of the above three friendly witnesses, it is not recommended that interviews of them be conducted.

The Atlanta Office will continue the review of the testimony and submit appropriate memoranda on witnesses and persons mentioned by witnesses. Upon completion of review by the Atlanta Office, a final letter will be submitted in accordance with Bureau instructions.

Enclosed herewith for all offices receiving copies of this letter is a photostatic copy of Bureau letter dated 6/11/58, which sets forth instructions relating to administrative details as it pertains to HGUA Hearings.

- P -

C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

A PERSONAL TRAGEDY

I have received a letter from Aubrey Williams enclosing what Aubrey calls "one of the saddest letters I think I have almost ever received".

The letter that Aubrey enclosed was from the beloved poor, preacher, and teacher, Don West of Georgia.

Don tells of an automobile accident on July 7th in Bowling Green, Ky., in which his wife, Mabel, "was terribly smashed up with skull fractures and all the bones of her face broken, still unconscious".

Because he has championed the poor, and the oppressed and has long advocated integration, Don has paid a heavy price. He has been harassed by Senator Eastland. He is one of those subpoenaed to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Atlanta, July 29th.

With his letter, Aubrey enclosed his personal check for \$25 and suggested that we provide an opportunity for others to make a contribution to help Don in his great misfortune. If you would like to share in this, make your check payable to Don West and send it to his temporary address General Delivery,

Bowling Green, Ky., or you make your check payable to the SCEF and send it to me at 822 Perdido St., New Orleans, La., indicating that it is "For West".

The Carolina Times
Durham, N. C.
7-26-58

HCUA HEARINGS

100-20396-A
NOT RECORDED
167 AUG 25 1958

192
50 AUG 27 1958

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SECRET

S/8714

6 October, 1958.

*Writing by Don
R. M. H. H.*

①

Don WEST
Douglasville,
Georgia, RFD4.

According to a secret and reliable source in British Guiana, which it is important to safeguard, the above named individual has been in touch with Cheddi and Janet Jagan (Our S/8692 of 26 September, 1958 and your 12546 of 11 August, 1958 refer). WEST has told them that he has studied their activities with great interest and is asking for any literature they may be able to forward to him, mentioning particularly, copies of "Thunder" the newspaper of the People's Progressive Party.

The same source indicated that in 1948 WEST was a Professor at Atlanta University. He has since been connected with a programme of service for migrant farm labourers, and in a supervisory capacity for the National Council of Churches of Christ in America and he has recently been editing a newspaper called "The Southerner".

We would be grateful for any information you may be able to give us about WEST.

REC-3

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EX-136

100-20396-1805
OCT 20 1958

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Let For []
10-17-58
RDC: []

OCT - 1958

Let to Atlanta
10-17-58
RDC: []

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 1958

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Check Unit - Room 6523	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524	b6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review	b7C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attention 	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to 	1533
	Supervisor	Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

Subject *Don West*

Birthdate & Place

Address

Localities

R#

Date

FILE NUMBER

Initials

SERIAL

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK**

<i>I</i>	100-20396	1
<i>I</i>	100-391922	1 NP
<i>N1</i>	62-103863	15 Encl #223, 235
<i>I</i>	100-3801	3963 #14, 119 NP
<i>B2</i>	100-1158	421
<i>LX</i>	100-1158	421
<i>N1</i>	100-392084	10
<i>N1</i>	100-392084	10
<i>N1</i>	105-34024	1633

(If 100-20396 is ident to your subject there is an additional 150 ref. under Don & 100 ref under Donald in Separation Index.)

(7)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 1958

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Check Unit - Room 6523	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524	b6
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	Supervisor	Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

Subject Donald West

Birthdate & Place _____

Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____

Date _____

Searcher _____

Initials ALD

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

<u>MI</u>	<u>97-39346</u>
<u>MI</u>	<u>98-21195</u>
<u>MI</u>	<u>118-5037</u>
<u>MI</u>	<u>116-11349</u>
<u>LT</u>	<u>100-80216</u>
<u>L</u>	<u>100-100212-8976 Encl #1</u>
<u>T</u>	<u>100-265412-10</u>
<u>NI</u>	<u>100-575113-16</u>
<u>L</u>	<u>64-777-15-305 #9 (TBE) AT</u>
<u>NI</u>	<u>64-777-71 Encl #3</u>
<u>NI</u>	<u>100-145177-12</u>
<u>T</u>	<u>62-88217-14 (Case closed) 11-27-57</u>
<u>LT</u>	<u>62-103863-13 Encl #235</u>
<u>NI</u>	<u>105-36385-3</u>
<u>NI</u>	<u>100-226825-1</u>
<u>T</u>	<u>99-917-4 Michigan</u>
<u>T</u>	<u>67-7755-12 AT</u>
<u>NI</u>	<u>94-5-36977</u>
<u>L</u>	<u>65-56402-253 #6 AT</u>

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

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FOR []

b7D

October 17, 1958

RE: DON WEST
Douglasville,
Georgia, RFD 4

Donald Lee West

Reference is made to your memorandum dated October 6, 1958, captioned as above, your reference S/8714. (S)

For your information, West was born on June 6, 1908, at Cartersburg, Georgia. He received an AB Degree from Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee, in 1929; a BS Degree in divinity from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, in 1932; and an LA Degree from Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia, in 1944. He has also attended the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, and the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, for summer work. He was married on December 14, 1928, to Label Constance West.

West has been prominent in communist activities since 1934, chiefly in the southern United States. In 1934 he served as Trade Union Organizer for the Communist Party in North Carolina, and he was District Organizer for the Communist Party in Kentucky during 1935-1936. West is a poet and writer and has contributed numerous articles and poems to the "Daily Worker," east coast communist publication, and other communist periodicals. During recent years he has published a newspaper called "The New Southerner," and he has traveled extensively throughout the United States attempting to obtain financial backing for this publication. The subject presently resides at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, and is employed as a farmer.

100-20396

2 - London

1 - 100-357682 (Japan)

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit

RDC:mtb

(11)

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OCT 22 1958

OCT 17 1958

66 OCT 24 1958

MAIL ROOM ☐

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

100-35-7682-
[100-769-]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

FOR [] (S)

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NOTE: [] has advised West, Security Index subject of Atlanta Office, has recently been in touch with Cheddi and Janet Jagan. Cheddi Jagan is Prime Minister of British Guiana and leader of procommunist People's Progressive Party of British Guiana. He visited U. S. in July, 1958, reportedly to seek economic assistance for his country. From information previously furnished by [] it is known Jagan, during his visit to U. S., was in contact with a number of individuals of security interest in New York City area, including several Security Index subjects. This memorandum classified "~~Confidential~~" since it contains information furnished by several confidential informants who are currently furnishing information relating to the national defense. (S)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ter
eman, Rm 1256

SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

10-17-58

EX-136

REC-3

Director, FBI (100-20396) — 180

DONALD LEE WEST, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

~~ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF~~
DATE 5/25/82

A confidential source abroad on 10-6-58 advised that, according to a secret and reliable source in British Guiana, which it is important to safeguard, subject has been in touch with Gheddi Jagan, Prime Minister of British Guiana and leader of the procommunist People's Progressive Party of British Guiana, and his wife, Janet. Reportedly, West has advised the Jagans that he has studied their activities with great interest, and he requested them to forward any literature they might have, referring particularly to copies of "Thunder," publication of the People's Progressive Party. (S)

Jagan visited the U. S. in July, 1958, ostensibly to seek economic assistance for his country. Information previously furnished by the same confidential source abroad indicates that during his visit Jagan was in contact with a number of persons of security interest in the New York City Area, including several Security Index subjects. (S)

The foregoing information should be most carefully paraphrased to protect source in the event it is included in any future reports. [No specific action is desired by your office concerning this information; however, you should be alert for any additional information regarding contacts between subject and the Jagans, particularly any indications that West is engaging in activities in the U. S. on behalf of the Jagans, the People's Progressive Party, or the Government of British Guiana.] (S)

RDC:mtb
(5)

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

MAILED 11
OCT 17 1958

59 OCT 22 1958

MAIL ROOM ☒

~~SECRET~~

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2, 1.2.3
Date of Review 10/1/83 3/27/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Report
FD-203 (Rev. 5-22-54)

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office ATLANTA	Office of Origin ATLANTA	Date 9/28/59	Investigative Period 7/1/59 - 9/12/59
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST		Report made by ALDEN F. MILLER	Typed By: SBB
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER	

Synopsis:

REFERENCE:

Report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, dated 6/30/58,
at Atlanta.

LEADS:

ATLANTA

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Will verify subject's return to his original address upon completion of his vacation and alert sources for further information as to his activities.

Class. & Ext. By **SP-1 GSK/PSK**
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2.1.3
Date of Review **3/23/92 3/23/82**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
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Approved CW	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below.	
Copies made: ④ - Bureau (100-20396) (RM) 3 - Atlanta (100-559)		100-20396-182	REG-25
		7 SEP 25 1959	EX 100

53 OCT 5 1959
AGENCY **RA 12**
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. **10-5-59**
HOW FORW. **6-6**
BY **F. E. P.**

COPIES DESTROYED
54 OCT 3 1973

~~SECRET~~ SUBG CONTROL

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

INFORMANTS:

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

FILE WHERE ORIGINAL INFORMATION
LOCATED

T-1 is [redacted]
Rural Mail Carrier,
U. S. Post Office,
Douglasville, Georgia

b6
b7C

This report

T-2 is [redacted]
[redacted] Georgia, who
requested his identity
be protected.

b6
b7C
b7D

This report

T-3 is an unknown
confidential source
abroad who, according to
Bureau letter of October 17,
1958, obtained information
regarding subject from a
secret and reliable source in
British Guiana.

100-559-756

T-4 is PSI [redacted]
[redacted]
Asheville, North Carolina.

b6
b7C
b7D

100-559-758

T-5 is [redacted]
[redacted]
New Orleans, Louisiana
(per his request).

b6
b7C
b7D

NO (100-759-1A286)
NO (100-759-1A304)

- B -
(COVER PAGE)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

FILE WHERE ORIGINAL INFORMATION
LOCATED

T-6 is [REDACTED]
Attorney at Law,
Gainesville, Georgia,
who requested his
identity be concealed.

100-559-765

b6
b7C
b7D

T-7 is [REDACTED],
Confidential Source,
[REDACTED]
Atlanta, Georgia.

This report

Sources used to characterize the U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF THE
KU KLUX KLAN, INC., were:

Source 1 [REDACTED] (RAC)
Source 2 [REDACTED] (RAC)
Source 3 [REDACTED] (RAC)
Source 4 [REDACTED] (RAC)
Source 5 [REDACTED] (RAC)
Source 6 [REDACTED] (RAC)

b2
b7D

Source used to characterize the Southern Conference Educational
Fund, Inc., was [REDACTED]

b2
b7D

- G -
(COVER PAGE)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
- ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
- ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
- ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
- ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
- ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
- ☒ This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL because (state reason) _____
- ☒ this report contains information made available by a confidential source abroad and the disclosure of which would compromise the future effectiveness thereof.

- ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____

it was ascertained he was vacationing away from Douglasville, Georgia area during the month of September 1959. Also in view of subject's past attitude as expressed when testifying before the Senate in Memphis, Tenn., in 1957, and during previous interview of subject by agents, it is not believed the results of an interview would warrant additional time spent in attempting to interview subject.

- ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria at _____ and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card. _____ this time.

- ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) _____
- in an HCUA Hearing WEST was identified during 1956 as having offered employment to _____ a Smith Act subject of the Boston Office who was being sent to the South as a member of the Communist Party. [At this time WEST was at CP Headquarters in New York City in the company of the late EUGENE STRONG, a CP functionary, in order to effect this employment of _____. Further, it is pointed out that WEST, in appearing before a Senate Investigation Committee in Memphis, Tenn., in October, 1957, had relied upon the Fifth Amendment for the basis of refusing to answer any pertinent questions asked of him by this Committee.

- D* -

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~~SECRET~~b6
b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~SECRET~~

Copy to:

Report of: ALDEN F. MILLER
Date: September 22, 1959

Office: Atlanta, Georgia

File Number: Atlanta (100-559)

Bufile: (100-20396)

Title: DONALD LEE WEST

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2, 1.3
Date of Review 3/22/92 9/22/89
3/23/82

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

Synopsis: Subject continues to reside Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., where he is actively engaged in small farming activities. Subject subpoenaed by HCUA for the hearings at Atlanta, Ga., on July 29, 30, and 31, 1958, but was not called upon to testify. In October 1958, subject was in contact with one CHEDDI JAGAN, Prime Minister of British Guiana and later of the Pro-Communist Peoples Progressive Party of British Guiana. From 1/1/58 to 9/30/58 subject received \$616.00 from SCEF, Inc.

- P -

DETAILS:I. BACKGROUNDA. Residence

Atlanta T-1 on September 3, 1959, verified that DONALD LEE WEST continues to reside at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia. Source further advised that WEST at the present time is not at home, but is apparently vacationing out of the Douglasville, Georgia, area.

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF CLG
DATE 5/25/82~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

B. Employment

Deputy Sheriff JAMES W. RAINWATER of Douglas County, Georgia, on September 3, 1959, advised that subject continues in his efforts to farm the small tract of land which he owns in that county. He advised that WEST primarily engages in truck farming and the sale of this truck produce in Atlanta, Georgia. Sheriff RAINWATER further advised that he understood WEST was a writer, however, knew of no recent publications that he has had published.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNIST PARTY

[Atlanta T-2] on July 29, 1958, reported that he was an acquaintance of subject approximately thirty years ago, at which time he was a ministerial student and attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. According to [T-2], WEST invited his roommate to attend a Communist Party meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, during this period of time, which meeting was held in the rear room of a pool hall. Informant could furnish no additional information regarding subject and his current activities. b6
b7C
b7D

According to a transcript of House Committee on Un-American Activities Hearings held in Atlanta, Georgia, on July 30 and 31, 1958, [redacted] of Boston, Massachusetts, testified that he had participated in making arrangements for the sending of one [redacted] a Communist Party member of the New England area, as a colonizer to the South. [redacted] advised that [redacted] was instructed to meet with [redacted] a Communist Party functionary in New York along with another person identified as DONALD WEST, who had come to New York City from Dalton, Georgia, for this purpose. [redacted] advised he had been informed that DONALD WEST was an editor of a newspaper in the South and that he was also a minister, very effective in labor organizations, and a Communist Party member.

It should be noted the Communist Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

[] advised that WEST was to come to New York City to meet [] and to participate in consulting with [] in order to ascertain the value and need for him both in the paper published by WEST and within labor organizations and industries in that area.

b6
b7C
b7D

The House Committee transcript of this hearing reflects subject was subpoenaed for appearance at this hearing, however, was excused from testifying based on information furnished to the Committee by Counsel JO FORER which information was that WEST's wife had recently been in a serious automobile accident and that WEST had been subpoenaed away from her bedside to appear at this hearing.

Atlanta T-3 in October 1958, advised that subject had been in contact with CHEDDI JAGAN, Prime Minister of British Guiana and who is also the leader of the Pro-Communist Peoples Progressive Party of British Guiana, and with his wife JANET. According to this source, WEST expressed an interest in the JAGANs' activities. ~~(S)~~

III. MISCELLANEOUS

[] Atlanta T-4 on October 15, 1958, advised that subject, while visiting in Asheville, North Carolina, had indicated that he might have to move from his present residence in Douglasville, Georgia, because the Ku Klux Klan was persecuting him. WEST did not indicate where he was going to move to from his present home. ~~(S)~~

[] On October 3, 1958, Atlanta T-5 advised that from January 1, 1958, to September 30, 1958, subject had received \$616.00 from the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc. Informant could not elaborate as for what purpose this sum had been furnished to WEST, however, noted that it was described as a special appeal. ~~(S)~~

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

[~~SECRET~~] Atlanta T-5 also advised on March 5, 1959, that some of the highlights of the activities of the Southern Conference Educational Fund for the year 1958 were described as producing through a special appeal a relief fund of approximately \$1,000 for two southern liberals, one of whom was described as a writer and a minister who had suffered accidents involving serious personal injury and loss.

[~~SECRET~~] On March 18, 1959, Atlanta T-6 advised that subject had in February 1959, visited in Lulu, Georgia, and that following his visit to this community there appeared to be an aroused racial feeling on the part of Negro families in that community. According to the informant, a Negro family identified only as having the name of HARVEY and living near a Methodist cemetery, stated on the morning of WEST's visit that this is the last year that his children will go to segregated schools. Informant could not positively state that this expression of racial unrest was a result of WEST's visit to that area.

[~~SECRET~~] Atlanta T-7 on August 21, 1959, who is acquainted with some phases of Communist Party activity in the State of Georgia, advised that he knows of no activity on the part of WEST in the Atlanta area.

[~~SECRET~~] On August 21, 1959, WILLIAM H. TEATHERS, 372 Augusta Avenue, S. E., Atlanta, Georgia, who is a self-admitted member of the Communist Party and who is personally acquainted with the subject, advised he knows of no activities on the part of WEST. [~~SECRET~~]

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

U. S. KLANS, KNIGHTS OF THE
KU KLUX KLAN, INCORPORATED
(U. S. KLANS)

A Source advised on October 12, 1956, that ELDON LEE EDWARDS organized a new Klan group at Atlanta, Georgia, in 1953. This organization received a corporate charter in Georgia in October 1955, under the name U. S. Klans.

The above source, a second source and a third source, all advised in August 1959, that U. S. Klans has no affiliation with any previous Klan group but utilizes with minor changes the Klan Kloran or ritual written in about 1915 by WILLIAM JOSEPH SIMMONS for use by the now-defunct Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (1915-1944).

These sources advised U. S. Klans has as its principal aims and objectives the promotion of Americanism, white supremacy and segregation. The second source stated the aims, objectives and principles for all practical purposes are the same as those of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

The above sources stated that on numerous occasions EDWARDS has announced objectives will be met through legal means and without violence. In addition, during August 1959, the third and fourth sources advised Klan officials expect to achieve objectives through strength in membership, thus insuring selection of public officials who are sympathetic with their views.

Third and fourth sources advised in August 1959, that EDWARDS and other individuals responsible for organizing U. S. Klans are former officers and members of the Association of Georgia Klans (AGK). AGK has been designated by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

All of the above sources and two additional sources advised in August 1959, that the U. S. Klans continues as the principal Klan in operation and is actively engaged in recruiting members in several Southern States. These informants advised that the U. S. Klans has made considerable progress within the past year in opening new units in the Southern states.

- 5 - ~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

An amendment to the charter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which has been cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities as a communist front, changed the name of the organization to the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc., and listed its purposes as being to improve the educational and cultural standards of the southern people in accordance with the highest American democratic institutions, traditions, and ideals. The amendment was dated April 26, 1946.

Source, who is familiar with some phases of Communist Party activity in the New Orleans area, advised on June 29, 1956, that during the time the SCHW was in existence, Communist Party members were members of and worked actively in the SCHW. However, since the formation of the SCEF, Inc., rank and file Communist Party members have not been encouraged to work in the SCEF. Source stated that the SCEF is a progressive liberal organization which he considers a Communist Party front organization because it has gone along with the Communist Party on certain issues, particularly on the racial question, and through the years certain Communist Party members in the New Orleans area have been assigned to work in the organization to further Communist Party principles. (S)

Source considers JAMES DOMBROWSKI, the Executive Director of the SCEF, as a Communist Party member because he follows Communist principles, but he is not under Communist Party discipline. Many prominent people who are officials and members of the organization, while liberal in their views, are by no means Communists.

- 6* -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-559

Atlanta, Georgia
September 22, 1959

DONALD LEE WEST --
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, dated September 22, 1959, at Atlanta, Georgia, captioned as above.

All Confidential Informants and sources mentioned in the report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, above, have furnished reliable information in the past.

This memorandum is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

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DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PS

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B4 OCT 3 1973

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. J. F. Bland *JB*

DATE: August 19, 1959

FROM : Mr. T. D. Rushing *TDR*SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 DeLoach _____
 McGuire _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 W.C. Sullivan _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

*bm
S.T.*

The case on the above-captioned individual has been reviewed by the Department and the subject's name approved for inclusion in the Security Index.

The memorandum reflecting departmental approval dated August 5, 1959, is located in Bureau file 100-398030 Serial 2512.

100-20396

*FD-205, 9-14-59, Atlanta
 Unable to interview
 apt. by 9-22-59.*

TDR: baw *baw**TDR-5*

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 DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

100-20396-
 NOT RECORDED
 12 AUG 21 1959

68 AUG 24 1959

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 11/18/59

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST

SM - C

(OO: ATLANTA)

On 11/18/59, Lieutenant [redacted] Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that he had received information from one [redacted] who is a rural mail carrier at Douglasville, Georgia, that DONALD LEE WEST was residing with his wife and daughter, HEDDY WEST in Apartment 22, 409 E. 71st Street, New York 29, New York.

For the information of the New York Office, DONALD LEE WEST is carried on the Security Index of the Atlanta Office.

New York, in accordance with Bureau instructions, is requested to verify WEST's residence as listed above.

P.

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - New York (RM)
- 1 - Atlanta

AFM:sbb
(5)

EX 100

REC-19

100-20396-183

15 NOV. 20 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 3/23/82 BY SP1 GSK/PK

SUB CONTROL

58 NOV 25 1959 143

National Congress of American Indians

1346 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

November 25, 1959

House Committee on Un-American Activities
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

1958-1959 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Joseph R. Garry, *Coeur d'Alene*
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Walter Weitzel, *Blackfeet*
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Woodrow Wilson, *Cheyenne-Arapaho*
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
Lester Oliver, *White Mountain Apache*
RECORDING SECRETARY
Frank George, *Colville-Nez Perce*
TREASURER
John C. Rainier, *Taos Pueblo*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Helen L. Peterson, *Oglala Sioux*

Telephone: ADAMS 2-3390
ADAMS 2-8566

Re: D. L. West
Douglasville, Georgia

Gentlemen:

We thank you very much for your cooperation in giving us information and sending us copies of your reports concerning D. L. West of Douglasville, Georgia.

We are, on the basis of the information you sent to us, cancelling Mr. West's membership in our organization and refunding the amount of his dues payment. Inclosed is copy of the letter we are mailing him by registered mail with return receipt requested.

Article II, Section 1, paragraph (f) of our constitution specifies that: "No individual or organization with known subversive activities or affiliation shall be admitted to membership."

Regardless of whether current association or membership in an un-American organization is proven, our officers, executive council, and staff feel strongly against granting membership in our organization to any individual or group about which there could be any doubt whatsoever concerning association or membership in possible un-American organizations. Hence we have taken as firm action as we know how to take. We ask that you take official note of this.

Sincerely,

Helen L. Peterson
(Mrs.) Helen L. Peterson
Executive Director

EX 104

D.C.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

Consideration of Copies to Secretary of Interior and Commissioner of Indian Affairs

58 DEC 8 1959

Copy only
no acknowledgment
RAT

December 7-11, 1959

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/24/82 BY SP/LSK/RSK

NOV 30 1959

File 100-20396

1844
Parker
Subfor

REC-13

NOV 30 1959

COPIES TO SECRETARY OF INTERIOR AND COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

RECEIVED

Westward Ho Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona

1958-1959 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Joseph R. Garry, Coeur d'Alene
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Walter Wetzel, Blackfeet
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Woodrow Wilson, Cheyenne-Arapaho
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
Lester Oliver, White Mountain Apache
RECORDING SECRETARY
Frank George, Colville-Nez Perce
TREASURER
John C. Rainer, Taos Pueblo
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Helen L. Peterson, Oglala Sioux

Telephone: ADAMS 2-3390
ADAMS 2-8566

National Congress of American Indians

1346 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

November 25, 1959

Mr. D. L. West
R. F. D. 1
Douglasville
Georgia

Dear Mr. West:

At the time your dues were received by us there seemed to be no reason to deny you membership in the National Congress of American Indians. Accordingly an official receipt and a membership card were routinely sent to you.

Not long thereafter, however, doubt was raised and this office made a careful check. The result is that your membership is cancelled and you are requested to return the individual membership card and the official receipt which were issued to you.

We are enclosing herewith our check #1851 dated September 1, 1959, in the amount of \$10.00 which will refund the dues payment made by you.

Sincerely,

Helen L. Peterson

(Mrs.) Helen L. Peterson
Executive Director

Enclosure: Refund-of-dues check

REGISTERED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1/AR/EX

100-20376-184

ENCLOSURE

Continuation, Westward Ho Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona

December 7-11, 1959

Office Memorandum

UN

ES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 1/12/60

FROM : SAC, New York (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM-C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP1 GSK/BSK

Re Atlanta letter to Director dated 11/18/59.

Records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as reviewed by IC ALFRED G. ENNULAT on 12/7/59, did not contain any information pertaining to the subject.

On 12/15/59, [redacted] 409 East 71st Street, NY, NY advised SA [redacted] that to his knowledge HEDDY WEST is the sole occupant of apartment 22 located at that address. A description of the subject and his wife, MABEL, was furnished to [redacted] however, he could not recall any visitors to the WEST apartment who resembled DONALD and MABEL WEST.

On 12/15/59, [redacted] Rental Agent, ERNEST T. BOWER, INC. 1257 3rd Avenue, NY, NY advised SA [redacted] that apartment 22 at 409 East 71st Street, NY, NY had been sublet by HEDDY WEST on 11/9/59, and that her lease will expire on 11/1/60. He stated that according to his records HEDDY WEST had previously resided at 442 East 78th Street, NY, NY and when applying for the lease at 409 East 71st Street she stated she was then employed by Radio Station WBAI-FM, 30 East 39th Street, NY, NY. [redacted] stated that to his knowledge HEDDY WEST is the sole occupant of the apartment and that, in fact, occupancy by any additional individuals would be a violation of the lease. [redacted] was unable to furnish any additional pertinent information.

On 1/12/60, the above mentioned [redacted] was recontacted by SA [redacted] and he advised that he has not observed any individuals visiting apartment 22 who might be identical with DONALD or MABEL WEST. It is to be noted that [redacted] apartment door is located directly across a narrow hall from the apartment door of HEDDY WEST.

Atlanta should conduct investigation to determine whether or not DONALD and MABEL WEST have returned to Douglasville, Georgia.

The NYO is not in possession of photographs of DONALD or MABEL WEST or recent descriptions of these individuals. Should additional leads be directed to the NYO, Atlanta is requested to furnish photographs and descriptions. RUC

- (2) Bureau (100-20396)(RM) REC- 69
- 2- Atlanta (100-559)(RM)
- 1- New York (100-22129)(412)

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62 JAN 20 1960

(5)

F169

100-20396-185
SUBV CONTROL
Palmer

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 1/27/60

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C
ATLANTA: OOALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/82 BY SP1/CSK/PSK

Re Atlanta letter dated 11/18/59 and New York letter dated 1/12/60.

As pointed out in Atlanta letter of 11/18/59, DONALD LEE WEST is on the Security Index of the Atlanta Office, and New York was requested to verify subject's residence and to determine his employment if any in New York City.

On January 22, 1960, [] a Rural Mail Carrier, Douglasville, Georgia, confidentially advised that DON WEST has not returned to his farm located in an extremely rural area 12 miles south of Douglasville, Georgia since his departure in late summer of 1959. [] advised that in order to deliver subject's mail it is necessary for him to drive within 50 feet of subject's residence and at no time was it evident that anyone was residing in the WEST residence during past several months. Further, he pointed out that he has delivered mail to tenant farmer residing on WEST's property which is in the apparent handwriting of WEST on several occasions which correspondence bears the return address of Apartment 22, 409 East 71st Street, New York City. [] advised that the most recent letter from subject to his tenant farmer was delivered in early January 1960, date unrecalled. [] also advised that the tenant farmer is apparently forwarding WEST's mail to him through another Post Office, as he has never been requested to forward WEST's mail and the mail is regularly picked up from WEST's mail box.

Enclosed for the assistance of the New York Office is a photograph of WEST taken in 1955, which bears a good likeness to subject. No photographs are available of subject's wife. It is noted that subject's wife was involved in an automobile accident in Kentucky during the summer of 1958, was injured seriously and may be receiving medical care in New York City.

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - New York (100-22129) (RM) (Enc. 1)
1 - Atlanta

AFM/hld
(5)

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67 FEB 3 1960

JAN 29 1960

SUBV CONTROL

AT 100-559

NEW YORK is requested through investigation to verify subject's residence in Apartment 22, at 409 East 71st Street, New York City, and to determine his employment.

An appropriate FD 122 has been submitted to Bureau reflecting that subject's residence and employment is unknown.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 2/16/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C
OO: Atlanta

Re Atlanta letter to Bureau, 1/27/60.

On 2/16/60, [redacted]
apartment 21, 409 East 71st Street, NYC, advised SA
[redacted] that HEDDY WEST is the sole occupant of
apartment 22 at the above address.[redacted] stated that he was unable to identify
a photograph of captioned subject which was displayed to
him by SA [redacted] advised that he had never before
seen captioned subject.[redacted] stated that he recalled that some weeks
an unknown male had visited the apartment of HEDDY WEST at
409 East 71st Street, NYC, but stated that this individual
could not have been captioned, since he recalls the unknown
individual was about 5'7" tall and in his late 20's.[redacted] further advised that he had not seen this unknown
male either before or after the above-mentioned incident.NYO does not contemplate any additional investigation
in this matter. RUC.

- 2 - Bureau (100-20396) (RM)
- 2 - Atlanta (100-559) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-22129)

JDB:rmk
(5)

REC-44

100-20396-187

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED —

DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RK

51 FEB 19 1960

SUBV. CONTROL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 1/27/60

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

Cards UTD
Cards Sent OO
2/8/60

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka
SM - C
ATLANTA: OO

☐ 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 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address)		
Unknown		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		100-20396-
Residence Address		
Unknown		

NOT RECORDED
2 JAN 29 1960

SUBV CONTROL

2 - Bureau (RM)

1 - Atlanta

AFM:hld (3)

REGISTERED MAIL

50 FEB 8 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 4/20/60

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C
(OO: ATLANTA)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Re Atlanta letter to Bureau, dated 1/27/60.

During past investigative period the Atlanta Office has monitored the bank account of the above-captioned subject which is maintained with the Bank of Austell, at Austell, Georgia, in an effort to determine subject's present whereabouts.

In addition, investigative leads have been set out for the New York Office in an effort to verify subject's residence in the New York area. Further investigation has consisted of contacts with rural mail carrier and the Postmaster at Douglasville, Ga., and as well as Deputy Sheriff JAMES RAINWATER at Douglasville, Ga., all of whom are acquainted with WEST and all have been unproductive as to the whereabouts of subject WEST.

On 4/13/60, [redacted] Rural Mail Carrier, Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., and who is personally acquainted with subject WEST, advised that he continually delivers mail for WEST to the mailbox located directly in front of WEST's home and that it is apparent that one [redacted] a tenant farmer on the WEST establishment, forwards this mail on to WEST either through an Atlanta Post Office or other Post Offices in the area. He advised that he has never picked up any mail in this box which is being forwarded to subject WEST.

[redacted] said that he is personally acquainted with WEST and recognizes his handwriting and that he has delivered periodic letters addressed to [redacted] in WEST's own handwriting. He advised these letters bear a New York postmark. However, [redacted] do not have any return addresses thereon. [redacted] further advised that for approximately three weeks during the winter [redacted] was absent from the farm owned by WEST and reportedly spent this time in Ohio.

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Louisville (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 1 - Atlanta
- 1 - sbb

REC-69

6 APR 25 1960

SUBV. CONT.

59 MAY 2 1960

AT 100-559

Deputy Sheriff JAMES W. RAINWATER, Douglas County, Georgia, on April 13, 1960, advised to his knowledge DON WEST has not returned to his farm since departing in early Fall 1959. He advised nothing has come to his attention which would indicate WEST's present whereabouts.

On April 14, 1960, through the assistance of one [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Cashier, Bank of Austell, it was determined that WEST continues to maintain a checking account with that bank in which there remains a balance of \$945.00. He advised the last time he saw WEST in the Bank of Austell was August 18, 1959, which is reflected by a bank deposit. [REDACTED] also made available bank records consisting of photorecord of a check written by D. L. WEST, payable to one [REDACTED] in the amount of \$75.00. As a matter of identification, this check was cashed at Winn Dixie Grocery Store #414 in Louisville, Kentucky, and was deposited with the Liberty National Bank and Trust Company. In the lower lefthand corner of the check the following notations were observed:

[REDACTED]
Phone No. JA 3-7988

or

LA 3-7788

or

JU 3-7788

In regard to the above phone numbers, it should be noted that the photorecord picture was not clear in this respect and the numbers given are the possible ones which may be used in identifying [REDACTED] or in locating the present whereabouts of subject WEST.

AT 100-559

LEAD:

LOUISVILLE

AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Will conduct discreet inquiry at Louisville to determine the identity of [redacted] possibly residing [redacted] and who may have telephone number, listed above, assigned to her.

b6
b7C

It may be noted the check is for \$75.00 and the money may be in payment for the rental of an apartment or residence by subject from [redacted]

b6
b7C

Enclosed for the Louisville Office is a copy of a photograph of DONALD LEE WEST, who is a Security Index subject of the Atlanta Office.

It is noted that subject WEST apparently continues to correspond with one [redacted] which letters bear New York postmarks. It is entirely feasible that this could occur inasmuch as subject has a daughter, HEDDY WEST, who resides in Apartment 21, 409 East 71st Street, New York City, and who may be forwarding any mail from the New York area for her father in an effort to conceal his present whereabouts.

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 6/10/60

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, AKA
SECURITY MATTER - C
(ATLANTA ORIGIN)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 CLK/RSK

Re previous Atlanta letters dated 1/27/60.

On 5/26/60, CLAUDE PURCELL, State Superintendent of Schools, State Department of Education, Atlanta 3, Ga., advised that on 5/21/60, he had received a letter from DONALD LEE WEST requesting a letter from State authorities addressed to whom it may concern, substantiating WEST's employment 1942-45 in the public schools of Georgia at Lulu, Ga. He requested that this letter be forwarded to him at 409 East 71st St., N. Y. C.

New York is requested to verify WEST's residence in New York City at 407 East 71st St. as he is a missing Security Index Subject of the Atlanta Office.

It is noted that New York was previously requested to verify subject's residence at above address, which has been determined to be occupied by HEDDIE WEST, daughter of subject.

New York is also requested to check Drivers License Bureau for WEST to determine if he has current New York Drivers License.

From examination of letter written by subject to State Education authorities, he is sufficiently well known to Postal authorities in New York City to receive his mail when addressed care of the above address without apartment number or other routing.

2 - Bureau RM
2 - New York (100-22129) RM
1 - Atlanta

AFM:mel
(5)

REC-80

23 JUN 13 1960

EX-112

SUBV. CONTROL

59 JUN 15 1960

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396) DATE: 6/27/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka
SECURITY MATTER - C
(OO: Atlanta)

Re Atlanta letter, 6/10/60.

Records of Bureau of Motor Vehicles, New York State, as furnished by [redacted] to IC [redacted] on 6/17/60, did not disclose a current drivers license or 1960 automobile registration for DONALD LEE WEST or D. L. WEST.

b6
b7C

On 6/23/60, [redacted] Apartment 21, 409 East 71st Street, NYC, advised SA JOHN T. O'SHAUGHNESSY that a female named LEVINE had moved in with HEDDY WEST. [redacted] stated that he has not noticed any males visiting the WEST apartment since he was last interviewed.

b6
b7C

Through an established source of the NYO, the postal carrier, who covers 409 East 71st Street, will be contacted for any information he may have concerning the subject.

P

- ② - Bureau (100-20396) (RM)
- 2 - Atlanta (100-559) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-22129)

JTO:mzg
(5)

REC- 51

100-20396-190

16 JUN 28 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

SUBV CONTROL
SC 272

7420
84 JUL 5 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 7/27/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST aka
SECURITY MATTER-C

Remylets, 6/27/60.

New York

b6
b7C

Post Office, 34th and 8th Avenue advised SA JOHN T. O'SHAUGHNESSY on 7/25/60 that the Postman assigned to the 409 East 71st Street address did not know anything concerning the subject or his daughter. It is noted that 409 East 71st Street is a five story tenement dwelling consisting of approximately 40 apartments.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP.1 GSK/PSK

- RUC -

2-Bureau (100-20396) (RM)
2-Atlanta (100-559) (RM)
1-New York (100-22129)

JFO:veb
(5)

EX 109

REC- 83

100-20396-191

18 JUL 29 1960

SUBV. CONTROL

b6
b7C

52 AUG 3 1960

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 7/5/60

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C

*0-1 - Atlanta
7-25-60
Lester
7-13-60
DAES, mr
Cards UTD
Cards Sent OO
7/13/60
WWS*

☐ 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):

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK**

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) Self-employed, farmer, writer, from residence		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		NOT RECORDED
Residence Address Route 4, Douglasville, Ga.		13 JUL 7 1960

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Atlanta
REGISTERED MAIL
51 JUL 14 1960
(3)

SUBV. DIVISION
ALB BOW

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 8/1/60

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka.
SM - C
(OO: ATLANTA)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/28/82 BY SP1 GSK/RSK

Re FD-122 dated 7/5/60 at Atlanta.

For the Bureau's information, subject has returned to his permanent residence at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, as of 7/1/60.

The New York Office has an investigative lead outstanding in that division to check a source of information regarding subject.

All investigative efforts to date have been negative in effort to verify subject's whereabouts from 9/1/59 to 7/1/60. All correspondence from him during this period was postmarked New York City and in correspondence he furnished his return address as 409 East 71st Street, New York City.

Through banking sources efforts are continuing to develop information which may indicate the whereabouts of subject this past year as well as his activities.

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Atlanta

AFM/sbb
(3)

EX 100

REC-8

100-20396-192

18 AUG 3 1960

SUBV CONTROL

58 AUG 11 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 8/30/60

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Atlanta 00)

Re Atlanta letter dated 6/10/60, captioned as above.

As reported in referenced Atlanta letter, subject requested from one CLAUDE PURCELL, State Superintendent of Schools, State Department of Education, Atlanta, Ga., a letter certifying the employment of himself in the public schools of Georgia at Lula, Ga., 1942-1945.

It is noted that this request was made 5/21/60, for the above certification, and it was further indicated that this certification should be forwarded to WEST at 409 East 71st St., N. Y. C.

As a result of a recent inspection, it was suggested that leads be set forth for the New York Office to conduct credit and criminal check for WEST in N. Y. C. It was further suggested that the N. Y. Office check records of the public school system in an effort to determine whether WEST has made application there for employment in the education field.

For assistance in coverage of the credit, criminal, and school check records, it should be noted DONALD LEE WEST is described as follows:

2 - Bureau RM
2 - New York (100-22129) RM
1 - Atlanta

AFM:mel
(5)

REC-4

100-20396-193
25 SEP 1 1960

SEP 7 1960

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 CSK/PK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/23/92
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

Name	DONALD LEE WEST
AKA	Don West, Jim Weaver, James Weaver, Jim West (S)
Born	6/6/08, Carteday, Gilmer County, Ga.
Age	52
Height	6' 2"
Weight	180 lbs.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown with some gray
Scars and marks	2 fingers missing from left hand
Peculiarities	Right eye does not always focus and on occasion wears glasses
Occupation	Self-employed farmer, writer, educator MRS. DONALD LEE WEST
Marital Status	Married to MABLE CONSTANCE WEST nee ADAMS, Middleburg, Ky. 12/14/28. b6 b7C
Children	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 1.2em; width: 100%;"></div> BETHEL GRACE WEST, age 21, APPROX. 1939 J. A.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Int

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

11/9

Reporting Office ATLANTA	Office of Origin ATLANTA	Date 11/1/60	Investigative Period 9/22-10/31/60
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST		Report made by SA ALDEN F. MILLER	Typed By: /enm
Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 Date of Review 3/23/92 3/23/82		CHARACTER OF CASE SM - C APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 5/5/82	

Synopsis: ~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

REFERENCE: Report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER dated 9/22/59 at Atlanta.

- P -

LEADS:

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, N. Y.

- Will check records of Manufacturers Trust Company, NYC, to determine whether subject was employed by the LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ FOUNDATION from 9/1/59 to 7/1/60.
- Will examine any photo records maintained by bank to determine endorsements on such checks in effort to establish subjects whereabouts and residence.

*0-1-05. 11/10/61
str. will be sub.
7-1-61 - F 504
0-1 & AT 11/11/61
Action when ref or act
can be adjusted.*

Approved <i>Cew</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-20396) RM 2 - New York (100-22129) RM 3 - Atlanta (100-559) COPIES DESTROYED		100-20396-194 NOV 3 1960 54 OCT 3 1973

AGENCY RAB
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. NOV 13 1960
HOW FORW. 5-6
BY FJK

NOV 25 1960
RECEIVED COMM. REC'D - FBI

~~SECRET~~

SUBV CONTROL

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

3. Will also ascertain whether subject established a checking account with the Manufacturers Trust Company or savings account and examine all bank records relating to this account for pertinent data.

4. Will check indices for pertinent data regarding LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ FOUNDATION, INC., VICTOR RABINOWITZ and through other sources such as incorporation records, determine purpose of foundation.

Characterize if subversive.

5. Will through any other informants or sources attempt to ascertain activities of RABINOWITZ FUND during past year.

6. * New York was previously requested by letter of 8/30/60 to check records of the New York City Public Schools to determine whether subject has attempted to obtain employment in the field of education.

ATLANTA

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Will attempt to develop information regarding subject's activities and whereabouts 9/1/59-7/1/60.

INFORMANTS:

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

FILE WHERE ORIGINAL
INFORMATION LOCATED

T-1 is [redacted]
Rural Mail Carrier
Douglasville, Georgia

b6
b7C

This report

T-2 is [redacted]
[redacted]
Bank of Austell
Austell, Ga.

This report

B
(COVER PAGE)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

FILE WHERE ORIGINAL
INFORMATION LOCATED

✓ T-3 is Confidential Source

This report

[REDACTED]
Atlanta, Ga.

b6
b7C
b7D

✓ T-4 is [REDACTED]
SOI, Atlanta, Ga.

This report

ADMINISTRATIVE:

✓ Information attributed to T-1 in details of report reflecting his belief that subject was in NYC from 9/1/59 to 7/1/60, is based on regular correspondence postmarked in NYC which was addressed to tenant farmer living on subject's farm in handwriting recognized by T-1 as that of subject's.

✓ Atlanta indices are negative regarding LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ FOUNDATION, INC., and VICTOR RABINOWITZ.

~~SECRET~~

C
(COVER PAGE)

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

- ☒ ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
- ☒ ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
- ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
- ☒ ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
- ☒ ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
- ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
- ☐ This report is classified _____ because (state reason)

☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

his past activities for period 9/1/59 to 7/1/60 have not as yet been established thru investigation other than he was in NYC. Further when previously interviewed in 1954 subject was uncooperative and further vented his wrath in expressing his feelings when subpoenaed for HCUA Hearings in July 1958. Because of his attitude subject never actually testified 7/58 before HCUA. Nothing since has been developed showing subject has changed this attitude.

☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.

☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

in an HCUA HEARING, WEST was identified during 1956 as having offered employment to [redacted] a Smith Act subject of the Boston Office who was being sent to the South as a member of the Communist Party. (At this time WEST was at CP Headquarters in New York City in the company of the late EUGENE STRONG, a CP functionary in order to effect this employment of [redacted] further, it is pointed out that WEST, in appearing before a Senate Investigation Committee in Memphis, Tenn., in October 1957, had relied upon the Fifth Amendment for the basis of refusing to answer any pertinent questions asked of him by this Committee.

b6
b7c~~SECRET~~

D*

(COVER PAGE)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA ALDEN F. MILLER
Date: November 1, 1960

Office: Atlanta, Georgia

Field Office File No.: Atlanta 100-559

Bureau File No.: 100-20396

Title: DONALD LEE WEST

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Synopsis:

Subject resides Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., and is unemployed except for farming. Subject received check in June 1960 in amount of \$3,000 from LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ FOUNDATION, NYC, which was during period subject's residence was unknown. Acquaintances and sources advise they know of no subversive activity on part of subject.

- P -

DETAILS:I. BACKGROUNDa.) Residence

Atlanta T-1 on October 27, 1960, advised subject as of that date continues to reside at Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia, in a desolate rural area located approximately 20 miles west of Atlanta, Georgia. Informant advised previously in September 1959, that subject had left his residence ostensibly on a vacation and further on July 1, 1960, that subject had returned to his farm on or about June 28th or 29th, 1960.

MRS DONALD LEE WEST
MABEL WEST
N. J. J.

AT 100-559

Informant advised that subject was gone from the Douglasville, Georgia, area the entire period from September 1, 1959, to July 1, 1960. Informant advised that he was not aware of subject's exact address during this period, but believed he was residing in New York City.

On May 24, 1960, CLAUDE PURCELL, State Superintendent of Schools, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that by letter dated May 19, 1960, subject was in contact with his office at which time he listed his return address as 409 East 71st Street, New York, New York, and requested certain data be forwarded him at this address.

On September 23, 1959, Lt. [REDACTED] Georgia Bureau of Investigation advised subject's wife was residing with her daughter HEDDY WEST, Apartment 21, 409 East 71st Street, New York City, and that subject is reported to be traveling; however, will return to New York City prior to returning to Georgia.

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b7C

On December 15, 1959; January 12, 1960; February 16, 1960; and June 23, 1960, [REDACTED] 409 East 71st Street, New York City, advised that subject and his wife MABEL are not occupants of Apartment #22, which is occupied solely by HEDDY WEST and neither has he observed persons visiting HEDDY WEST who might be identical with subject.

b6
b7C

b.) Occupation or Business

On October 27, 1960, [REDACTED] advised subject was not employed to his knowledge at the present time other than working on his farm. He advised subject has no visible means of income.

On May 24, 1960, CHARLES PURCELL of the Georgia State Education Department advised that subject on May 19, 1960, had requested papers attesting to subject's service as principal of the Lula, Georgia, schools from 1942 to 1945.

AT 100-559

Mr. PURCELL advised this type of information might reflect subject's efforts to re-enter the education field.

On October 11, 1960, Atlanta T-2 advised that subject on July 1, 1960, had in his possession a check, #1970, drawn in the amount of \$3,000, dated June 11, 1960, on the Manufacturers Trust Company of New York, in account of LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ FOUNDATION, INC., 24 Broad Street, New York City, and signed VICTOR RABINOWITZ. T-2 could not explain the significance of this check.

The above information attributed to T-2 is not to be divulged or made public unless upon the issuance of an appropriate subpoena duces tecum.

Sheriff MONK REDDING, Douglas County, Douglasville, Georgia, on October 11, 1960, advised that subject is unemployed and spends his time tinkering around on his farm. He advised that subject is currently repairing and fixing up a tenant dwelling on his farm.

II. SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES, IF ANY

On October 17, 1960, WILLIAM H. LEATHERS, 875 Washington Street, S. W., Atlanta, Georgia, a self-admitted former member of the Communist Party (CP) and an acquaintance of subject, advised he knows of no CP activities on the part of subject.

Lt. [redacted] Georgia Bureau of Investigation, on October 31, 1960, advised that subject is not known to him to be participating in any group activities nor is he known to associate with anyone in the community where he resides as everyone in the area is aware of subject's past CP connections and beliefs and avoid all contact with him. He advised subject is more or less ostracized in the community because of subject's past record.

It should be noted that the Communist Party has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within purview of Executive Order 10450.

AT 100-559

Sheriff MONK REDDING, Douglas County, Douglasville, Georgia, on October 11, 1960, advised that subject to his knowledge is not presently active with any organization nor does he associate closely with anyone in the community as no one wants anything to do with him because of his past CP connections. Sheriff REDDING advised that whenever in that area of the county where subject resides and the roads are passable, he drives by the farm where WEST lives. He stated he has not observed any visitors at the WEST farm since July 1, 1960, other than the tenant farmer who resides there.

Atlanta T-1, on October 27, 1960, advised that on five or six occasions a week he passes the West residence and has not observed visitors or contacts of subject. He also stated he is not aware of any activities on the part of subject which would indicate current subversive activity.

[redacted] Georgia, a neighbor, advised on October 11, 1960, that he lives about three-fourths of a mile from subject and has known him over eight years. He stated he has in the past worked with subject in various farm work but that subject has not talked to him in any manner indicating a subversive interest or activity. [redacted] stated he is not closely associated with subject but knows him only as neighbor. He advised that WEST has no close friends or social acquaintances in the area and does not appear to have connections with any organizations or groups.

Atlanta T-3 and T-4 on October 17, 1960, who are acquainted with some phases of CP activity in Georgia, advised that they know of no current CP activity on the part of WEST in Georgia.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-559

Atlanta, Georgia
November 1, 1960

DONALD LEE WEST
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to report of Special Agent
ALDEN F. MILLER, dated November 1, 1960, at Atlanta,
Georgia, captioned as above.

All confidential informants and sources
mentioned in the report of Special Agent ALDEN F.
MILLER, above, have furnished reliable information
in the past.

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

COPIES DESTROYED

54 OCT 3 1973

-5-

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT 10/19

TO : Director, FBI (File 100-20396) DATE: 10/18/60

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (File 100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM-C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline:

Reason for the delinquency: EFFORTS CONTINUING TO DETERMINE SUBJECT'S WHEREABOUTS FROM 9/1/59 UNTIL HE RETURNED ATLANTA 7/1/60. LEADS CURRENTLY OUTSTANDING FOR NEW YORK OFFICE. ANNUAL REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED BY 11/2/60. Date the report or necessary communication will reach the Bureau: 11/2/60. Whether leads outstanding at NYC are covered or not.

AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:
(This applies only to 116 cases.)

SUBV CONTROL

~~SECRET~~

SUGGESTION MEMORANDUM - NOT A SUBSTANTIVE WRITE-UP

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b7C

DONALD LEE WEST,
aka Don West, Jim
Weaver, James Weaver,
Jim West (X)
SM-C
Atlanta File 100-559
Bureau File 100-20396

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 5/25/60

INSPECTOR COLE: Case opened 5/14/59, assigned to SA ALDEN E. MILLER, supervised by Supervisor [redacted]

Subject is a Security Index subject of the Atlanta Office, who is reported to be self-employed as a farmer and writer. His address is Route 4, Douglasville, Georgia. During the period 9/1/59 to 7/1/60, his exact whereabouts and activities were unknown. Investigation established subject, during above period, received mail at the address, 409 E. 71st Street, New York City. This address ascertained to be that of subject's daughter, HEDDIE GRACE WEST. Attempts to verify subject's residence at this address by New York Office have been negative. Investigation conducted by New York Office has been confined to contact with a source at this address, which is described as a five-story tenement dwelling, consisting of approximately 40 apartments, and a check of records of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, New York State, for evidence of a driver's license or auto registration issued in the subject's name. New York Office currently has a lead outstanding to check a source of information, identified as a postal carrier, who covers 409 E. 71st Street, in an attempt to verify subject's residence at that address.

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Information developed indicates the subject, on 5/19/60, corresponded with the State School Superintendent, Atlanta, Georgia, requesting written verification of his employment as superintendent and principal in the Hall County System of the Lula Public Schools at Lula, Georgia, during the approximate period 1942 to 1945. Subject requested that verification of this employment be forwarded to him at 409 E. 71st Street, New York City.

ATLANTA INSPECTION
8/15/60
PE NUGENT;ct
4-F

NOT RECORDED

25 OCT 8 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Class. & Ext. by SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/23/96

50 OCT 5 1960

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

Since subject known to have utilized above address during period his whereabouts unknown, and in view of written request of subject for verification of above employment, it is possible he sought employment in the New York City area during the period 9/1/59 to 7/1/60. Possibility exists this employment sought in a teaching capacity in the New York City School System.

It is suggested that additional leads be set forth in this case to the New York City Office for purpose of conducting local credit and criminal checks for the subject under his true name and all known aliases. It is further suggested that a lead be set forth to the New York Office to check records of the New York area school system in a further attempt to determine the subject's exact whereabouts and activities during the period 9/1/59 to 7/1/60.

Comments of SA MILLER, Supervisor [] and SAC requested.

SA MILLER:

This will be done.

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8/18/60

Supervisor []

This appears to be a good suggestion and will be carried out.

8/18/60

SAC WEEKS:

Agreed.

8/18/60

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES

MENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 11/30/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C
(OO: Atlanta)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/28/82 BY SP1 GJK/PSK

Re Atlanta letter to Director, 8/30/60, and report
of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, dated 11/1/60, at Atlanta.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
JOHN J. SULLIVAN:

[redacted] 409 E. 71st St.,
NY, NY, advised on 9.13/60, that HEDDY WEST had vacated her
apartment at this address in August, 1960. She left no for-
warding address. According to [redacted] HEDDY WEST told him
that she was going to be married, but furnished no additional
information. [redacted] stated that he had never seen anyone
fitting the subject's description visiting the apartment
building.

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[redacted] Administrative Assistant, Board of
Records, Room 501, NYC Board of Education, 110 Livingston St.,
Brooklyn, NY, advised on 10/21/60, that a review of his records
reflected that the subject was not presently employed by the
NYC Board of Education nor had he made application for a
position.

Records of the NYCPD and BSS, NYCPD, were reviewed
by SA DAVID G. JENKINS on 9/16/60, and no record for the sub-
ject was located.

The NYO will conduct appropriate investigation at the
Manufacturers Trust Company and the Louis M. Rabinowitz Fund,
as set out in re report.

-P-
2-Bureau (100-20396) (RM)
2-Atlanta (100-559) (RM)
1-New York (100-22129)

EX 100
REC-88

100-20396-195

JJS:1bd
(5)

15 DEC 1 1960

52 DEC 6 1960

SUBV CONTROL

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

cb
2/9

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 1/31/61

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM-C

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

OO: AT

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

Reason-FCIM II 1-2.4.2.2

Date of Review 3/23/92

3/23/02

Rerep SA ALDEN F. MILLER dated 11/1/60, at
Atlanta, and NY let 11/30/60.

NY indices are negative on the Louis M. Rabin-
owitz Fund and the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation.

On 2/11/59, SA DANIEL J. QUIGLEY reviewed the
records of the Surrogate Court, Hall of Records, Brooklyn,
NY, file # 3067-57, concerning LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ.

This file reflected that LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ
resided at 1052 East 8th St., Brooklyn, NY, and died 4/26/57.
This file contained a NY Estate Tax affidavit which stated
"VICTOR RABINOWITZ residing at 7 Serpentine Dr., New
Rochelle, NY, being duly sworn says that he is the petition-
er herein." This form continued "That the estimated value
of the real property which said decedent died seized is --
none dollars. That the value of the personal property
consisting of mortgages, cash on hand and in banks, stocks
and bonds of which said decedent died possessed does not
exceed \$250,000.00." The estimated liabilities and ex-
penses were \$20,000.00. The estate was to be divided as
follows:

REC-16

100-20396-196

RUC

2 Bureau RM
2 Atlanta (100-559) RM-100
1 New York

13 FEB 1 1961

TLB:tb
(5)

FEB 8 1 33 PM '61

SUBSIDIARY COMMAND
REC'D - ERI

~~SECRET~~

SUB CONTROL

62 FEB 10 1961

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 100-22129

~~SECRET~~

ROSE N. RABINOWITZ - 1/2 of residue
VICTOR RABINOWITZ - 1/12 of residue
LUCILLE PEARLMAN - 1/12 of residue
(identified as VICTOR's sister)
Each of 4 grandchildren - 1/12 of residue

~~LOUIS RABINOWITZ~~

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b7C
b7D

On 1/12/61 [redacted]
Manufacturers Trust Company (MTC) (conceal - request),
221 Park Ave. South, NYC, advised that his bank had an
account for the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation, Inc.,
25 Broad St., NYC.

A review of the Resolutions for this account
failed to reveal the name of subject. A check of available
cancelled checks for this account failed to reflect the
name of subject. The person authorized to sign checks
for this account is VICTOR RABINOWITZ.

Current NYC telephone directory fails to reveal
a listing for the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation. NYC
cross directory is also negative. It is noted however
that VICTOR RABINOWITZ, Attorney, is listed at 25 Broad
St., NYC. On 1/16/61, a telephone call to this office
by SA [redacted] (wherein SA posed as someone who
had met subject and wanted to get in touch with him)
revealed that subject was unknown at that office and was
not employed by the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation.

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The 12/58, issue of the "New York Guild Lawyer",
official publication of the NYC Chapter of the National
Lawyers Guild, contained a list of officers and the Nat-
ional Executive Board of the National Lawyers Guild. In-
cluded on this list was the name VICTOR RABINOWITZ.

Sources have advised on various dates that VICTOR
RABINOWITZ has been affiliated in various capacities with
numerous Communist front organizations, and had represented
numerous known Communists in judicial and administrative
proceedings.

VICTOR RABINOWITZ is on the Security Index of
NY. Bureau 100-936105, NY 100-68229.

~~SECRET~~

Letter to Director, FBI
NY 100-22129

~~SECRET~~

Records of CSNY 1 as checked 1/24/61, failed to reflect a record of the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation.

Records of CSNY 1670-S as checked 1/26/61, reflected that subject has never had an account at any branch of MTC. (S) (U)

It appears from the above that the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation is in the nature of a family trust operated by VICTOR RABINOWITZ. As there is no evidence that subject is currently employed there NY does not contemplate additional inquiries concerning this foundation.

As the above is negative as to employment of subject no report is being written.

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES

NT

Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 2/1/61

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C

Rerep SA ALDEN F. MILLER, dated 11/1/60, at Atlanta, which report set forth specific leads for the New York Office, which leads it is believed will establish subject's whereabouts and activities during the pertinent period of September 1, 1959, to July 1, 1960.

The New York Office by letter dated 11/30/60 reported results of a portion of this investigation, however, to date results of investigation relating to the LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ FUND have not been received by the Atlanta Office. It is the investigation relating to this fund that is believed will establish WEST's activities and whereabouts during the pertinent period and until the results of this investigation are received, the Atlanta Office can do little in the way of verification of subject's activities.

Subject currently resides in the Atlanta area and is not gainfully employed other than farming and writing.

The Bureau will be kept advised of further developments in this matter.

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Atlanta

AFM:sbb
(3)

REC-114

100-20396-197
25 FEB 6 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

51 FEB 14 1961

TO: XE

FEB 3 15 07 PM '61

RECEIVED COMM. DIV. - 1

SUBV. CONTROL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF deless
DATE 5/25/82

1 - Miss Gronquist

April 11, 1961

CC TO: U.S.A.
REQ. REC'D 12/30
JAN 17 1966
ANS. BY: SP-1 GSK/RSK

REVEREND DONALD L. WEST
Dalton, Georgia

REVEREND CHARLIE T. PRATT
Dalton, Georgia

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/RSK
ON 3/23/02

Reference is made to your request for information concerning the captioned individuals.

Summary
Donald Lee West, born June 6, 1908, at Ellijay, Gilmer County, Georgia, is currently the subject of an FBI security-type investigation. The following briefly summarizes the results of this investigation to date. According to a confidential informant who has furnished reliable information in the past West joined the Communist Party in 1934. Since that time he has been prominent in Communist Party activities, chiefly in southern United States.

In 1934 he served as Trade Union Organizer for the Communist Party in North Carolina, and was District Organizer for the Communist Party in Kentucky during 1935 - 1936. West is a poet and writer and has contributed numerous articles and poems to the "Daily Worker" and other communist periodicals. The above-mentioned informant listed numerous Communist Party front activities in which West was involved. Among these he stated that West helped to organize the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee.

On October 14, 1952, a confidential informant furnished the following information concerning the Highlander Folk School:

"The Highlander Folk School is an institution located near Monteagle, Tennessee. It is an institution with classes on a seminar basis and supported primarily by donations from individuals, from labor unions in the form of payments for students who attend, and to some extent by the Farmer's Union. It offers courses of

Original and one to FCC
Request received March 30, 1961

BVG:afs
(4)

See note page 2.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI, and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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

APR 18 1961

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Reverend Donald L. West
Reverend Charlie T. Pratt

instruction in labor organization, social economics, parliamentary procedure and the general field of labor education. This school has had Communist Party members on its staff as instructors, and has followed the practice of welcoming Communist Party members as students, but to my knowledge, the school has never offered courses of instruction in communist matters nor has the communist element ever completely controlled the institution."

In 1955, West was a minister of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, Dalton, Georgia, and was publishing a monthly newspaper, "The Southerner." In October, 1955, he invoked the Fifth Amendment when questioned regarding his past Communist Party connections before a County Grand Jury in Dalton, Georgia. According to the "Dalton News," a daily newspaper, West was expelled from the church in January, 1956, after refusing to take an oath at a public meeting that he was not a communist.

West was subpoenaed to appear at public hearings of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee in Memphis, Tennessee, on October 28 and 29, 1957. At this time, he again invoked the Fifth Amendment as to his past affiliation and associates.

At the present time, West is residing in the Atlanta, Georgia, area and is farming and writing. (100-2039

Until January, 1956, C. T. Pratt, who was National Moderator of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, was coeditor with West of "The Southerner." After he was expelled by the church, West was no longer affiliated with or had any control over "The Southerner." Beginning with the February 1956, issue of the publication, the publishers were shown as C. T. Pratt and Reverend James H. Wilson.
(100-418268-7)

NOTE: This memorandum is classified "~~Confidential~~" because revelation of information concerning subject, who is on Security Index, might be detrimental to the country.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 4/14/61

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK

Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2

Date of Review 3/23/92

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C
(OO: ATLANTA)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

For the information of the Baltimore Office, above-captioned subject is a Security Index subject of the Atlanta Division and on 3/23/61, [redacted] Rural Mail Carrier, Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., advised DONALD LEE WEST currently resides at 7424 Poplar, Baltimore 24, Maryland. [redacted] was unaware of any employment of WEST in the Baltimore area.

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[redacted] advised that since an automobile accident of several years ago the wife of subject WEST has been in extremely poor health and the purpose of WEST's residing in Baltimore, may be associated in some manner with his wife receiving medical care at John Hopkins Hospital.

The background data regarding WEST is as follows:

Name	<u>Mrs. DONALD LEE WEST</u>
also known as	Don West, Jim Weaver, James Weaver, [Jim West] (S) (U)
Born	6/6/08, Cartecay, Gilmer County, Ga.
Age	52
Height	6'2"
Weight	180 lbs.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown with some gray
Scars and Marks	2 fingers missing from left hand
Peculiarities	Right eye does not always focus and on occasion wears glasses.
Occupation	Self-employed farmer, writer, educator.
Marital Status	Married to MABLE CONSTANCE WEST, nee ADAMS, Middleburg, Ky., 12/14/28
Children	

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b7C

BETTIE GRACE WEST, age 21 B. APPROX. 1940

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF 5/25/61

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - Baltimore (RM) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - Atlanta
- AFM:sbb
- (5)

REC-96

EX-112

10 APR 17 1961

~~SECRET~~

SUB CONTROL

56 APR 21 1961

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

It is further noted that WEST has previously served as faculty member at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Ga., that he is a poet, writer, and farmer. Last known employment reflects that during the Spring of 1960, WEST may have received some sort of grant from the Lewis M. Rabinowitz Foundation, NYC, as monitoring of his bank accounts reflects that in July, 1960, he had received a check in the amount of \$3,000, signed by one VICTOR RABINOWITZ. It is to be further noted that VICTOR RABINOWITZ is a security index subject of the New York Office, their file 100-68229, and was identified as a member of the National Executive Board of the National Lawyers Guild in December, 1958. It is entirely possible that WEST may be doing some research in writing in behalf of this foundation in the Baltimore area.

Enclosed for Baltimore is one photograph of DONALD LEE WEST.

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 5/19/61

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM
(OO: ATLANTA)

*0-1 & AT 6/28/61
submit FBI 28.*

*0-1 AT 7/3/61
Rept will be sub
7/12/61: 174*

*st
pr*

Re Atlanta letter dated 4/14/61.

Neighborhood sources advised subject resides 7424 Poplar Avenue, Dundalk, Maryland. Same sources advise subject teaches at unidentified school three days per week at irregular hours.

Spot surveillances and numerous contacts with neighbors failed to disclose school at which subject teaches.

Atlanta submit FD-128. Baltimore will institute daily surveillances to ascertain identity of school at which subject teaches.

- 2 - Bureau (Registered Mail)
- 1 - Atlanta (100-559)
- 1 - Baltimore
- JTP:nlp
- (4)

Am

100-20396-200

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK**

REC-1

14 MAY 24 1961

EX. - 125

SUBV. CONTROL

~~6 MAY 26 1961~~ *Fhs*

66 MAY 26 1961

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile - 100-20396)

DATE: 6/14/61

FROM : SAC ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 00
7/6/61

The captioned individual has been the subject of a security investigation by this office. The Baltimore Division has verified the permanent presence of the subject in its division as residing and working at the addresses listed below. The Baltimore Division is being considered the new office of origin:

Residence address:

7424 Poplar Avenue
Dundalk, Maryland

Business address:

Not verified by Baltimore, but established he teaches at
unknown school three days a week. *Unknown*

Check the following applicable statements:

- ☒ This individual is the subject of a Security Index Card. (The Bureau is requested to make the appropriate changes in the Security Index at the Seat of Government. The Baltimore Division should affix the addresses indicated above and the appropriate case file number.)
- ☐ This subject is tabbed for Detcom.
- ☐ This subject was carried as a Key Figure or Top Functionary.
- ☐ Handwriting specimens have been furnished to the Bureau.
- ☐ A photograph has been furnished to the Bureau.
- ☒ A security flash notice has been placed with the Identification Division and a copy has been designated therefor.

The following pertinent items are being forwarded to the new Office of Origin with its copies of this letter:

- ☒ Security Index Cards (2) - Third card will be forwarded upon receipt from RA
- ☒ Serials (specify) - (Serials will be forwarded along with current investigative report.)
- ☐ Photograph of subject (check appropriate item listed below):
 - ☐ Negative and three copies of most recent or best likeness photograph.
 - ☐ None available.
 - ☐ Previously furnished.

Photo of subject is attached to SI Card.

Registered Mail

CC:

Enclosure(s)

XXXX

REC-36

100-20396-201

3 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
(1 - IDENTIFICATION DIVISION)

2 - Baltimore (100-22392) (Enc. 2) (RM)

1 - Atlanta

AFM/sbb

(6)

JUL 7 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

8 JUN 15 1961

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b7C

SUBV. DIV. *[Signature]*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office ATLANTA	Office of Origin BALTIMORE	Investigative Period 7/13/61 11/1/60 - 7/7/61
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, aka.		Report made by SA ALDEN F. MILLER
		Typed By: SBB
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM - C

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

Synopsis:

REFERENCES:

Report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, dated 11/1/60,
at Atlanta.

Baltimore letter, dated 5/19/61.

Atlanta FD-128, dated 6/14/61.

- RUC -

ENCLOSURES TO BALTIMORE:

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE **5/25/82**

Class. & Ext. by **SP-1 GSK/PSK**
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review **3/23/92**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Approved Cew	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-20396) (RM) 3 - Baltimore (100-22392) (Enc. 94) RM 2 - Atlanta (100-559) COPIES DESTROYED 54 OCT 3 1973		100-20396-202 REC-10 JUL 14 1961 EX 100	

AGENCY **RAO**
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. **7/24/61**
HOW FORW. **6-7-6**
BY **afg**

SUBV. CONTROL

~~SECRET~~

Property of FBI - This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

1. Writings and literature of DON WEST secured about 1934 by Assistant Solicitor JOHN HUDSON.
2. Copy of book entitled "The Road is Rocky" by DON WEST.
3. One issue of the book Toil and Hunger, poems by DON WEST.
4. Issues of "The Country Parson."
5. One issue "The Southern News Almanac."
6. Book of poems entitled "Crab Grass," by DONALD L. WEST.
7. Pamphlet entitled "A Christian Fellowship Message," by Rev. DONAL L. WEST.
8. Copy of pamphlet entitled "The Span," April and May, 1941 issues.
9. Booklet entitled "Songs for Southern Workers," prepared by DON WEST.
10. March, April, and May, 1941 issues of "The Country Parson."
11. Folder of correspondence marked "Personal" including correspondence relating to National Council of American - Soviet Friendship; Citizens Fact Finding Movement in Georgia; Southern Educational Service (D. L. West, Secretary); National Farmers Union; "The Span", a periodical edited by JOSEPH HOFFMAN, St. Louis, Mo.; Council for Democracy; Friends of Democracy, Inc. (L.M. Birkhead, Director); Union for Democratic Action; Council for Pan American Democracy; Conference of Southern Mountain Workers; Committee for Georgia. (Affiliated with Southern Conference for Human Welfare).
12. Lecture material and chart entitled "#802 Imperialism and social Decay," printed by Visual Education Press, 840 Broadway, NYC.
13. Group photo of white and Negro persons, including subject, with attached list identifying about 60 individuals.

- B -

(COVER PAGE)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

14. Correspondence with RALPH MCGILL, Editor, Atlanta Constitution.

15. Letter from SENDER GARLIN, dated 1/27/43, asking WEST if writer can use WEST's name in article in Daily Worker in view of his current position as Supt. Schools, Lula, Ga.

16. Correspondence with GEORGE SELDES, Norwalk, Conn.

17. Personal note to WEST from HOWARD FAST, dated 1/20/45. (U) (S)

(U) (S) 18. Membership receipts from Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America, Denver, Colorado.

19. Letter from WILLIAM VITARELLI, West Georgia College, 9/29/43, acknowledging "stimulating visit" from WEST and VITARELLI's intention to visit "HALL" in Birmingham, Alabama.

20. Letter 8/29/43 from "HARDY" (SCOTT??), 1824 Bolton St., Baltimore, Maryland to WEST(?).

21. Grand Jury Presentment, October 1955 Term, Whitfield County, Dalton, Ga.

22. Envelope and letter from DONALD LEE WEST to [REDACTED] Reporter, Memphis Press-Scimitor. b6 b7C

23. Page 12 of Dalton News, Dalton, Ga, dated 8/21/55.

[24. Letter 9/12/41 to "Dear Friend Don," signed "HAROLD," (S) (U)

25. Signed Statement of JOEL MATHEW, dated 1/8/42.

~~26. Excerpts from speech of DONALD LEE WEST, Supt. Lula High School.~~

~~27. Handwriting specimen of DONALD LEE WEST on photostat of application for license.~~

28. Campaign literature.

29. Readers Scope Magazine (see page 40), article on DONALD LEE WEST.

30. Folder, "Georgia's Crisis" mimeographed letter, advertisement for book, "Clods of Southern Earth," by DON WEST.

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

- [31. CP Membership Card #96,336 for JIM WEBB. (S) (U)
- 32. Photostat of pamphlet, "The Voice of the Fighting South," etal.
- 33. Photostat of Page 5 of the "Daily Worker," issue of 6/22/47.
- 34. Report of SA GERALD B. CRAWFORD, 7/17/41, Atlanta.
- 35. Report SA S. D. DURFEE, 3/16/42, Atlanta.
- 36. Report SA HARVEY D. WALKER, 6/19/42, Birmingham.
- 37. Report SA H. E. PRESCOTT, 6/30/42, Louisville.
- 38. Report SA JOHN E. KEEFE, 7/21/42, Atlanta.
- 39. Report SA H. E. KOREMAN, 8/3/42, Cincinnati.
- 40. Report SA E. CHARLTON GRAVES, II, 9/22/42, New Haven.
- 41. Report SA MARCUS B. CALHOUN, 11/13/42, Atlanta.
- 42. Report SA JOHN E. GILLIGAN, 1/22/43, Atlanta.
- 43. Report SA JOHN E. GILLIGAN, 4/1/43, Atlanta.
- 44. Report SA JOHN E. GILLIGAN, 7/19/43, Atlanta.
- 45. Report SA ALTON M. BLANTON, 10/5/43, Atlanta.
- 46. Report SA ALTON M. BLANTON, 8/3/44, Atlanta.
- 47. Report SA ALTON M. BLANTON, 2/8/45, Atlanta.
- 48. Report SA GEORGE P. DILLARD, 7/20/45, Atlanta.
- 49. Report SA J. WESLEY DOMINEAU, 3/1/46, New York.
- 50. Report SA GEORGE P. DILLARD, 3/12/47, Atlanta.
- 51. Report SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, 6/12/47, Atlanta.
- 52. Report SA CLYDE D. NICOLL, 7/23/47, Washington, D. C.

- D -

(COVER PAGE)

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

- 53. Report SA DONALD B. CLEGG, 11/18/47, Atlanta.
- 54. Report SA DONALD B. CLEGG, 2/14/48, Atlanta.
- 55. Report SA DONALD B. CLEGG, 4/6/48, Atlanta.
- 56. Report SA ROYCE B. THOMPSON, 6/21/48, Savannah.
- 57. Report SA JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, 8/9/48, Atlanta.
- 58. Investigative Summary Report of SA PAUL F. TIERNEY, dated 10/27/48, at Atlanta.
- 59. Identification Record of DON WEST, FBI #814505.
- 60. Report SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, 3/11/49, Atlanta.
- 61. New York letter to SAC, Atlanta, 4/18/49.
- 62. Report SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, 12/12/49, Atlanta.
- 63. Report SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, 4/4/50, Atlanta.
- 64. Report SA JOSEPH C. HOLMES, 11/3/50, Atlanta.
- 65. Report SA DANIEL THOMAS, 11/24/50, Atlanta.
- 66. Report SA [REDACTED] 12/29/50, Dallas.
- 67. Report SA [REDACTED] 4/24/51, Dallas.
- 68. Report SA [REDACTED] 4/7/51, Atlanta.
- 69. Report SA MILES L. JOHNSON, 2/19/51, San Antonio.
- 70. Investigative Summary Report SA [REDACTED] 5/4/51, at Atlanta.
- 71. Report SA [REDACTED] 6/30/51, New Orleans.
- 72. Report SA [REDACTED] 8/21/51, Atlanta.
- 73. Report SA [REDACTED] 9/18/51, Chicago.

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AT 100-559

74. Report SA LUTHER COULTER, 10/18/51, San Antonio.
75. Report SA ANTON DAL SASSO, 12/4/51, Houston.
76. Summary Report of SA C. DALLAS MOBLEY, 4/21/53, Atlanta.
77. Report of SA EDWARD T. KASSINGER, 5/31/54, Atlanta.
78. Bureau letter to Atlanta, 6/24/55.
79. Bureau letter to Atlanta, 1/27/56.
80. Report SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, 2/29/56, Atlanta.
81. Bureau letter to Atlanta, 9/6/56.
82. Report SA [REDACTED] 5/31/56, Mobile.
83. Report SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, 10/23/56, Atlanta.
84. Atlanta letter to Bureau, 10/23/56.
85. FD-165 dated 11/23/56.
86. Report SA [REDACTED] 2/8/57, Chicago.
87. Report SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, 2/25/57, Atlanta.
88. Report SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, 3/7/58, Atlanta.
89. Memo evaluating informants to report of 3/7/58, Atlanta.
90. Cover letter to report of 3/7/58, Atlanta.
91. Report of SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE, 6/30/58, Atlanta.
92. Cover letter to report of 6/30/58, Atlanta.
93. Memo evaluating informants to report of 6/30/58, Atlanta.

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- F -

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AT 100-559

- 94. Report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, 9/22/59, Atlanta.
- 95. Memo of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, 7/12/60, Atlanta.
- 96. Report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, 11/1/60, Atlanta.

- G -

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~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

INFORMANTS:

IDENTITY OF SOURCE

FILE NUMBER WHERE ORIGINAL
INFORMATION LOCATED

(U) AT T-1 is [REDACTED] ✓
Rural Mail Carrier,
Route 4, Douglasville, Ga.

100-559-803, p. 1

b6
b7C

(S) AT T-2 is [REDACTED] ✓
Manufacturers Trust Company,
221 Park Avenue, South
New York City

100-559-802, p. 2

(S) (U)

AT T-3 is CS NY-1

100-559-802, p. 3

AT T-4 is CS NY-1670-S

100-559-802, p. 3

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The pretext interview with the office of VICTOR RABINOWITZ in New York City on January 16, 1961, was conducted by SA [REDACTED] who posed as an acquaintance of subject and who desired to contact him. b6 b7C

It is noted that the Baltimore Office, according to referenced letter, by spot surveillances and through unidentified neighborhood sources had established subject's residence in that community as well as his employment three days per week at irregular hours at an unidentified school. These sources are unknown to the Atlanta Office.

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- ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
- ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
- ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
- ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
- ☐ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
- ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
- ☒ This report is classified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ because (state reason) _____

(U) of information made available by [AT T-2] if divulged to unauthorized persons, could jeopardize the future effectiveness of liaison with this source and others in the same institution, which could have an adverse effect upon investigations relating to the internal security of the United States.

- ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) his present residence is in Baltimore, Maryland.

- ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
- ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) in an HCUA Hearing, WEST was identified during 1956 as having offered employment to [redacted], a Smith Act subject of the Boston Office who was being sent to the South as a member of the Communist Party. At this time WEST was at CP Headquarters in New York City in the company of the late EUGENE STRONG, a CP functionary, in order to effect this employment of [redacted]. Further, it is pointed out that WEST, in appearing before a Senate Investigation Committee in Memphis, Tennessee, in October, 1957, had relied upon the Fifth Amendment for the basis of refusing to answer any pertinent questions asked of him by this Committee.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~SECRET~~

Copy to:

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

Report of:

SA ALDEN F. MILLER

Office:

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Date:

JULY 13, 1961

Field Office File No.:

100-559

Bureau File No.:

100-20396

Title:

DONALD LEE WEST

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF *CHG*
DATE *5/15/82*

Subject residing 7424 Poplar Avenue, Dundalk, Maryland, and employment unknown. VICTOR RABINOWITZ and the Rabinowitz Foundation of New York City identified and determined that WEST not currently employed by the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation. RABINOWITZ is on the National Executive Board of the National Lawyers Guild. Investigation in New York failed to establish employment of subject that area during the year 1959-60 at New York City Board of Education and failed to establish residence at 409 East 71st Street, New York City.

- RUC -

Class. & Ext. By *5D-1 CSR/PSK*
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2
Date of Review *3/23/92* *3/23/82*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

(a) Residence

[On March 23, 1961, AT T-1 advised that DONALD LEE WEST currently resides at 7424 Poplar Avenue, Baltimore 24, Maryland.] (U)

Representatives of the FBI in April and May, 1961, observed subject at the residence located at 7424 Poplar Avenue, Dundalk, a suburb of Baltimore.

(b) Employment

[On March 23, 1961, AT T-1 advised that he was unaware of the current employment of subject in the Baltimore area.] (U)

II. POSSIBLE SUBVERSIVE CONNECTIONS

On February 11, 1959, SA DANIEL J. QUIGLEY reviewed the records of the Surrogate Court, Hall of Records, Brooklyn, New York, file number 3067-57, concerning LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ.

This file reflected that LOUIS M. RABINOWITZ resided at 1052 East 8th Street, Brooklyn, New York, and died April 26, 1957. This file contained a New York Estate Tax affidavit which stated "VICTOR RABINOWITZ residing at 7 Serpentine Dr., New Rochelle, NY, being duly sworn says that he is the petitioner herein." This form continued "That the estimated value of the real property which said decedent died seized is -- none dollars. That the value of the personal property consisting of mortgages, cash on hand and in banks, stocks and bonds of which said decedent died possessed does not exceed \$250,000.00." The estimated liabilities and expenses were \$20,000.00. The estate was to be divided as follows:

ROSE N. RABINOWITZ	- 1/2 of residue
VICTOR RABINOWITZ	- 1/12 of residue
LUCILLE PERLMAN	- 1/12 of residue
(identified as VICTOR's sister)	
Each of 4 grandchildren	- 1/12 of residue.

- 2 -
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

(U)
[AT T-2 on January 12, 1961, advised that the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation, Inc., does maintain a banking account with the [REDACTED]

b7D

(The above information is not to be made public unless upon the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum).

Current telephone directories for New York City fails to reflect a phone listed for the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation. It was noted, however, that VICTOR RABINOWITZ, Attorney, was listed as having an office at 25 Broad Street, New York City,

On January 16, 1961, using an appropriate pretext, a call was made to the office of VICTOR RABINOWITZ and revealed that subject WEST was unknown at that office and was not employed by the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation.

The December, 1958, issue of the "New York Guild Lawyer," official publication of the New York City Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, contained a list of officers and the National Executive Board of the National Lawyers Guild. Included in this list was the name VICTOR RABINOWITZ.

According to the "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," as prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., the following is reflected:

"NATIONAL LAWYERS' GUILD

"1. Cited as a Communist front.

"(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 149.)

"2. Cited as a Communist front which 'is the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions' and which 'since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents.'

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

"(Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 3123 on the National Lawyers Guild, September 21, 1950, originally released September 17, 1950.)

- "3. 'To defend the cases of Communist lawbreakers, fronts have been devised making special appeals in behalf of civil liberties and reaching out far beyond the confines of the Communist Party itself. Among these organizations are the * * * National Lawyers' Guild. When the Communist Party itself is under fire these offer a bulwark of protection.' (Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 91.)"

[AT T-3 advised on January 24, 1961] ~~(S)~~ (U) that he has no records relating to the Louis M. Rabinowitz Foundation.

AT T-4 advised on January 26, 1961, that they maintained no records which would indicate that subject had ever maintained an account at any branch of the Manufacturers Trust Company. ~~(S)~~ (U)

III. MISCELLANEOUS

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN J. SULLIVAN:

[redacted] 409 E. 71st Street, New York, New York, advised on September 13, 1960, that HEDDY WEST had vacated her apartment at this address in August, 1960. She left no forwarding address. According to [redacted] HEDDY WEST told him that she was going to be married, but furnished no additional information. [redacted] stated that he had never seen anyone fitting the subject's description visiting the apartment building.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

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AT 100-559

[REDACTED] Administrative Assistant, Board of Records, Room 501, New York City Board of Education, 110 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised on October 21, 1960, that a review of his records reflected that the subject was not presently employed by the New York City Board of Education nor had he made application for a position.

Records of the New York City Police Department and Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, were reviewed by SA DAVID G. JENKINS on September 16, 1960, and no record for the subject was located.

- 5* -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONIn Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-559Atlanta, Georgia
July 13, 1961~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Title DONALD LEE WEST

Character SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference Report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER,
dated July 13, 1961, at Atlanta,
captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced
communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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5 - OCT 3 1973

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-6-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office ATLANTA	Office of Origin BALTIMORE	Date 7/13/61	Investigative Period 11/1/60 - 7/7/61
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, aka.		Report made by SA ALDEN F. MILLER	Typed By: :SEE
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM - C	
DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM: FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE DATE 12-06-2010			

Synopsis:

REFERENCES:

Report of SA ALDEN F. MILLER, dated 11/1/60,
at Atlanta.

Baltimore letter, dated 5/19/61.

Atlanta FD-128, dated 6/14/61.

- RUC -

ENCLOSURES TO BALTIMORE:

Class. & Ext. By **SP-1 CSK/RSK**
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review **3/23/92**

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

Approved	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below			
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-20396) (RM) 3 - Baltimore (100-22392) (Enc. 94-96) RM 2 - Atlanta (100-559)					

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (File 100-20396) DATE: 7/7/61

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (File 100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka.
SM - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 7/10/61

Reason for the delinquency: Report dictated 7/7/61 and will reach Bureau 7/14/61, due to voluminous file review necessary for forwarding pertinent serials, exhibits, and evidence re subject of Date the report or necessary communication captioned case as enclosures to will reach the Bureau: this report.

7/14/61.

AEC zone designation, e.g., OR, CH, etc.:
(This applies only to 116 cases.)

SUBV. CONTROL

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

, 19__

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☒ Forward to
☒ Attention
☒ Return to

b6
b7C815 R.B.
Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☒ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

7-27
8-16

Subject
 Birthdate
 Address

b6
b7C

Localities

R# _____ Date 8/15/61 Searcher Initials Thick
 Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

	NW	
	Buildup	
	NW	
NI	1125-79732	✓
NR	91-1	✓
NI	65-21756	✓
NR	147-152.1	✓
N.R.	31-42681-18	✓
NI	7-1367-82	✓
NI	62-75147-15-32	✓
N.R.	23-379-67, 6682, 63, 3	✓
NI	100-92077-2	✓
NI	100-216254-1	✓

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

FBI

Date: 8/14/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL REGISTERED MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka
SM - C

OO: BALTIMORE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/28/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Above captioned subject is an SI subject of the Baltimore Division who currently resides at 7424 Poplar Ave., Baltimore 24, Md.

Neighborhood source advised instant date that she had ascertained on August 2, 1961, that subject and his wife were vacationing in Florida where they were visiting relatives after which they would participate in an art school in Mexico City, Mexico. Source further advised that subject is on vacation leave from McDonough School, Baltimore, Md., where he is employed as a professor.

The Baltimore office currently has no established source of information at this institution which is a military academy for boys. [redacted] the McDonough School, has been contacted on several occasions and has been cooperative with Bureau agents. Criminal check on [redacted] is negative and credit rating is satisfactory.

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b7D

Bureau permission is requested to contact [redacted] to develop him as a source of information and through him to endeavor to verify subject's employment in that institution. In addition, an effort will be made to determine the identification from [redacted] of any art school which subject might be attending at Mexico City.

3 - Bureau
1 - Baltimore
JTP:ers
(4)

REGIS. MAIL

EX-105

REC-20

AUG 15 1961

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

Per

82 AUG 28 1961

CONTROL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

REPORTING OFFICE BALTIMORE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BALTIMORE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/16/62 12/28/61 - 1/9/62
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, aka APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF DATE 5/25/62		REPORT MADE BY SA [redacted] TYPED BY meb
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM-C Class. & Ext. By SP-1 CLK/PSK Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2, 2 Date of Review 3/30/92

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b7C

REFERENCE:

Report of SA AIDEN F. MILLER dated 7/13/61 at Atlanta.

- C -

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

INFORMANTS:

The following informants were contacted negatively regarding the subject:

Informant

Date

Agent

(U)

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1/9/62
1/8/62
1/8/62
1/3/62
12/28/62
1/4/62
12/28/62
1/3/62
1/8/62

b6
b7C

JESSE C. PARKER
JESSE C. PARKER
JESSE C. PARKER

ROBERT C. NORTON

(U)

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

Cover Page

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

④ - Bureau (100-20396) (RM)

3 - Baltimore (100-22392)

100-20396-204

REC-72

10 JAN 18 1962

EX 104

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY	RA 0	COPIES DESTROYED
REQUEST RECD.	1/24/62	
DATE FWD.	016	
HOW FWD.		
BY		

51 JAN 30 1962

~~SECRET~~

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☐ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____.
7. ☐ This report is classified _____ because (state reason) _____.

8. ☐ Subject previously interviewed (dates) 3/2/54.
☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____.
 When previously interviewed in 1954 subject was uncooperative and further vented his wrath in expressing his feelings when subpoenaed for HCUA hearing in July, 1958. Because of his attitude subject never actually testified before HCUA in 7/58. Nothing since has been developed showing subject has changed his attitude.

9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) in an HCUA hearing, WEST was identified during 1956 as offering employment to [redacted], Smith Act subject of Boston who was being sent to the South as a member of the CP. [At this time WEST was at CP Headquarters, N.Y.C. in the company of the late EUGENE STRONG, a CP functionary, in order to offer this employment of [redacted] Subject relied upon Fifth Amendment, in appearing before a Senate Investigating Committee, at Memphis, Tenn., October, 1957.

11. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ Subject's activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

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- C* -
Cover Page

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

~~SECRET~~b6
b7CReport of:
Date:

SA [REDACTED]

1/16/62

Office: BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Field Office File No.:

100-22392 ✓

Bureau File No.:

100-20396 ✓

Title:

DONALD LEE WEST ✓

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/30/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C ✓

Synopsis:

Subject resides 900 Elton Avenue, Highlandtown, Baltimore 24, Maryland and is a teacher, Talmudical Academy of Baltimore, 3701 Cottage Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Confidential Informants familiar with various phases of CP activity contacted during December, 1961 and January, 1962 advised that subject is unknown to them. ✓

- C -

DETAILS: AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND:I. BackgroundA. Residence

Through utilization of a suitable pretext an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ascertained on January 8, 1962 that subject resides at 900 Elton Avenue, Highlandtown, Baltimore 24, Maryland. ✓

B. Employment

Through utilization of a suitable pretext an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ascertained on January 8, 1962 that subject is employed as a teacher at the Talmudical Academy of Baltimore, 3701 Cottage Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. ✓

COPIES DESTROYED

5 OCT 3 1973

~~SECRET~~

BA 100-22392

~~SECRET~~

II. Connections with the Communist Party (CP)

Confidential informants, familiar with various phases of CP activity in the Baltimore area, contacted during December, 1961 and January, 1962 advised that subject is unknown to them.

- 2* -

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-22392

Title DONALD LEE WEST

Character SECURITY MATTER-C

Reference Report of SA [redacted]
dated 1/16/62 at Baltimore, Maryland.

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All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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-3-

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 100-20396)

DATE: 10/18/61

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, WAS.
SM - C

Cards LTD
Cards Sent 00
10/25/61
aw

☐ 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 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PJK		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) TEACHER, TALMUDICAL ACADEMY OF BALTIMORE 3701 COTTAGE AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND		
Key Facility Data NONE		
Geographical Reference Number _____ Responsibility _____		
Interested Agencies _____		
Residence Address _____		

(3) 2-Bureau
1-Balto.
ald

56 NOV 8 1961

100-20396
NOT RECORDED
13 OCT 19 1961
SUBV. CONTROL

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 100-20396) DATE: 9/28/61

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, WAS.
SM - C

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 30
10/5/61
am

☐ 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):

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address)		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number _____		
Interested Agencies _____		
Residence Address 900 ELTON AVENUE HIGHLANDTOWN, 24, MD.		

ald (3) 2-Bureau
1-Bal to.

56 OCT 5 1961
REGISTERED MAIL

F77

SUBV CONTROL

MAILED
10/1/61

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

REPORTING OFFICE BALTIMORE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BALTIMORE	DATE 2/26/63	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/1-19/63
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, aka.		REPORT MADE BY SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN	TYPED BY dfm
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 5/25/82		CHARACTER OF CASE SM - C DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM: FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE DATE 12-06-2010	

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated January 16, 1962, at Baltimore.

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

Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2

Date of Review **8/20/83**

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

8/23/82

Pretext contact was made by SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN with subject's wife on February 15, 1963, under the guise of an attempt to locate a commercial photographer named WEST. Inquiry at the Talmudical Academy of Baltimore was in the nature of a pretext inquiry.

INFORMANTSIdentity of SourceLocation

(U) ~~BA T-1~~
[redacted]

Instant Report
[redacted]

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APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:		100-20346-205 REC-23	
4 - Bureau (100-20396) (REGISTERED MAIL)		EX-101	
3 - Baltimore (100-22392)		13 FEB 25 1963	
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		NOTATIONS	
AGENCY RAP	REQUEST RECD.	[redacted]	
DATE FWD. 3/7/63	HOW FWD. 0-6	BY <i>[Signature]</i>	
BY <i>[Signature]</i>		[redacted]	

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54 MAR 7 1963 F-56

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BA 100-22392

Identity of Source

BA T-2 ✓

BA T-3 ✓

BA T-4 ✓

Location

Characterization of

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BA 100-22392

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
7. ☒ This report is classified ~~confidential~~ because (state reason) _____
data reported by Confidential Informants BA T-1 through (S) (U) BA T-4 could reasonably result in the identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.
8. ☒ Subject previously interviewed (dates) 3/2/54
☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) of the previous interview in 1954; subject was uncooperative. In 1957 he refused to testify claiming the Fifth Amendment before a Senate investigating committee investigation on communism in the area of Memphis, Tennessee. Subject was subpoenaed before an HCUA hearing in July, 1958, and expressed his wrath at this although he was not called to testify.
9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) _____
in 1957 subject relied upon the Fifth Amendment in an appearance before the Senate Investigating Committee at Memphis, Tennessee. In 1956 he was identified during an HCUA hearing as offering employment to _____ a CP member at Boston, who was being sent to the South as a member of the CP. Information set forth in instant report indicates a possible reactivation of the subject in the CP.
11. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ Subject's activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~SECRET~~DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

Copy to:

Report of:
Date:SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN
February 20, 1963

Office: BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Field Office File No.:

BALTIMORE (100-22392)

Bureau File No.: 100-20396

Title:

DONALD LEE WEST

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/dsk
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 2/20/83ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Subject resides 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore 24, Maryland, and is employed as a teacher at the Talmudical Academy of Baltimore, 3701 Cottage Avenue, Baltimore. Attendance at meetings of Open Forum of Maryland, a communist front, and contact with Communist Party members at Baltimore set forth. (U)

- C -

DETAILS: AT BALTIMORE, MARYLANDI. BACKGROUNDA. Residence

On February 15, 1963, Mrs. CONSTANCE WEST, 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore 24, Maryland, who was contacted under an appropriate pretext, advised that her husband, DONALD WEST, who resided at that address, was employed as a school teacher.

B. Employment

On February 15, 1963, through utilization of an appropriate pretext, it was ascertained that the subject is

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~SECRET~~

employed as a teacher at the Talmudical Academy at Baltimore, 3701 Cottage Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)

Confidential informants familiar with various phases of CP activity in the Baltimore area were contacted during February, 1963, and advised that they had no information concerning the activities of subject.

On February 13, 1963, Confidential Informant BA T-1 advised that DONALD WEST frequented the New Era Book Shop at Baltimore approximately once a week. BA T-1 advised that [redacted] of the New Era Book Shop, had stated that DONALD WEST did not attend any meetings but that a point should be made to invite WEST to attend some meetings. BA T-1 advised that he had gained the impression that [redacted] was friendly with DONALD WEST. (S) (U)

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A characterization of the New Era Book Shop is contained in the appendix hereto.

[redacted] On February 1, 1963, Confidential Informant BA T-2 (S) (U) advised that [redacted] as of that date was a member of the CP at Baltimore and until recently [redacted] had been a member of the District Board of the CP of Maryland - D. C.

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III. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Open Forum of Maryland

A characterization of the Open Forum of Maryland is contained in the appendix hereto.

On November 6, 1962, Confidential Informant BA T-1 advised that on November 2, 1962, DONALD WEST was present at a meeting sponsored by the Open Forum of Maryland which was held at the College Club, 601 West 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland. BA T-1 advised that the speaker at this meeting was RUSSELL NIXON, who was introduced as General Manager of the "National Guardian." BA T-1 advised that NIXON's speech was to have been entitled "Labor and Politics"; however, that NIXON talked about NIXON's disappointment in discovering that the American people favored President KENNEDY's stand in the Cuban situation. (S) (U)

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A characterization of the "National Guardian" is contained in the appendix hereto.

B. Association with CP Members

On November 16, 1962, Confidential Informant BA T-3 advised that DONALD WEST was present on November 3, 1962, at a social gathering held at the home of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] BA T-3 related that at this social affair a war surplus film depicting the "Battle of Stalingrad" was shown. (S) (U)

On November 7, 1962, Confidential Informant BA T-4 advised that he observed DONALD WEST to be present on November 3, 1962, at a social gathering held at the home of [REDACTED]. BA T-4 advised that DONALD WEST was present with his wife, CONNIE, and that during the course of the evening DONALD WEST stated that he was a Southern Minister and was presently teaching at a school somewhere near Baltimore City. (S) (U)

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On February 1, 1963, Confidential Informant BA T-2 advised as of that date that [REDACTED] was a CP member of Baltimore and that she was the wife of [REDACTED]. (S) (U)

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APPENDIX

BA 100-22392

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~~NEW ERA BOOK SHOP, INCORPORATED~~

(U)

On September 19, 1962, a source advised that the New Era Book Shop, Inc., 101 West 22nd Street, Baltimore, Maryland, was organized by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District, on July 30, 1962, with the sanction and financial backing of the Communist Party, USA. Its purpose is to sell communist literature and serve as a place where new Communist Party members might be recruited. The book shop is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, USA.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

BA 100-22392

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OPEN FORUM OF MARYLAND

On April 4, 1962, a source advised that on April 3, 1962, the Open Forum of Maryland was organized at Baltimore for the purpose of increasing the circulation of the National Guardian newspaper. The organization is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District.

The "National Guardian," "established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a 'progressive' weekly. *** Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, "Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell," August 25, 1956, p. 12)

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APPENDIX

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONBaltimore, Maryland
February 20, 1963~~SECRET~~In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-22392~~SECRET~~

Title

DONALD LEE WEST

Character

SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference

Report of SA RICHARD G.
SULLIVAN dated February 20, 1963,
at Baltimore.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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54 OCT 3 1963

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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REPORTING OFFICE BALTIMORE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BALTIMORE	DATE 2/28/64	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 1/17-2/24/64
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, aka		REPORT MADE BY SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN	TYPED BY elt
DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM: FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE DATE 12-06-2010		CHARACTER OF CASE Class. & Ext. By SP-1 CSK/PSK Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 SM - G Date of Review 2/28/64 3/28/82	

REFERENCE: Report of SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN
dated 2/20/63 at Baltimore, Md.

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

ADMINISTRATIVE
DATA:

Residence and occupation of subject
were verified through the utilization
of pretext telephone calls in the
nature of a credit inquiry, by SA
RICHARD G. SULLIVAN. These calls
were to subject's former employer,
the Talmudical Academy, Baltimore,
and to [redacted] a
neighbor of the subject.

b6
b7CINFORMANTS:
Identity of Source

Location

BA T-1

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APPROVED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:	4 - Bureau (100-20396) (REGISTERED MAIL) 2 - WFO (REGISTERED MAIL) 3 - Baltimore (100-22392)	100-20396-206	REC-23
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		NOTATIONS	
AGENCY: RAO	REQUEST RECD: 3/11/64	SUBV CONTR	
DATE FWD: 3/11/64	HOW FWD: RAIS	MAR 3 1964	
BY: NDG/mak	COPIES DESTROYED	MAR 12 1964	
	54 OCT 3 1973	REC.D	

~~SECRET~~

BA 100-22392

~~SECRET~~

Identity of Source

Location

BA T-2

BA T-3

BA T-4

BA T-5

BA T-6

100-22392-103

The following informants were contacted relative to activities of the subject; however, no additional information was developed and no information was received indicating that subject was a current member of the Communist Party.

Informant

Date Contacted

Contacted by

1/17/64
1/17/64
1/16/64
1/20/64
1/21/64
1/22/64
1/17/64
1/15/64
1/20/64
1/14/64

SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA ROBERT C. NORTON
SA ROBERT C. NORTON
SA ROBERT C. NORTON
SA J. CARLTON GARTNER
SA J. CARLTON GARTNER
SA J. CARLTON GARTNER
SA J. CARLTON GARTNER

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BA 100-22392

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LEAD

BALTIMORE DIVISION

AT COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

Will, through contact with established sources at the University of Maryland, College of Education, determine full details of subject's connections with the University of Maryland. It is noted that subject has degrees in education and was formerly employed as a teacher and it should be determined whether he is presently teaching as well as attending graduate school at the University of Maryland.

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BA 100-22392

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1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☒ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☒ is not available.
5. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and _____ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
6. ☒ This report is classified ~~confidential~~ because (U) (S)
(state reason)
data reported by Confidential Informants BA T-1 through BA T-6 could reasonably result in the identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.
7. ☒ Subject previously interviewed (dates) 3/2/54.
☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) of the previous interview in 1954; subject was uncooperative. In 1957 he refused to testify claiming the Fifth Amendment before a Senate investigating committee investigation on communism in the area of Memphis, Tennessee. Subject was subpoenaed before an HCUA hearing in July, 1958, and expressed his wrath at this although he was not called to testify.
8. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
9. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)
In 1956 subject relied upon the Fifth Amendment in an appearance before the Senate Investigating Committee at Memphis Tennessee. Information set forth in instant report reflects attendance at meetings of CP front organizations.
10. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ Subject's activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~SECRET~~DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

Copy to:

Report of: SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN
Date: February 28, 1964

Office: BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Field Office File No.: BA 100-22392

Bureau File No.:

Title: DONALD LEE WEST

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK
Reason: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 2/28/84 3/28/82

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

Synopsis: Subject resides at 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, and is presently doing graduate work at the College of Education, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland. (U) During 1963, subject attended meetings of the Open Forum of Maryland, identified as a communist front organization and New Era Bookshop, identified as a communist book shop in Baltimore, Md. Confidential Informants familiar with various phases of CP activities in the Baltimore area advised during January 1964, that there is no information indicating subject is currently a member of the Communist Party.

- P -

Details: AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 5/11/82~~I. BACKGROUNDA. Residence

On February 18, 1964, [redacted] Baltimore, Maryland, was contacted under appropriate pretext and advised that DONALD LEE WEST continued to reside at 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

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b7c~~CONFIDENTIAL~~GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~B. Employment

On February 18, 1964, through the utilization of appropriate pretext, contact was made with the Talmudical Academy, 3701 Cottage Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. It was determined that DONALD LEE WEST had not been re-hired by the Talmudical Academy for the school year 1963-1964, and that he was presently taking graduate work at the University of Maryland, College of Education, College Park, Maryland.

On February 18, 1964, [redacted] Registrar's Office, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, advised Special Agent [redacted] that DONALD LEE WEST was currently taking three courses at the College of Education, University of Maryland, and that his residence was listed as 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore 24, Maryland.

b6
b7CC. Education

On February 19, 1964, [redacted] Alumni Record Office, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, advised Special Agent FRANCIS J. WALSH that DONALD LEE WEST had attended McCoy College of Johns Hopkins University from 1959 to 1963, and had received a certificate of advanced study in education. Previous education was listed as A.B. degree, 1929, Lincoln Manor University, Harrowgate, Tennessee; M.A. degree, 1944, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia.

b6
b7CII. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)

Confidential Informants familiar with various phases of Communist Party activities in the Baltimore area, were contacted during January, 1964, and advised that during 1963, there had been no indication that subject was a member of the CP.

These informants had no additional information concerning the activities of DONALD LEE WEST.

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~~SECRET~~III. OTHER ACTIVITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTYA. Open Forum of Maryland

A characterization of the Open Forum of Maryland is contained in the Appendix hereto.

On January 25, 1963, subject and his wife were present at a meeting of the Open Forum held at 601 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland, at which the guest speaker, MAUDE RUSSELL gave a talk lauding the economic progress of Red China. (U) (S) (Confidential Informant BA T-1 January 29, 1963) (S)

On January 28, 1963, Confidential Informant BA T-2 advised that at the Open Forum of Maryland meeting held January 25, 1963, the principal speaker was Miss MAUDE RUSSELL, who was identified on a leaflet advertising this meeting, as a YWCA worker who had lived and traveled in China from 1917 to 1943, and whose fluent Chinese enabled her to learn about the Asian peoples' efforts to rid themselves of feudalism and colonialism. (S) (U)

On March 1, 1963, subject and his wife were present at a meeting of the Open Forum of Maryland, held at 601 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland, at which the principal speaker was Bishop EDGAR AMOS LOVE. (S) (U) (Confidential Informant BA T-1, March 4, 1963) (S) (U) (Confidential Informant BA T-3, March 4, 1963) (S) (U)

On March 5, 1963, Confidential Informant BA T-2 advised that Bishop EDGAR AMOS LOVE was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Open Forum of Maryland, held March 1, 1963, and that Bishop LOVE was identified in a leaflet advertising this meeting, as the individual who had headed the Baltimore area Methodist Church since 1952, who was nationally known as the champion of civil rights for all and for equality. (S) (U)

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BA 100-22392

On October 25, 1963, subject was present at a meeting of the Open Forum of Maryland, which was held at 601 W. 40th Street, at which JAMES ARONSON, who was identified at the meeting, as Editor of the National Guardian, was the principal speaker. (S) (U)

(Confidential Informant BA T-3, October 28, 1963) (S) (U)

(Confidential Informant BA T-4, October 29, 1963) (S) (U)

The National Guardian was "Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a 'progressive' weekly.*** Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, "Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell", August 25, 1956, p. 12)

B. New Era Bookshop

A characterization of the New Era Bookshop is set forth in the Appendix hereto.

On January 9, 1963, at a meeting of the Executive Board of the New Era Bookshop, held at 7400A Rockridge Road, Baltimore, [redacted] a member of the Communist Party in Baltimore, reported that he had contacted DONALD WEST relative to having WEST do a poetry reading at a meeting of the New Era Bookshop; however, [redacted] stated that WEST had been reluctant to have his name connected with this organization. (S) (U)

(Confidential Informant BA T-1, January 10, 1963) (S) (U)

On May 11, 1963, subject was present at a meeting of the New Era Bookshop, held at 2407 Elsinore Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Informant stated that this was a book review session. (S) (U)

(Confidential Informant BA T-3, May 21, 1963) (S) (U)

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On November 22, 1963, subject was present at a meeting sponsored by the New Era Bookshop held at the Mirror Room of the Hotel Stafford, Charles and Madison Streets, Baltimore, Maryland, at which SCOTT NEARING gave a talk entitled "Latin America Today". (S) (U)
(Confidential Informant BA T-3, December 9, 1963) (S) (U)
(Confidential Informant BA T-5, November 25, 1963) (S) (U)

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities House Report 1311 on the CIO POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE, March 29, 1944, pages 75 and 76 sets forth the following:

"American Fund for Public Service (Garland Fund) Established in 1922 *** it was a major source for the financing of Communist Party enterprises" such as the Daily Worker and New Masses, official communist publications, Federated Press, Russian Reconstruction Farms and International Labor Defense. WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, present chairman, and SCOTT NEARING, a leading writer for the Party, served on the board of directors of the Fund.

C. National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee

A characterization of the above committee is set forth in the appendix of this report.

On October 24, 1963, Confidential Informant BA T-6 advised that a list of sponsors of the National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee reflected among others, the name DONALD WEST, Douglasville, Georgia, poet, writer. (S) (U)

It is noted that subject is a poet and a writer and previously resided at Douglasville, Georgia.

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OPEN FORUM OF MARYLAND

On April 4, 1962, a source advised that on April 3, 1962, the Open Forum of Maryland was organized at Baltimore for the purpose of increasing the circulation of the National Guardian newspaper. The organization is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District.

The "National Guardian," "established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a 'progressive' weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

(Committee on Un-American Activities Report, "Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell," August 25, 1956, p. 12.)

A second source advised that as of July 5, 1963, the Open Forum of Maryland continues to remain completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. The source states that in pursuance of its purpose of increasing the circulation of the "National Guardian", the Open Forum of Maryland has at various dates in 1962 sponsored the appearance of various officials of the "National Guardian," who urge support for the "National Guardian." These speakers were critical of the foreign policy of the United States.

APPENDIX

- 6 -

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BA 100-22392

NEW ERA BOOK SHOP, INCORPORATED

On September 19, 1962, a source advised that the New Era Book Shop, Inc., 101 West 22nd Street, Baltimore, Maryland, was organized by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District, on July 30, 1962, with the sanction and financial backing of the Communist Party, USA. Its purpose is to sell communist literature and serve as a place where new Communist Party members might be recruited. The Book Shop is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, USA.

On June 18, 1963, a second source advised that the New Era Book Shop, Incorporated, continues to be operated under the complete control and domination by the Communist Party, USA. [redacted] Communist Party (CP) member of Baltimore, Maryland, [redacted] the Book Shop. As of June 18, 1963, the new address of the Book Shop is 408 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

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APPENDIX

- 7 -

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BA 100-22392

~~SECRET SECRET~~

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH THE HOUSE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
COMMITTEE

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" issued December 1, 1961, by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives, Page 115, contains the following citation regarding the National Committee to Abolish the Un-American Activities Committee (NCAUAC).

"Cited as a 'new organization' set up in the Summer of 1960 to lead and direct the Communist Party's 'Operation Abolition' campaign. Seven of the national leaders of this group have been identified as Communists.

(Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1278 on the Truth About the Film 'Operation Abolition,' Part 1, October 3, 1961, p. 5.)"

A source has advised that the NCAUAC changed its name on March 3, 1962, to include the word "House" in its name, thereby becoming known as the National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee.

APPENDIX

- 8* -

~~SECRET SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-22392

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Baltimore, Maryland

February 28, 1964

~~SECRET~~

Title DONALD LEE WEST

Character SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference Report of SA RICHARD G.
SULLIVAN dated February 28, 1964
at Baltimore, Md.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

COPIES DESTROYED

54 OCT 3 1973

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-9-

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 100-20396)

DATE: February 28, 1964

FROM : SAC, Baltimore (100-22392)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST
SM - C

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 00

3/5/64
ad

☐ 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 3/23/82 BY SP.1 GSK/PSK		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) Graduate Student, College of Education University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		NOT RECORDED
Residence Address		4 MAR 3 1964

2 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
1 - Baltimore
RGS:elt

REGISTERED MAIL

53 MAR 6 1964

SUB CONTROL

McFadden

WT
Date 1/28/64

☐ Check, when submitting semiannual inventory, if no previous correspondence with Bureau.

Bufile 100-20396	Field Division ATLANTA
---------------------	---------------------------

Title and Character of Case
DONALD LEE WEST
SECURITY MATTER - C

Date Property Acquired July 26, 1948	Source From Which Property Acquired Surveillance
---	---

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit Bulky exhibit cabinet	Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same Record, investigative aid, possible use as evidence
--	--

Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same

1. One partial roll of 16mm film pertaining to the above-captioned subject.

Submitted by SA

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Field File # 100-559-1B12

1d
58 FEB 10 1964

100-20396-

NOT RECORDED

14 FEB 7 1964

SUBV CONTROL

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392) (C)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka
SM - C

DATE: 4/30/64

Re report of SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN, 2/28/64, at
Baltimore.

On 4/21/64, records of the Personnel Section at the University of Maryland were checked by SA FRANCIS X. O'NEILL, JR., and reflected that above captioned subject was employed by the University as a graduate assistant 9/1/63 and is teaching in the College of Secondary Education. His residence is shown as 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore 24, Maryland.

A FD 122 has been submitted relative to this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/13/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Baltimore

RGS:mg1
(3)

EX 103

REC-41

100-20396-207

MAY 4 1964

SUBV. CONTROL

64 MAY 8 1964

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile-100-20396)

DATE: 3/16/64

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392)

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 00

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, AKA
SM - C

3/19/64
ah

0-1 BK 5-6-64
see FD-122
4-30-64
222

☐ 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 3/24/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) GRADUATE STUDENT, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK, MD.		
Key Facility Data NONE		
Geographical Reference Number _____		Responsibility _____
Interested Agencies _____		
Residence Address _____		

100-20396

NOT RECORDED

12 MAR 17 1964

118 11

CONTROL

SUBV. CONTROL

REC'D

M. E. ROY

RGS:ald

(3)②- Bureau

1- Baltimore

REGISTERED MAIL

6 MAR 20 1964

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

3/5 on back

REPORTING OFFICE BALTIMORE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BALTIMORE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 2/26/65 12/29/64 - 2/23/65
TITLE OF CASE DONALD LEE WEST, aka		REPORT MADE BY SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES		TYPED BY kss
CHARACTER OF CASE		CONFIDENTIAL

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent RICHARD G. SULLIVAN dated February 28, 1964, at Baltimore.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

BA T-1

BA T-2

BA T-3

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF

DATE 12/12/83

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Class. & Ext. By SP/ GSK/PSK

Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2

Date of Review 8/26/85

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Location

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Location

Classified by 3269 JAE/WEB/HCC

Declassify on: OADR

12/6/83

COVER PAGE

APPROVED

COPIES MADE:

4 - Bureau (100-20396)
(REGISTERED MAIL)

3 - Baltimore (100-22392)

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

100-20396-208

21 MAR 1 1965

REC 5

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY	100-20396	100-22392
REQUEST RECD.	3-9-65	10/10/65
DATE FWD.	4/15	4/15
HOW FWD.	ER/K	JF/CCS
BY	ER/K	JF/CCS

NOTATIONS

SUBV. CONTROL

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

66 MAR 10 1965

~~SECRET~~

BA 100-22392

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Identity of Source

Location

(U)

BA T-4

BA

BA T-5

BA

BA T-6

BA

BA T-7

Postal Inspector's Office
Baltimore, Maryland

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

100-22392-130

b2
b7D

(S)C

(U)

The following informants were contacted during December, 1964, and January, 1965; however, no additional pertinent information relative to subject was obtained and no information was developed indicating that subject is a current member of the Communist Party: (U)

Informant

Date Contacted

Contacting Agent

BA

BA

BA

BA

1/4/65

1/15/65

1/15/65

1/19/65

J. CARLTON GARTNER

" " "

" " "

" " "

BA

BA

BA

BA

1/19/65

1/19/65

1/21/65

1/20/65

[Redacted]

" " "

" " "

" " "

BA

BA

BA

BA

12/29/64

12/29/64

12/29/64

12/29/64

ROBERT C. NORTON

" " "

" " "

" " "

b2
b7D

b6
b7C

- B -

COVER PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

BA 100-22392

~~SECRET~~

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
 2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
 3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
 4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
 5. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and _____ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
 6. ☒ This report is classified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ because (state reason)

data reported by Confidential Informants T-1 (X) (U) through T-6 could reasonably result in identification of Confidential Informants of continuing value and and compromise their future effectiveness. C (U)

7. ☒ Subject previously interviewed (dates) 3/2/54.
☐ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) during the interview in 1954 with subject was uncooperative. In 1957 he refused to testify, claiming the Fifth Amendment before a Senate Investigating Committee on communism in the area of Memphis, Tennessee. Subject was subpoenaed before an HCUA hearing in July, 1958, and expressed his wrath at this, although he was not called to testify.

8. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
 9. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)
 information set forth in instant report reflects attendance at meetings of CP front organizations. C (U)

10. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ Subject's activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

- C* -
 COVER PAGE

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~SECRET~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CONFIDENTIAL
DATE 5/27/80Copy to: DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010Report of: SA RICHARD G. SULLIVAN
Date: February 26, 1965Office: Baltimore, Maryland ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Field Office File No.: 100-22392

Bureau File No.: 100-20396

Title: DONALD LEE WEST

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/BSK
Reason ECIM II, 1-5.2.2
Date of Review 2/2/85

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE. 3/24/82

Synopsis:

Subject resides at 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland and is presently doing graduate work at the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland. During 1964, he attended meetings of the Open Forum of Maryland, identified as a CP front and on occasions frequented the New Era Book Shop, which is identified herein as a communist book store in Baltimore. Confidential Informants, familiar with various phases of CP activity in the Baltimore area, advised that there is no information indicating that subject is presently a member of the CP. ~~(S)~~ (U)

- C -

DETAILS: AT BALTIMORE, MARYLANDI. BACKGROUNDA. RESIDENCE

DONALD LEE WEST continues to reside at 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

FOIPA # 261,201
Classified by 8269 JDE/WB3/He
Declassify on: OADP
12/6/83~~CONFIDENTIAL~~GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~B. EMPLOYMENT

On January 18, 1965, the records of the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, were checked by Special Agent FRANCIS X. O'NEILL, JR. and reflected that subject continued to be employed at the University of Maryland as a graduate student in the College of Education and that he resided at 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY (CP)A. MEMBERSHIP

Confidential Informants who are familiar with various phases of CP activity in the Baltimore, Maryland area, were contacted during December, 1964, and January, 1965, and advised that there was no information indicating that subject had been a member of the CP during the past year and no indication that he was currently a member of the CP.

B. ACTIVITIES IN BEHALF OF THE CP1. OPEN FORUM OF MARYLAND (OFOM)

A characterization of the OFOM is set forth in the appendix hereto.

Subject was in attendance at an OFOM meeting held December 12, 1964, at 601 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland. The speaker at this meeting was THOMAS G. BUCHANAN, who discussed the book he had written, "Who Killed KENNEDY." BUCHANAN questioned the findings of the Warren Commission concerning the assassination of President KENNEDY and stated that OSWALD, the alleged assassin of President KENNEDY, was probably an agent of the United States, rather than Russia.

[BA T-1 on 12/7/64]

In 1948 THOMAS G. BUCHANAN publicly admitted CP membership in a radio broadcast in Detroit, Michigan. In 1957 BUCHANAN told Agents of the

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~~SECRET~~

BA 100-22392

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI that he had resigned from the CP sometime prior to August, 1956, because of loss of interest in an organization which consumed much time and effort. However, BUCHANAN refused to furnish any details on his declared CP defection.

2. NEW ERA BOOK SHOP

A characterization of the New Era Book Shop is set forth in the appendix hereto.

On December 15, 1964, subject was at the New Era Book Shop to purchase some literature. Subject frequents this book shop from time to time to buy literature such as "The Worker" and various books and pamphlets expressing similar interest. (S)C (U)

[BA T-2 on 1/4/65] (S)C (U)

"The Worker" is an East Coast communist newspaper.

3. MISCELLANEOUS

On October 15, 1964, DONALD WEST was at the New Era Book Shop, Baltimore, where he picked up some unidentified literature. On that same date, DONALD WEST gave [redacted] and RALPH MAGUIRE, both members of the CP at Baltimore, an automobile ride to the Patterson Park area of Baltimore, Maryland, where [redacted] and MAGUIRE were to distribute some literature concerning the forthcoming national election, which had been printed by the CIO-AFL. (S)C (U)

[BA T-2 - 11/3/64] (S)C (U)

Subject was in attendance at a public meeting held January 9, 1964, at All Souls Church, located at Howard and 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. This meeting was sponsored by a group of miners from Kentucky, who were in (S)C (U)

~~SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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BA 100-22392

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Washington, D. C. protesting to Congress and the President about the poor economic conditions in Kentucky. Informant advised that at this meeting he observed GEORGE MEYERS, District Chairman of the CP, JACOB GREEN, Chairman of the CP in Baltimore, as well as [redacted] and CHARLES JOHNSON, members of the CP at Baltimore. ~~(S)~~ (U) D.C.

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b7C

(BA T-3 on 1/16/64) ~~(S)~~
(BA T-4 on 1/15/64) ~~(S)~~

(U)

On April 13, 1964, [redacted] (supra) stated that HEDY WEST, daughter of DONALD WEST, was conducting a concert, singing folk song music at the Maryland Institute at Baltimore, Maryland on April 13, 1964, for the benefit of the unemployed Kentucky miners and that DONALD WEST was promoting this affair. ~~(S)~~ (U)

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b7C

(BA T-5 - 4/15/64) ~~(S)~~

(U)

On April 13, 1964, subject was present at the Maryland Institute located at Mount Royal Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, where a folk song concert featuring HEDY WEST was given for the benefit of Kentucky miners.

(BA T-6 - 4/15/64) ~~(S)~~

(U)

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~OPEN FORUM OF MARYLAND

On April 4, 1962, a source advised that on April 3, 1962, the Open Forum of Maryland was organized at Baltimore for the purpose of increasing the circulation of the National Guardian newspaper. The organization is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District.

The "National Guardian", "established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a 'progressive' weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia".

(Committee on Un-American Activities Report, "Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell", August 25, 1956, p. 12.)

On May 26, 1964, a second source advised that the Open Forum of Maryland continues to be completely controlled and dominated by the local Communist Party. It has continued to sponsor speakers periodically and the reading of the "National Guardian" is urged at each meeting of the Open Forum of Maryland.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BA 100-22392

APPENDIX

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEW ERA BOOK SHOP, INC.

On September 19, 1962, a source advised that the New Era Book Shop, Inc., 101 West 22nd Street, Baltimore, Maryland, was organized by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District, on July 30, 1962, with the sanction and financial backing of the Communist Party, USA. Its purpose is to sell communist literature and serve as a place where new Communist Party members might be recruited. The Book Shop is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, USA.

On May 26, 1964, a second source advised that since June, 1963, the New Era Book Shop, Inc. has been located at 408 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. It continues to be operated under the complete control and domination of the Communist Party, USA. [redacted] Communist Party member, [redacted] the Book Shop (S)

b6
b7c

APPENDIX

- 6* -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. BA 100-22392

408 Post Office Building
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

~~SECRET~~
February 26, 1965

Title DONALD LEE WEST

Character SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference Report of Special Agent RICHARD G.
SULLIVAN dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

~~SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

~~SECRET~~

Date 1/14/65

☐ Check, when submitting semiannual inventory, if no previous correspondence with Bureau.

Bufile 100-20396	Field Division ATLANTA
---------------------	---------------------------

Title and Character of Case
DONALD LEE WEST
SECURITY MATTER - C

Date Property Acquired 7/26/48	Source From Which Property Acquired SURVEILLANCE
-----------------------------------	---

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit BULKY CABINET	Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same RECORD, INVESTIGATIVE AID, POSSIBLE USE AS EVIDENCE
--	--

Description of Property or Exhibit and Identity of Agent Submitting Same

1 - ONE PARTIAL ROLL OF 16MM FILM PERTAINING TO THE ABOVE
CAPTIONED SUBJECT.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

b6
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SUBMITTED BY SA

100-20396-

NOT RECORDED

2 FEB 15 1965

SUBV. CONTROL

REC-56

For [signature]

Field File # 100-559-1B12

68 FEB 17 1965

255



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to:

File No. Bufile: 100-20396 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 5, 1964

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-06-2010

~~SECRET~~

class 5/25/82

RE: DONALD LEE WEST, ALSO KNOWN AS
DON WEST, JIM WEAVER, JAMES
ALLEN WEAVER, JIM WEBB (U)

DONALD LEE WEST resided at 900 Elton Avenue, Baltimore 24, Maryland, and is employed as a Graduate Assistant, College of Education, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

The "Daily Worker" issues for November 1, 1935, June 19, 1934, June 20, 1937, July 20, 1936, and October 5, 1936, all make mention of DONALD LEE WEST as a Communist Party organizer for the State of Kentucky and/or "Communist Party organizer in the South." The "Daily Worker" of March 13, 1934, page five, carried a poem written by DON WEST entitled "Listen, I am a Communist." [redacted] a friend of WEST, advised on June 10, 1949, that DON WEST was a member of the Communist Party in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1948.

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(U) WEST became a resident of Baltimore, Maryland, September, 1961. During 1963, WEST attended meetings of the Open Forum of Maryland, and the New Era Bookshop in Baltimore Maryland. There is no information indicating WEST is currently a member of the Communist Party.

The following is a physical description of DONALD LEE WEST:

Name:	DONALD LEE WEST, also known as Don West, Jim Weaver, James Allen Weaver, Jim Webb (U)
Date of Birth:	June 6, 1908
Place of Birth:	Cartecay, Gilmer County, Georgia
Race:	White
Height:	6'2"

100-20396-
NOT RECORDED

8 MAY 7 1964

~~SECRET~~

100-20396-
100-20396-
100-20396-

Source (Baltimore) - E.H. [redacted]
Date 5/14/64
by [redacted]

363

~~SECRET~~

RE: DONALD LEE WEST, ALSO KNOWN AS
DON WEST, JIM WEAVER, JAMES
ALLEN WEAVER, [JIM WEBB] (S)

(U)

Weight: 180 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Brown with some gray
Scars and Marks: 2 fingers missing from
left hand
Peculiarities: Right eye does not always focus
and on occasion wears glasses
Occupation: Self-employed farmer;
writer; minister; educator;
poet;
Marital Status: Married to MABLE CONSTANCE WEST
nee Adams, Middleburg, Kentucky
December 14, 1928.
Children:
Residence: BETTIE GRACE WEST, age 21 (1961)
900 Elton Avenue
Baltimore 24, Maryland
Employment: Graduate Assistant
College of Education,
University of Maryland,
College Park, Maryland
FBI: Number 814-505

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~~SECRET~~

OPEN FORUM OF MARYLAND

On April 4, 1962, a source advised that on April 3, 1962, the Open Forum of Maryland was organized at Baltimore for the purpose of increasing the circulation of the National Guardian newspaper. The organization is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District.

The "National Guardian," "established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a 'progressive' weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia."

(Committee on Un-American Activities
Report, "Trial by Treason: The
National Committee to Secure
Justice for the Rosenbergs and
Morton Sobell," August 25, 1956, p.
12.)

A second source advised that as of July 5, 1963, the Open Forum of Maryland continues to remain completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. The source states that in pursuance of its purpose of increasing the circulation of the "National Guardian", the Open Forum of Maryland has at various dates in 1962 sponsored the appearance of various officials of the "National Guardian," who urge support for the "National Guardian." These speakers were critical of the foreign policy of the United States.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

NEW ERA BOOK SHOP, INCORPORATED

On September 19, 1962, a source advised that the New Era Book Shop, Inc., 101 West 22nd Street, Baltimore, Maryland, was organized by the Communist Party, Maryland - D. C. District, on July 30, 1962, with the sanction and financial backing of the Communist Party, USA. Its purpose is to sell communist literature and serve as a place where new Communist Party members might be recruited. The Book Shop is completely controlled and dominated by the Communist Party, USA.

On June 18, 1963, a second source advised that the New Era Book Shop, Incorporated, continues to be operated under the complete control and domination by the Communist Party, USA. [redacted] Communist Party (CP) member of Baltimore, Maryland, [redacted] the Book Shop. As of June 18, 1963, the new address of the Book Shop is 408 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

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"THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS
NOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE FBI. IT IS THE PROPERTY
OF THE FBI AND IS LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY; IT
AND ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED
OUTSIDE YOUR AGENCY."

~~SECRET~~



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-20396
(Bufile)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 5, 1964

~~SECRET~~

Title DONALD LEE WEST, ALSO KNOWN AS
DON WEST, JIM WEAVER, JAMES
ALLEN WEAVER, [JIM WEBB] (S) (U)

Character

Reference Letterhead memorandum,
dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

~~SECRET~~

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

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 100-20396) DATE: 4/30/64

FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE (100-22392)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, aka

Cards UTD
Cards Sent 00
5/8/64
an

Sm c

☐ 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):

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/23/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) GRADUATE ASSISTANT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number _____		
Interested Agencies _____		
Residence Address _____		

100-20396-

NOT RECORDED

10 MAY 4 1964

SUBV. CONTROL

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Baltimore
RCS:mg1 (3)
REGISTERED MAIL
MAY 12 1964

an

DONALD LEE WEST

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/21/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

LOCALITY

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✓ Europe	112

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/21/62 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

(para 2 page 83 per OGA letter dated 12-13-10)

CORRELATION SUMMARY

~~SECRET~~

Main File No: 100-20396

Date: 6-23-65

Subject: Donald Lee West

Date Searched: 6/8/64

All logical variations of subject's name and aliases were searched and identical references were found as:

~~Donald Lee West~~
~~Don Weaver~~
~~Donald Weaver~~
~~Jim Weaver~~
~~Jim Webb~~
~~D. West~~
~~D. F. West~~
~~D. S. West~~
~~Don West~~
~~D. L. West~~

(U)

~~Don L. West~~
~~Don Lee West~~
~~Don W. West~~
~~Donala Lee West~~
~~Donald West~~
~~Donald E. West~~
~~Donald L. West~~
~~Donald S. West~~
~~Donald V. West~~
~~Lee West~~

Summary
*Army info. on pg. 22, 28, 31, 36,
was declassified per letter from Army
dated 1/20/83.*

*pg. 73 contains bi-memo info. (os),
which was declassified per letter
dated 1/12/83.*

*Info. from Navy appearing on pp. 23 & 46 was
declassified per Navy letter dated 1/7/83.*

This is a summary of information obtained from a review of all "see" references to the subject in Bureau files under the names and aliases listed above. All references under the above names containing data identical with the subject have been included except any indicated at the end of this summary under the heading REFERENCES NOT INCLUDED IN THIS SUMMARY.

This summary is designed to furnish a synopsis of the information set out in each reference. In many cases the original serial will contain the information in much more detail.

THIS SUMMARY HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR USE AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AND IS NOT SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION.

Analyst

Coordinator

b6
b7C

Approved

BKE:sds:mhw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

ENCLOSURE
SEARCH SLIPS

BEHIND FILE
ONLY

REC

MCT

10 JUN 25 1965

69 JUN 25 1965

Class. & Ext. By 60-1 GSK/PSK
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 6/23/85

~~SECRET~~

00-20396-209
CONFIDENTIAL

ABBREVIATIONS

~~SECRET~~

Add. info.Additional information appearing
in this reference which pertains
to Donald Lee West may be found
in the main file or elsewhere in
this summary.

APM.....American Peace Mobilization

APMC.....American Peace Mobilization Committee

IMMSWA.....International Mine, Mill and Smelter
Workers of America

PAC,CIO.....Political Action Committee, CIO

PIAR
IAR.....People's Institute of Applied Religion

PPP.....People's Progressive Party

SCEF.....Southern Conference Educational
Fund, Inc.

SCHW.....Southern Conference for Human Welfare

UPWA.....United Packinghouse Workers of America,
AFL-CIO

YCL.....Young Communist League

~~SECRET~~

RELATIVES WHO HAVE BUREAU MAIN FILES

~~SECRET~~

The relationship, biographical data and CP activities of Donald Lee West were set forth in the main files of his relatives as follows:

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
Nathan Ross	Brother-in-law	100-15862-45 p.1-3 171 enc1.p.1 173 p.3 179 p.3 180 p.4 183 p.1,2	(64) (64) (64) (18) (29) (29)
Myron Howard Ross	Brother-in-law	100-23555-4 6 12 p.1-4 13 p.1-4 14X p.11 21 p.1 25 p.4 45 p.19,41 52 p.2 59 p.2 81 128 p.2 150 p.3	(65) (65) (66) (7,18) (94) (7,29) (7,29,94) (66,94) (66) (7) (66) (66) (7)
Rudolph West	Brother	100-42473-2 p.1-3 3 p.1,2 4 p.1 9 p.1 19 p.1,2,4 22 p.1 26 p.1,2	(30) (68) (30) (68) (68,89) (89) (68,90)
<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 250px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>			
Anne West Ross	Sister	100-39511-1 p.1-4 100-423069-1 p.2,8,18 3 p.1 9 p.1 18 p.9 23 p.1 108-634-1 p.1,2	(18,67) (10,82) (10) (39) (10) (82) (83)

b6
b7C

(continued)

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(continued)

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	REFERENCE	SECRET	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
Bart Hunter Logan	Brother-in-law	61-7853-26 p.2,20 49 p.2,8,10 50 p.1,5,6 60 p.1-3 100 p.3,10 108 p.2 118X enc1.p.1		(13,52) (43) (4) (4,134) (87) (87) (52)

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The following references in the file captioned "Claude Clossie Williams, was.," set out information concerning the activities of Donald Lee West, and Claude Williams. During the years 1927-1929, West attended the Vanderbilt School of Religion in Nashville, Tennessee. Another student at the school with whom West associated and became fast friends was Claude Williams. They became known as radical leaders in the church. Williams organized the PIAR and West became a sponsor and the State Director of Georgia of the PIAR. West corresponded with Williams from Douglasville, Georgia.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-1837-9 p. 3
38 p. 9,11
53 p. 8
72 p. 16
85 p. 6
94 p. 3

(61)
(17)
(17)
(61)
(17,94)
(61)

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[redacted] of the Mount Berry Schools, Rome, Georgia (94-1-3200), stated that during August of 1933, Don West and Walker Martin, former students at the Berry Schools, appeared at Rome, Georgia and endeavored to cause dissatisfaction among the students at Berry Schools, which finally resulted in their being asked to leave that community.

[redacted] for the Berry Schools, advised that Don West was a member of the National Student League, whose headquarters were located in NYC, and that an investigation revealed that this League was heading an organization known as the US Congress Against War and that its motives were alleged to be communistic.

(continued)

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(continued)

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[] stated that West had organized a school known as the "Highlander Folk School," located at Monteagle, Tennessee, and that undoubtedly his purpose in endeavoring to cause dissatisfaction among the students in the Mount Berry School was to obtain publicity for his school.

Both [] and [] stated that no effort had been made since the above referred to occasion to injure the Berry Schools.

62-29913-4
changed to
94-1-3200-4 p.1,2,7-9
(53)

Coleman H. Dykes, 808 Merchant's Road, Knoxville, Tennessee, advised that during 1932-1934 he was the County Superintendant of Schools of Grundy County, Tennessee. During this period the Highlander Folk School was organized. Dykes stated that from the outset of this school he was in conflict with the persons associated with the school, and the teachings advocated by them. Specifically, he named Don West, adding that his conflict with West was of such a nature that he recalled that at one time West informed him that if and when they came to power, that he, Dykes, would be one of the first persons disposed of.

100-0-28594-94 p.2
(56)

The February, 1934, issue of the "Student Review" carried an article concerning the Southern Folk School Library operated by Don West, Clyde Johnson and Willis Sutton (128-1984) at Kennesaw, Georgia. The "Student Review" was a publication of the National Students League (not identified).

[] (S) (U) advised he had known West to have been a CP member for many years.

[128-1984-21 p.2 (S) (U)
(85)

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[redacted] (100-384292) advised that he was sponsored into the CP by an individual known to him as Jim Weaver but stated he thought Weaver was identical with Don West, who was organizer for the CP in North Carolina at that time. [redacted] advised that West was transferred and that his place was taken in 1935, by Kenroy Malcomber.

100-384292-11 p. 5
(79,99)

[redacted] Florida, (protect identity) advised that in 1935 there were numerous strikes in the cotton mills at Burlington, SC and that labor trouble, including the use of dynamite, arose. Investigation resulted in the conviction of several people including one [redacted]

b6
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According to [redacted] the principals involved in the dynamite plots were contacted by certain people including Don West aka Don Weaver and that West and others were instrumental in getting people together to build a defense for those accused.

100-18547-56
(65,107)

The following references in the file captioned "Paul Crouch," set out information concerning the CP activities of Don West who was known personally to Crouch. West was Trade Union Director of the CP in North Carolina in 1935; he prepared a booklet entitled "Songs for Southern Workers," and in connection with this booklet, he published a column in the "Southern News Almanac," the CP paper of the south.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

61-6547-99 p. 1 encl.
149 p. 2
336 p. 1
358 encl. p. 7

(50)
(50,98)
(24)
(50)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to the "DW" dated 11/1/35, page 5, D. L. West was CP organizer in the state of Kentucky and was also a member of the United Mine Workers of America.

100-206828-1
(95)

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
[redacted] CP, Kentucky (protect identity) advised that Giles Cooper (100-143341) was an active member of the CP in Kentucky prior to 1936, having been recruited and developed by Don West, apparently during the period of the WPA (not identified). (S) (U)

100-143341-5 p.1,3
(71)

The National Republic Lettergram Report # 46 gave a list of communists who held important berths in the Workers Alliance (61-7586) and according to this Lettergram, all of them were staunch supporters of the CP ticket during the 1936 elections. Don West, State Organizer of Kentucky was included in this list.

61-7586-116 p.169
(52)

This reference sets out information concerning the CP activities and personal data of Don West. West became State Secretary for the Socialist Party of Georgia, and in 1934 resigned that position and applied for membership in the CP in NYC. He was accepted for membership and sent to the National Training School of the CP held in NY State during the Summer of 1934.

In August 1934, West was sent to the Carolinas as the assistant to Paul Crouch in the position of District Trade Union Director of the CP. West participated in the General Textile Strike in Charlotte and Gastonia, NC; also near Greensboro and Burlington, NC, in August and September, 1934. West was also active in the affairs of a sharecropper's union. He contributed articles to the "DW" in 1934 in connection with this union. In 1935 or 1936, West was sent to Kentucky as CP District Organizer. Since that time West had engaged in extensive writing.

100-19628-214 p.1-3
(65,99)

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(S) [redacted] Indiana (protect identity) advised that [redacted] formerly of Doney, Kentucky were members of an unorthodox CP group in Eastern Kentucky in the early 1940's and had been recruited into the CP by Don West, CP organizer in Kentucky prior to 1937. (S) (U)

100-417806-9 p. 2

(82)

SI 100-137679-42 p. 3

(71)

Harvey Curtis Webster (100-402522) advised that in the Fall of 1936 he became a member of the CP and his membership card was issued by Don West, secretary of the CP of Kentucky.

Webster stated that in 1936 or 1937 West was replaced by Paul Kellogg.

Webster stated that when he left the Party in 1939, all the individuals in Louisville known to him as CP members with the exception of Don West, Paul Kellogg and Henry Schubart, left the Party also.

100-402522-16 p. 2,3

(80)

Paul Crouch, 10421 NW 33rd Avenue, Miami, Florida, advised that Edgar Sevier Fraley (100-98659) was highly regarded by Don West and Donald Burke, CP functionaries. Crouch stated he regarded Fraley as a leading CP member in the Norton, Virginia area during 1934-1937.

100-98659-23 p. 2

(70)

SI 100-401660-20 p. 3

(80)

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~~SECRET~~

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[redacted] advised that [redacted] (100-406782) and his brother, [redacted] were contacted by the outgoing CP State Secretary for Kentucky, Don West, and the incoming CP State Secretary for Kentucky, Paul Kellogg, at Fondé, Kentucky, in 1937. ~~(S)~~ (U)

100-406782-8 p.1

(819)

SI 100-406781-7 p.1

(814)

b6
b7C

An anonymous source made available a letter addressed to [redacted] NYC, (100-417806), postmarked at Lexington, Kentucky, on 8/1/37 and bearing the return address of Don West, 400 West Main Street, Lexington. This letter is set out verbatim, and concerned pledges for Kentucky support to set up a state organizing committee to organize "all of the unorganized in Kentucky" into the CIO. ~~(S)~~ (U)

100-417806-8 p.13,14

(824)

SI 100-137679-35 p.13,14

(704)

This reference sets out the names of individuals allegedly of communist inclinations or members of the CP, USA, who have been instrumental in the organizing campaigns of the committee for Industrial Organization. These individuals included Don West of Louisville, Kentucky, CP leader, who was active in Kentucky and Atlanta, Georgia and for several years was sought by Solicitor General Boyken. West, as of July, 1937, was assisting the Textile Workers Organization Committee, which was headed by Sidney Hillman.

Hillman was President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

61-7562-113 p.132,143

(514)

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Records of the Memphis Police Department revealed that [redacted] (121-30875) was arrested on 10/19/37, at the YMCA, Memphis. The arresting officers confiscated various pieces of communist literature including a clipping from "The Southern Worker," entitled "Build the New South" by Don West.

b6
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121-30875-37 p.5
(85)

Hoyt W. Brown, Commander, American Legion, Brunswick, Ga., advised that [redacted] (100-75710) and his wife, [redacted] moved to Meansville, Ga. about 1938, from Brunswick, Ga., and became associated with Donald L. West, Editor of "The Country Parson," Meansville. Brown advised that West befriended Smith on more than one occasion and expressed the opinion that if Smith was communistic, it was due to his association with West.

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[redacted] Meansville, stated that [redacted] appeared to be very friendly with Donald West, and he had on several occasions seen West.

[redacted] This informant stated that if [redacted] was communistically inclined it was due to his association with Reverend West. (S) (U)

[redacted] who was formerly closely associated with West in Meansville, and who helped West edit "The Country Parson," advised that he and West used to visit Smith and his wife in Smith's apartment located over [redacted] Grocery Store in Meansville. [redacted] stated that West endeavored to influence Smith but Smith would not accept West's theories and political view points and often told him so. (S) (U)

b6
b7C

100-75710-1 p.1,2
(19,32)
SI to par. 3
100-87115-1 p.3
(84)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

A Louisville report dated 11/8/37, revealed that [redacted]
[redacted], Lexington, Kentucky, advised that
she had learned that one Don West was on the Pennzoil Program, broad-
cast over Radio Station WLAP, Lexington, and that West was a singer. b6
She said that her youngest son, [redacted] claimed to have b7C
seen a letter addressed to [redacted] which was written by Don West
and she expressed the opinion that her son may have received a similar
letter from him. However, she was not sure that the Don West who sang
over the radio was the Don West whose address was Box 961, Lexington.
[redacted] stated she found an envelope in the clothing of her son,
[redacted] addressed to Don West, Box 961, Lexington. b6
b7C

[redacted] declined to give a statement concerning
Donald West except that he knew a Donald West who sang over the radio.

40-3918-3 p. 1-3

(3)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

[redacted] (100-151279) advised that in 1936 or 1937 he was directed to the office of [redacted], a London, Kentucky, attorney, concerning the possibility of his enlisting in the Spanish Civil War. He was shortly thereafter contacted by a Don West and was sent to Louisville, Kentucky where he contacted [redacted] who gave him fourteen dollars for train fare to NYC. On 8/7/37, he sailed on the SS Georgia for France. b6 b7C

[redacted] advised that shortly after 4/22/38, he returned to the US. After his return he was visited by [redacted] and Don West one time, but they had never tried to contact him since. b6 b7C

100-151279-4 p.1,2,4,5
(71)

On 8/13/38, John P. Frey, President of the Metal Trades Department of the AFL, appeared before the Dies Committee (Hearings before a special committee, HCUA). Frey stated that the success of the CP in any country depended primarily upon its ability to infiltrate into the national trade-union movements and control their policy making. Frey submitted to the committee the names of individuals whom he identified as members of the CP who were then or had been on CIO organization pay rolls. This list included Don West, who was reported to have been a part-time employee of the Textile Workers Union, a CIO affiliate and at the same time was district organizer of District # 23, CP.

Add. info.

61-7562-1166 p.23
(51)

On 1/16/58, M. G. Lowman, executive secretary of the Circuit Riders, a Methodist lay organization investigating CP infiltration among members of the clergy, furnished a report of their investigation. This report stated in part that in November, 1938 the first big penetration of the CP into the South came with the launching of the SCHW. Paul Crouch, Don West and other individuals, all CP members, manipulated the conference from behind the scenes.

Add. info.

61-3176-2281 encl.p.15,18,48
(50)

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~~SECRET~~

[redacted] Louisville, Kentucky, advised that he was connected with the CP in Louisville from 1934 through 1939, and that the two CP district organizers in Kentucky known to him during this period were Donald West and later [redacted]

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b7C

100-143341-33 p.3

(8)

SI 100-4955-27 p.1

(6)

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] advised that [redacted] (100-388036) was a CP member, Lexington, Kentucky, from sometime prior to the middle 1930's until the early 1940's, and that [redacted] was probably recruited into the Party by Don West. (S) (U)

100-388036-1 p.5

(79)

Paul Crouch, 10421 NW, 33rd Avenue, Miami, Florida, advised that he was editor of the "New South" from 1938 to 1940, at which time the newspaper failed because of lack of funds. Crouch stated that the "New South" was a CP publication and that he had in his possession 400 or 500 cards which contained the names of subscribers to this publication. One of the individuals whose name appeared on this list of subscribers was [redacted] Kentucky (100-137679). This individual was unknown to Crouch but he had heard Don West mention Cadle in 1936 as a responsible district official of the CP in Kentucky.

b6
b7C

100-137679-32 p.4

(70)

[redacted] Reading, Ohio, advised that about 1939 or 1940, [redacted] (101-507) and Don West organized a union in London, Kentucky, the purpose of which was to secure greater benefits for persons employed by the WPA* or PWA*. Soon after this union was organized, a trip to Washington, DC was proposed to protest the discontinuation of the WPA and to seek greater benefits for persons employed by the agency. [redacted] West and [redacted] were among the individuals who went to Washington from Kentucky. [redacted] stated that throughout the trip, [redacted] and West discussed union activity but that the union had folded up after the Washington trip.

b6
b7C

*Not identified

101-507-22 p.2

(83)

~~SECRET~~

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This reference is a letter dated 1/30/40, to the Director from Rev. Donald L. West, Christian Fellowship Parish, Bethel, Ohio, regarding "Christian Front" (65-4279). West stated that he was representing seven protestant churches in southern Ohio and they felt that the Government owed it to the people to conduct a thorough investigation of the Charles E. Coughlin activities which threatened our democracy, and they were calling upon the Director to see that such an investigation was carried out.

65-4279-2-94
(14)

These references in the file captioned "William Toliver Cunningham," stated that the June-July, 1940 issue of the "Protestant Digest" contained an article entitled "Slavery Returns to Georgia," by Donald L. West. This article stated that West made a trip to Oglethorpe County, Georgia, to see first hand the struggle against peonage and its operations.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

50-1405-36
42

(134)
(139)

The following references revealed that David Hampton Smith, 3740 Lacey Circle, Blair Village, Atlanta, advised that he had known Donald Lee West since 1941 and that West was known to him as a CP member. West told Smith that the following individuals were members of the CP.

NAME

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-361264-13 p.2

(37,76)

b6
b7C

100-362119-12 p.3

(37,76)

Leah L. Young

100-375721-23 p.2
28 p.5

(38,78)
(38,78)

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~~SECRET~~

John Leslie Posey, owner and operator of the Green Island Cafe, Columbus, Georgia, advised that during the period he knew Alton Anderson Lawrence (100-28120), 1938-41, Lawrence was in close association at one time or another with several individuals including an individual named West, whom Lawrence feels could possibly be Donald Lee West.

100-28120-71 p.3
(30)

On 2/12/41, an anonymous package containing personal letters of Dr. P. O. Schallert (65-15036), together with an address book, personal cards and a quantity of CP literature was received at the Charlotte Office. This material included a letter (set out) to Dr. Schallert on the letterhead of "The League for Southern Labor," 113 West 57th Street, NYC, addressed to "Dear Friend," and signed "Cordially yours, 'The South Today', Helen Joffry." This letter stated in part that the August-September issue of "The South Today," organ of the League for Southern Labor, contained a story entitled "Why Keep Them Alive?" by Don West, author of "Death's a Coat of Many Colors."

Add. info.

65-15036-10 p.57,58
(54)

b2
b7D

According to an Atlanta report dated 2/13/41, [] advised that he believed Martha Stafford of the International Labor Defense (61-7347) office in Atlanta, was the sister of Don West, a notorious communist organizer, and that she was married to Nat Ross, former head of the CP for District # 17. Informant stated that she was presently in the middle west working with Ross for the Party. (S) (U)

[61-7347-63 p.18 (S) (U)
(50)

Correlator's Note: According to the main file of Don West, Nathan Ross married Elsie Ross, aka Janet West Ross, Janet Weaver, Janet Cohan, Johnnie West Ross, sister of Don West.

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As a result of arrangements made with Confidential Informant [redacted] it was possible to secure the wastepaper from the offices of the Civil Rights Federation, 530 Insurance Exchange Building, Detroit. Included in this wastepaper material was a mimeographed sheet entitled, "Ministers Who Have Endorsed the American People's Meeting, April 5-6, 1941." This list contained the name of the Rev. Donald West, Meansville, Ga.

It was noted that the offices of the Civil Rights Federation were also the offices of Reverend Owen A. Knox (100-2870).

100-2870-28X p. 71
(64)

On 5/3/41, L. C. Coffelt, Sheriff of Bent County, Los Animas, Colorado advised the Denver Office that he had secured a copy of "Toil and Hunger" by Don West. He made this book available to the Denver Office.

65-24519-3 p. 2,3
(54)

On 5/8/41, information was received from an unknown outside source at San Francisco, that Boris Israel (100-22746) who completed CP training school in NY, became a CP organizer and was sent South and worked in cooperation with Don West and others.

This source stated that when Don West had to leave Atlanta, it was necessary for Israel who had assumed the name of Peter Caldwell, to leave Alabama and he, Israel, returned to NY. West was reported to have left Atlanta under a truck load of sacks and proceeded to NY, later going to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Israel was reported to have later joined West in Pittsburgh.

100-22746-3
(65)
SI 100-22746-12 p. 2
(65)

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The following references on Don West, CP organizer, appear in the file captioned "Jack Perrila, with aliases Bart Logan." In connection with this investigation information was set out regarding the CP activities of West whose [redacted] was reported to be the mistress of Jack Perrila, with aliases Bart Logan; however, it was determined that [redacted] was the paramour of Bart Hunter Logan, North Carolina CP state secretary, rather than that of Jack Perrila. As of July, 1941, [redacted] was the wife of Bart Hunter Logan. Donald West attended Vanderbilt University where he caused a considerable amount of agitation. In Atlanta, West held meetings in the homes of Negroes and poor white laborers and distributed CP literature. West was Kentucky state organizer for the "Workers Alliance of America" and contributed articles quite extensively to the "DW". West was also CP state organizer in Kentucky, was active in the APM at Bethel, Ohio, and posed as a pastor of the Meansville Congregational Christian Church, Meansville, Ga., where he disseminated CP literature. b6 b7C

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

98-8937-15 p. 1,3-5
23 p. 1,2,4,5
28X p. 1
30 p. 1,2,5,6
33 p. 1,2

(14,554)
(5,554)
(54)
(54)
(54)

According to a Charlotte, NC, report dated 7/8/41, a mail cover maintained on E. E. Ericson (100-18547) revealed that Ericson received mail from the Meansville Parish, Donald L. West, Pastor, Box 27, Meansville, Ga.

100-18547-7 p. 6
(184)

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b7D

[redacted] the Insurance Exchange Building (protect identity), made available the wastepaper from the offices of the Civil Rights Federation (61-10149) located in the above building. The wastepaper for 7/18/41 included a mimeographed sheet entitled, "Ministers Who Have Endorsed the American People's Meeting, April 5-6, 1941," which contained the name of Rev. Donald West, Meansville, Ga.

61-10149-24 p. 71
(4)

An examination of the cancelled checks of Jessie Lloyd O'Connor (100-35340) from March to August, 1941, at the Winnetka Trust and Savings Bank, Winnetka, Illinois, revealed numerous checks made payable to various individuals including \$5 to Donald West.

100-35340-26 p. 6
(8)

The "New Masses" for 8/12/41, contained an article concerning Sam Hall, editor of the "Southern News Almanac," Birmingham. This article stated in part that this paper featured a column entitled "Awakening Church," by Reverend Don West. According to this article, for the past several weeks this column has been devoted to the fight against peonage on Georgia plantations.

61-180-A "New Masses," 8/12/41
(49)

As a result of a mail cover placed on Don L. West, Meansville, Ga., it was ascertained that Hedwig S. Kuhn (100-262600) wrote a letter to West postmarked 8/14/41.

It was noted that West had written two books of poetry entitled, "Toil and Hunger" and "Crab Grass." In one of his poems in the book, "Toil and Hunger," he began as follows: "Listen...I am an agitator. They call me a Red, the color of blood,...Bolshevik."

100-262600-1 p. 3
(33)

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A Bureau letter to the Louisville, Ky., office dated 8/18/41, disclosed that a review of Bureau files revealed that Clifton Willis (100-39375) was alleged to be one of the individuals in charge of District #23 of the CP headquarters at Louisville and was closely associated with Paul Kellog, Don West and Dorothy Straws, CP members in that area.

100-39375-1
(67)

b7D

According to a Charlotte report dated 8/27/41, [redacted] Charlotte, (protect identity) advised that when Mike and Anne Ross resided at 313 West Eleventh St., Charlotte, they had in their possession several books, one of which was "Toil and Hunger," a collection of poems by Don West, Meansville, Ga.

Add. info.

100-3587-244 p. 14,15
(61)

On 12/12/41 the Chicago Office transmitted lists of communists, Italians and miscellaneous suspects which were received from ONI. The list containing the communist suspects included Donald West, Bethel, Ohio.

100-2-2946 p. 172,184
(5)

On 1/5/42 Myles Horton, Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn., (100-11615) advised that the Highlander Folk School was started by Mrs. Lillian Johnson in 1932 and that he, together with Don West were the principal organizers of the program. Horton stated that West had been a communist and had moved from the school because of certain differences in the program.

100-11615-9 p. 3,4
(63)
SI 65-34416-144 p. 1,2
(54) (Files of Knoxville Office)

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b7D

[redacted] Hawaii (protect identity), advised that Dr. Alva Wilmont Taylor (100-403941) was known as a Socialist and a bit of a radical. He was interested in people and the CP looked toward him as one who would be sympathetic toward their endeavors. According to the informant, Dr. Taylor had a list of 15 or 20 younger men in whom he had a personal interest. The men were described by informant as "young radicals" who spread around and move a great deal. He named one of these men as Don West.

Joel Matthews on 1/20/42 advised that he knew Donald Lee West to be a communist in Atlanta, and that Dr. Alva Taylor of Nashville was responsible for converting West to communism.

Add. info.

100-403941-2 p. 4,5
(39,80)

On 3/22/42 a mass meeting was held at the Church of God in Christ, Birmingham, sponsored by the Citizens' Committee of Smithfield (100-111389), a committee organized to protest the shooting of George Lindsay, Negro, by Romero L. Whorton, Birmingham druggist. Reverend Don West was among the speakers at this meeting. West highly endorsed the work of the Southern Negro Youth Congress and the CIO.

b2
b7D

It was noted that West was formerly associated with the "Southern News Almanac," a radical weekly newspaper publication in Birmingham, as a columnist.

100-111389-1 p. 1,4,5
(70)

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Robert Fowler Hall (100-7219) maintained a bank account under the name R. F. Hall at Steiner Brothers Bank, Birmingham. Records of deposits since the opening of the account on 12/22/41 were made available. These records revealed that on 4/29/42 a check in the amount \$16 was drawn by Mike Ross on the First National Bank (place not given), and endorsed by D. L. West and R. Hall. (Confidential informant E, not further identified)

100-7219-40 p. 6
(94)

On 7/14/42 Robert M furnished a report pertaining to the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, (100-1170), which contained a list of names on the appeal to President Roosevelt to block AG Biddle from deporting Harry Bridges. This appeal was circulated under the sponsorship of the (communist controlled) National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. The list contained the name of Reverend Donald L. West, Cartersville, Ga.

Above list enclosed
100-1170-201 encl. p. 4
(16)

On 7/21/42 George Bugby, New York City, advised that the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties started an open petition which was sent directly to President Roosevelt concerning the Harry Bridges deportation case. This letter demanding the President to allow Bridges to remain in the US was signed only by the higher bracket comrades of CP members and fellow travelers such as church leaders, Labor leaders, Government officials and writers, who thought that communism, Stalin, Harry Bridges and a second front were the proper things to become part of a new order in the US. Signers of this letter included Reverend Donald L. West, Cartersville, Ga.

39-915-2051 p. 23
(12)

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This reference is a copy of a Counter-Intelligence Estimate issued by the Army Contact Office, G-2, MID, Honolulu, T. H., for the period August 1-15, 1942. This document stated that during the past several months a new method of communist courier service had been used. Clever communist comrades active in organizations in the US, have been placed on ships under jurisdiction of the National Maritime Union. In their new capacities they not only could handle messages but also make intelligent observations on conditions at various ports and coasts. It was reported that high CP officials in America, such as Reverend Don L. West, were acting in this capacity. ~~(S)~~

100-7660-675 encl. p. 1
(88)

On 10/21/42 MID furnished a report concerning the names of various individuals who were reported to be engaged in un-American activities. These names included Reverend Don L. West, whose last known addresses were Meansville, Ga., Louisville, Ky., and Fairfield, Ohio. According to this report, West was a CP member connected with the communist courier system. ~~(S)~~

100-42328-198 encl. p. 19
(88)

The following references in the file captioned "Cominfil of Oil Workers Union (Oil Workers Organizing Campaign) CIO" file # 100-105795, set out information concerning the activities of Lester Clyde Johnson and Don West. Johnson was one of the communists who worked with Reverend Don West, who, as of March, 1943, was in the National Maritime Union working as a seaman and at the same time acting as a courier for the E.C.C.I. (not identified) of the communist International.

SERIAL

46 p. 1
60 encl. p. 1
96 p. 2

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

(70)
(70)
(70)

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According to a Knoxville report dated 3/21/43, Alva Lyle De Jarnette (100-189311) stated that Don West was a Congregational minister with a big chip on his shoulder. He stated that West was a great agitator against all systems, although he offered no constructive program. West felt deeply about social injustices in the present order. DeJarnette did not know if West was a communist and he believed that West was residing on his farm in Carrolton, Ga., although he was not sure of this. It was believed that West had calmed down in recent years and was not the wild and wooly agitator he once was.

100-189311-2 p. 6,7
(71)

ONI furnished a copy of a memorandum prepared by ONI entitled "Communist Courier Activity" dated 12/14/44. This memo contained a list of individuals engaged in communist courier activities and revealed that Reverend Don West was in the National Maritime Union working as a seaman and acting as a courier for the Executive Committee of the Communist International, 4/16/43. ~~(S)~~

61-771-80 encl. p. 64
(50)

The Postmaster, Monteagle, Tenn., advised that mail for Harold Preece (100-17319) had been received at that post office since the summer of 1943 and had been delivered with the Highlander Folk School mail. Preece had been residing at the Highlander Folk School but had recently arranged to rent a house near Monteagle. Mail being held for Preece at that time included a letter postmarked 11/25/43, Lula, Ga., for D. L. West, Superintendent, Lula Public Schools.

100-17319-20 p. 2
(94)

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Paul Crouch, former CP member, advised that Don West was an ordained minister and that during 1934 and 1935 was District Trade Director of the CP in North and South Carolina.

A Bureau Agent advised that George S. Mitchell, prior to 1944, was in contact with Donald West, and personally contributed \$5 to West for use in an unknown campaign.

Dan D. Rosenfelder, Director of Public Safety, Miami, advised that George S. Mitchell, was Regional Director, CIO Political Action Committee, Atlanta.

Add. info.

140-9865-6 p. 5

(11)

SI 138-1476-7 p. 3

(11,100) (Add. info.)

SI 123-14888-28 p. 4

(11,100)

This reference captioned "John Ernest Jones, was.," sets out information concerning the association and activities of this individual with Don L. West, member of the CP. Jones was a close associate of West, attended meetings at a Lula, Ga., school held by West concerning equal rights for Negroes and other minority groups. Jones distributed copies of a book written by West, entitled "Clods of Southern Earth." West formed an organization called "Farmers Union" and Jones attended these meetings and backed West in his ideals and ideas. In 1944 Jones and West organized several farmers near Lula, Ga., for the alleged purpose of obtaining better prices for products they had to sell. Jones set out a statement regarding his association with West.

100-376485-1 p. 1,4-6,8,10-15,17,18
(79,88,95)

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Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Jones, who owned and operated a grocery store at Lula, Ga., advised that Waldemar Bruno Hille (100-332075), visited in the home of Donald Lee West at Lula, Ga., for approximately three or four months beginning January, 1944. In introducing Hille, West stated that Hille was a school teacher on leave from his school. Hille attended the Baptist church in Lula, with West. Mrs. Jones produced a letterhead of the Lula Public Schools which revealed that West was superintendent.

Mrs. James R. Farmer, Secretary, Personnel Department, Pacolet Manufacturing Company, New Holland, Ga., produced information contained in Hille's personnel file which stated that Hille was brought to this company by Donald West. West, in a letter dated 1/22/44, addressed to B. R. Turnipseed Personnel Director, advised that Hille was on leave from Elmhurst College and was in Lula, Ga., teaching music. West had met Hille at Vanderbilt College, Nashville, Tenn., and had invited him to visit West at Lula.

100-332075-3 p. 1,2
(34)
SI to para. 1
100-332075-5 p. 1
(34)

On 2/3/44 a highly confidential source made available papers and address books in the apartment occupied by Nathan Cohen and Johnnie Elsie Cohen in NYC. The names and telephone numbers in the address books of the Cohens included the following: ~~(S)~~ (U)

"Don Lula, Ga., 1935 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta" ~~(S)~~ (U)

It was noted that Don of Lula, Ga., was probably Don West, brother of Johnnie Elsie Cohen. ~~(S)~~ (U)

100-203581-1825 p. 94 ~~(S)~~ (U)
(72)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

An Atlanta memo dated 3/2/44 revealed that an examination of the files of George S. Mitchell, 75 Ivy Street, Atlanta, disclosed a letter from one Don West which letter appeared to be personal in nature and referred to the organizing of farmers and other persons in the vicinity of Lula, Ga. The letter did not appear to be an official letter between the PAC, CIO (57-407) and Don West.

It was noted that George S. Mitchell was regional director of the PAC, CIO.

57-407-84 p. 1
(49)

An unknown outside source advised on 6/7/44, that Arthur Miller (100-333798) was among the individuals who supported Don West, who was sued for libel in Georgia. This informant stated that West formerly was district organizer of the CP in Kentucky.

100-333798-6 p. 24,25
(73)

During the latter part of July, 1944, a Special Agent of the Atlanta Office who was conducting an investigation of the CIO PAC, in the case entitled PAC, CIO War Labor Disputes Act, advised that there was correspondence in the files of the PAC for Region #8 which indicated that George Sinclair Mitchell (100-334113), director of Region #8, had corresponded on several occasions with Donald L. West of Lula, Ga. According to informant, it was apparent from this correspondence that West was personally known to Mitchell and one letter had referred to a visit West had with Mitchell in Atlanta. It also appeared that West was acquainted with Mitchell's brother who resided in the vicinity of the home of West.

It was noted that West was considered a key figure in the communist movement by the Atlanta Office.

100-334113-1 p. 2
(20)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

A mail cover placed on the mail delivered to Hardy Lee Scott (61-7617) at Post Office Box #889, Asheville, NC, revealed that Scott received a letter from D. L. West, Superintendent, Lula Public School, Lula, Ga., postmarked 7/4/44.

61-7617-112 p. 4
(94)

According to an Atlanta report dated 11/30/44, Donald Lee West recently stated at a joint meeting of the Ford and Ruthenberg Branches of the CPA, Atlanta, that Josephine Wilkins was "a good communist." (No source)

A highly confidential source who had access to the records of the Citizens Fact Finding Committee, Forsyth Street Building, Atlanta, (protect identity), advised that Josephine Wilkins was secretary of the Citizens Fact Finding Committee.

100-334113-2 p. 1
(34)

The 6/11/34 issue of the "DW" contained an article entitled "Hounded By Georgia Terror, Don West Fights For Herndon and Atlanta Six." This article stated in part that less than six years ago, there came to the "DW" a copy of a small booklet of poems "Between the Plow Handles" by Don West. The poems were folk-songs and hill chants. The article also stated that West was being sought on a charge of "insighting to insurrection." The charge concerning West was based on his "unflogging" organizational work, his frequent street meeting speeches and talks at meetings - his genuine communist work.

Louis F. Budenz, former editor of the "DW" (protect identity) advised that in 1945 Don West was at the NYC office of the "DW" for the purpose of reviewing some files, and that the CP headquarters of NYC permitted West to review these files because he was known to CP headquarters as a CP member.

Add. info.

100-331834-119 p. 8,9
(34,72)
SI 100-331834-149 p. 7,8
(34,72) (Add. info.)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On 8/19/44 Freda Brown (100-422175) furnished a personal history statement to the District Intelligence Office (DIO), Third Naval District, NYC, and listed as a reference Donald Lee West, Lula, Ga., known ten years.

b2
b7D

[] advised that he first met West in approximately 1944-1945. West went to CP headquarters, NYC, infrequently on Party business and was looked upon by Party leaders as a comrade who had the ability to "straighten out" difficult Party problems, and he was considered a valuable member of the Party. (S) (U)

[100-422175-1 p. 8 (S) (U)
(39)]

A Weekly Intelligence Summary of the Army Service Forces, dated 2/17/45, disclosed that in Lula, Ga., Donald Lee West, known communist, had publicly denounced communism in Lula, where he was active in civic, religious and educational affairs. It was believed his action was intended to deceive local people who might think he was engaged in un-American activities. The Superintendent of Education stated that West's un-American tendencies were known to the Board of Education and that he probably would not be re-elected superintendent of Lula schools at the expiration of the present school year. (S)

100-7660-2760 p. 2
(28)

A Military Weekly Intelligence Summary report dated 5/26/45 revealed that on 5/18/45 it was announced that Donald Lee West, superintendent of local schools of Lula, Ga., and a known communist, had been awarded a Julius Rosenwald Fund fellowship. (S)

100-7660-3022 p. 2
(28)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[redacted] on 5/22/45 furnished a copy of a pamphlet entitled "Equal Justice Under Law," which was being distributed by the Committee for Equal Justice for Mrs. Recy Taylor (100-341902), for the purpose of publicizing the Recy Taylor case.

The pamphlet contained a list of officers and sponsors for the Committee which included Reverend Donald L. West as a sponsor from Georgia.

It was noted that Recy Taylor was assaulted by a gang of white youths on 9/3/44 near Abbeville, Alabama.

100-341902-2 p. 16
(20)

The PIAR held revival meetings at the Metropolitan Community Church, 41st and South Park, Chicago, from August 20 to 31, 1945. Principal speakers included Dr. Donald West. The purpose of the revival was stated as being to organize a "peoples' church" which would be headed by an individual from both the Negro and white race with ministers of many nationalities participating. (CGO-5012)

100-135-9-173 p. 6
(6)

b7D

[redacted]
[redacted] Robert D. Field (protect identity), advised that Robert Durant Field (100-188819) was a friend of William Vitarelli, formerly with the West Georgia College at Genola, Ga. On 12/6/45 Vitarelli wrote to Field on a letterhead of Teachers College, Columbia University, NY, stating that a number of people there were thinking of Field when they spoke of the need for some action in getting a community school idea started. He stated that Don West and others whom Field had met in West Georgia, had been talking about this since September and they wanted to find out what Field thought of the possibilities. Field answered Vitarelli by stating that it would be necessary to talk over the problems at length.

Add. info.

100-188819-43 p. 6,7,20,22
(32,71)
SI 121-37330-9 p. 1,1A,2,3,7
(11,41,85) (Add. info.)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Benjamin Franklin Harris, 119 $\frac{1}{2}$ Madison Street, Dublin, Ga., advised that he had known John Ernest Jones (121-8306) since 1923 or 1924. During the period 1943 to 1945 while Don West was principal of the Lula High School, he had heard from rumors and town talk that Jones was closely associated with West, and even after West left Lula he had occasionally visited Jones in Lula. Harris stated he recalled hearing that a number of books of poetry of which West was the author were stored at the Lula Post Office. It was believed that these books were for sale and possibly Jones was selling them. Harris advised that he considered Jones a good friend and together with Luther Thompson of Lula, he had questioned Jones concerning these books. Jones had resented this visit stating that he was not violating any postal regulations. Harris stated that Luther Thompson and H. O. Tate, former member of the Lula School Board, who assisted him in writing a letter to the Post Office Department concerning the books, were familiar with the association between Jones and West.

On one occasion during 1946, Harris saw West in the Lula Post Office talking to Jones.

121-8306-10 p. 1-3
(84)

A highly confidential informant learned that Edward Groff Conklin (100-4381) had in his possession on December 10, 11, 1947, numerous letters, business names and telephone numbers which included a letter undated, apparently written in 1945 to Conklin from Henrietta Buckmaster, a very close friend of both Mr. and Mrs. Conklin. This letter stated that Jay (Deiss) had told her that he, Deiss, had spent some time describing to Conklin the work Don West was doing with three public schools in Georgia, and that the implications of the work were tremendous and far reaching.

West was undoubtedly identical with Donald Lee West who as of April, 1948, was a professor at Oglethorpe University, Oglethorpe, Ga., and who had written numerous communist articles and was believed to be a CP member. West was known to have been in contact with CP leaders in Georgia and on 1/4/46, West was observed by Bureau agents entering an office at 55 West 42nd St., NYC, occupied by Earl Browder. He was later observed in the presence of Browder.

100-4381-57 p. 50
(28,61)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to a Military Weekly Intelligence Summary report dated 1/25/46, it was recently revealed that Donald L. West was among the active officers or sponsors of the communist influenced PIAR. West was listed as a communist suspect. ~~(S)~~

100-7660-3699 p. 3
(17)

The following references in the file captioned "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was., etal", 65-56402, set out information concerning the activities of Don West, described as an associate of Cedric Belfrage, one of the subjects of this file. West, an active communist in Georgia, was attending Columbia University in NYC and was in contact with Cedric and Molly Belfrage on various occasions. In January, 1946, Belfrage, West and Claude Williams of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion, met with Earl Browder in Browder's office in NYC. On 1/7/46 information was made available that Molly Belfrage had discussed the impending appearance of West before a group meeting and stated that West was attending teachers College, Columbia University, preliminary to his returning to Georgia to run for Congress against Congressman Woods of the re-organized Dies Committee. West was in contact with Dr. Abraham Benedict Weinstein at 20 East 53rd St., NYC in February, 1946. ~~(S)~~ (U)

SERIAL

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(4,25,54)
(54)
(25)
(14,54)
(5,25,54)
(5)
(25)
(2)
(55)
(55)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On 5/10/46 the NY Office made available the first section of an album which contained the photographs, descriptions, and brief statements of the activities and modus operandi of known and suspected Soviet agents. (S) (U)

This album contained the photograph and description of Cedric Henning Belfrage, whose principal contacts included Donald Lee West. (S) (U)

[100-342424-7 encl. p. 76 (S) (U)
(34)]

NYT-352 advised that on 1/3/46 Claude Williams of the IAR told Cedric Henning Belfrage (100-34463) that he had received a telegram from Donald Lee West indicating that they were going to meet an individual who was later identified as Earl Browder on the following day at 55 West 42nd St., NYC. (S) (U)

On 1/4/46 Cedric Belfrage was observed emerging from the building at 55 West 42nd St., NYC, accompanied by Earl Browder, Donald Lee West and an individual believed to be Mrs. Earl Browder. (Fisur)

NYT-350 advised that on 1/21/46 West was at the office of Dr. A. B. Weinstein, 20 East 53rd St., NYC. (S) (U)

Cedric Belfrage advised that in the spring or early summer of 1946, when Claude Williams and Donald West were in NYC, he accompanied them on a visit to Earl Browder, whose office was located on 42nd Street. Belfrage stated they wanted to find out what Browder had to say concerning his recent expulsion from the CP. (S) (U)

NYT-352 stated that West was on sabbatical leave from a school at Lula, Ga., where he was Superintendent of Schools and that he was attending Teachers College at Columbia University. (S) (U)

The records at Teachers College, Columbia University, revealed that West was a student at this college and that he resided at Furnald Hall at this university and was studying "Guided Professional Development."

[100-34463-5 p. 16,17,24 (S) (U)
(7,30)
SI 123-2965-6 p. 10
(41) (NY Files)
SI 100-356041-90 p. 4,5
(36,75) (NY Files)]

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Dudley W. Reynolds, 126 Barksdale Drive, NE, Atlanta, advised that about June, 1946, while conversing with Kendall Weisiger (121-28916), Weisiger stated that he had made a speech at the Lula High School, Lula, Ga., at the request of Donald Lee West, while West was principal of that school, and that as a result of Weisiger's speech, West had been discharged. Weisiger claimed to have arranged and obtained a position for West as professor at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta.

Dr. Philip Weltner, President, Oglethorpe University, advised that West had contacted him during the summer of 1946 concerning employment and that he had employed West as a professor at the University in view of his past teaching record and the fact that he was a graduate of Oglethorpe. Weltner stated that no one had influenced him in giving West a position.

Frank Pirkle, Manager, Pirkle Feed and Poultry Company, Lula, Ga., advised that he was a board member of the local trustees of the Lula High School during the time West was employed as principal there. Pirkle stated that although West had been re-elected for another year as principal, he voluntarily resigned to accept a scholarship offered by an unknown benefactor.

121-28916-18 p. 3

(41)

SI to para. 1

100-357362-4 p. 4

(36)

This reference is a copy of the "Kapustkan" magazine (94-3-4-1016) dated August, 1946, edited and published by Bruce and Stan Lee Kapustka. This magazine included a book review of "Clods of Southern Earth" by Don West as written by Stan Lee Kapustka. Kapustka stated that in West's volume of vital verse "Clods of Southern Earth," you could see a new spirit in the South, a burning realization that democracy must and will live in the South.

94-3-4-1016-8 p. 15

(55)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

A mail cover placed on Laurent Brown Frantz (100-20023) on 6/10/46, at 101 Bowling Street, Nashville, revealed that on 8/3/46 Frantz received a package of books from D. West, Oglethorpe University, Georgia.

100-20023-66 p. 2
(92)

ND-426 advised that a letter dated 8/25/46 from Tilman Cadle, Star Route, Townsend, Tenn., had been received at the building located at 35 E. 12th St., NYC, which building was occupied by "Freedom of the Press, Inc.," and other organizations, all under the control of the CP. This letter concerned the misappropriation of CP funds by Don West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

On 8/8/50 Paul Crouch, 10421 NW 33 Ave., Miami, advised that Tilman Cadle was unknown to him, but that he had heard Don West mention Cadle in 1936 as a responsible district official of the CP in Kentucky.

116-360689-9 p. 4,5,9
(83)

The "Bookshopper" dated September, 1946, a publication of the Washington Bookshop Association (100-24699), listed among its book dividend selections the following title: "Clods of Southern Earth" by Don West.

The "Bookshopper" carried a book review of "Clods of Southern Earth," by John Beecher in which he described the author as the son of a Georgia sharecropper whose book of poems was both a powerful indictment of the system which broke and killed his father and a moving appeal to all Southerners, white and black, to unite and build a South where free men might live.

100-24699-116 p. 1,2
(66)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to a Memphis report dated 10/4/46, the results of a mail cover maintained on Mary Lou Koger's (100-387439) former address revealed that she had received several letters recently bearing the postmark of Blue Ridge, Ga., and the return address, "D. W.," Blue Ridge. This probably referred to Donald West.

It was noted that Koger's former address was 1910 Church St., Nashville.

100-387439-28 p. 3
(10)

A mail cover which was maintained on both the business and residence address of Mary Lou Koger (100-387439) was discontinued on 11/15/46, at which time it had been noted that she had received mail on numerous occasions from D. S. West, General Delivery, Northside Branch, Atlanta, Ga. This individual was presumably Donald West who had long been active in CP affairs in Georgia.

100-387439-33 p. 2
(10,105)

b2
b7D

[] advised that Karl Robert Korstead, Business Agent, local #19, FTAA-CIO (100-21497), attended the Regional Southern Conference for Human Welfare held in New Orleans, La., November 28-30, 1946, and that during nominations for executive board members, Korstead nominated Don West, a communist from Georgia.

100-21497-571 p. 7
(65)

David Hampton Smith, 3740 Lacey Circle, Atlanta, advised that he had known Donald Lee West since 1941 and that he knew West as a CP member.

b2
b7D

[] advised that Annie Mae Leathers (100-20363) was associated with West in connection with CP meetings and activities.

(continued)

(U)

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

[] a highly confidential source, advised that 1947 CP card no. 96336 was issued to Don West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

b2
b7D

[] advised that Leathers was closely associated with West and William Wright Stafford. All of these persons were associated with a movement to support the PPP of Georgia. This informant also stated that Stafford was a constant associate of Homer Bates Chase and Don West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

100-20363-26 p. 5,7,8
(29,65)
SI to para. 1
100-20363-29 p. 4
(29,65)

According to a WFO memo dated 1/14/47, a brochure made available to WFO revealed that the New Century Publishers, Inc., 832 Broadway, NYC, was publishing a literary quarterly to be known as "Mainstream" (100-354634). This quarterly was to be a Marxist literary quarterly and the Editorial Board included Don West. West was also among the individuals who would prepare poems for the ensuing issues of this publication.

100-354634-X p. 2,3
(74)
SI 100-354634-A "The Worker," 9/22/46
(74)

On 1/24/47 a meeting was held at the Washington Cooperative Bookshop, 916 17th St., NW, Washington, DC. This meeting was held for the purpose of hearing Don West give the inside story of Tennessee and Georgia. West was a professor in the English Department, Oglethorpe University, Oglethorpe, Ga. He was a former ordained minister and a former superintendent of county schools in Georgia. West graduated from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. ~~(S)~~

As of 1/31/47, West was being sued for libel because of a poem entitled "Harlan County - 1934." (Military Intelligent Report dated 1/31/47 - 100-7660) ~~(S)~~

100-7660-4314X encl. p. 3,4
(61)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On 2/4/47 Homer Chase and Donald Lee West were observed to leave the Butler Street YMCA, Atlanta, Ga., and proceed in Chase's automobile to the Frances Hotel, 343 Peachtree St., Atlanta. Robert E. Hawkes and James Williams (100-180466) also left the Butler Street YMCA in Hawkes' automobile and proceeded to the Frances Hotel. Both cars stopped in front of the hotel where they met Max Morris Weiss and then proceeded to the home of Donald West on Faculty Row near Oglethorpe University. Later that evening these men left the West home and proceeded to downtown Atlanta. (Fisur)

It was noted that Chase was State Chairman, CP District #31, Atlanta, and Hawkes was Port Agent, National Maritime Union, CIO, Savannah. Max Weiss was a member of the CP, USA National Committee.

Add. info.

100-180466-16X p. 2,3
(8,32)

On 2/6/47 Homer Chase and Max Weiss met Donald West and other individuals at the Old Wheat Street Baptist Church, Auburn Ave. and Young St., Atlanta, where they had attended a meeting of the NAACP.

Subsequent to this meeting, Weiss left the church in the automobile of West. They proceeded in the general direction of the West residence.

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

On 2/7/47 Weiss was observed at the Federal Annex Post Office in Atlanta, in the company of Donald West and Homer Chase. All three men then proceeded to the Municipal Airport, Atlanta, where they were observed in close conversation in the waiting room at the airport. Chase and West then left in Chase's automobile. Weiss remained at the airport where he boarded a plane.

Add. info.

Fisur
100-28005-89 p. 1-4
(7,30)

b2
b7D

[] advised that the Southern Negro Youth Congress held an emergency conference in Atlanta on 2/28/47 and 3/1/47. This conference was called for the purpose of criticizing the white primary law which had just been passed by the Georgia Legislature and signed by Herman Talmadge. The principal speaker at this conference was Donald Lee West, reported communist from Atlanta, who read a speech entitled "Georgia's Crisis." (S) (U)

100-135-2-169 p. 4
(27)

On 3/7/47 Homer B. Chase, CP District Organizer, Mary Boggs Southard (100-9673) and Nathan Ross, member of the CP National Committee, attended a meeting at 472 Tattnell St., SW, Atlanta, after which these individuals proceeded in Chase's automobile to the home of Donald Lee West (address not given).

Add. info.

Fisur
100-9673-138 p. 2
(28)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The "DW" dated 3/20/47 contained an article entitled "Don West Benefit Performance Friday." This article stated that on 3/21/47 the People's Culture Union of America would hold a benefit preview performance to raise money to help Don West, who was being sued for \$10,000 in a trumped-up libel charge by reactionary forces in the South.

100-342740-A "DW" 3/20/47
(73)

b2
b7D

[] advised that on 3/26/47 Homer Bates Chase and Dr. Ellwood Grant Boddie (100-311873) and another individual held a meeting at Boddie's office, 308 Auburn Ave., Atlanta. Boddie and Chase gave the third individual a number of copies of a leaflet which contained a speech of Don West entitled "Georgia's Crisis." The speech set forth in this leaflet had been delivered by West over radio station WATL, Atlanta, on 2/5/47 and dealt with the then proposed Roy Harris White Primary Bill which was designed to prevent Negroes from voting in Georgia Democratic Primaries. (S) (U)

It was noted that Homer Bates Chase was district organizer of the CP in Georgia.

Add. info.

100-311873-9 p. 2
(72)

The "DW" of 3/28/47 revealed that "The Committee to Defend Don West" was formed during that week by leading American authors. It was stated that West, a Southern poet and progressive, was being sued for libel in Georgia. The article stated that Eve Merriam (100-371051) was the Committee's executive secretary and contributions toward the defense of West was to be sent to Merriam in care of Contemporary Writers, Hotel Albert, 65 University Place, NYC.

100-371051-2 p. 9
(77)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

This reference captioned "People's Culture Union of America, aka, Great Concord Publishers," set out information concerning the activities of Don West, an assistant editor of Great Concord Publishers. West was one of the fifty-two labor writers who contributed to the new publication "Answer from the West." The above organization was seeking to secure funds for the defense of West, who was being sued for \$10,000 in connection with his book, "Clods of Southern Earth." Frank Volney, President of the People's Culture Union of America, requested Mac Weiss, CP National Education Director, to secure publicity on the attack on West as well as publicity for the benefit of West scheduled for 3/8/47. The "DW" issue of 3/29/47 stated that the People's Culture Union of America was seeking to establish an inter-racial theatre in Harlem and planned to produce "Soldier for Freedom" and "Clods of Southern Earth" by West.

100-342740-10 p. 1,3,4,7,8,17
(73)

According to a Birmingham report dated 4/3/47, TS-11 advised that Esther Victoria Cooper Jackson (100-402509) had received a communication from Don West which advised that West had to pay out \$300 on a suit that was brought against him, and indicated that the Southern Negro Youth Congress had purchased 500 books and he wished them to pay him 50¢ each for the books. (U)

100-402509-30 p. 6
(80)

On 2/27/47 William Stafford spent the afternoon in the company of Homer B. Chase, CP District Organizer, and Donald Lee West. (Fisur)

It was noted that Stafford was field representative of the United Public Workers of America, CIO (100-344835). b2 b7D

[] advised that on 4/5/47 Stafford was invited by West to speak to an organization of teachers from the northern part of Georgia on 4/12/47. This meeting was to be held at Decatur, Ga., and Stafford was to explain to the teachers what the CIO had to offer. (S)

Add. info. (U)

100-344835-2-4 p. 1,2,3
(34,73)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

ND-426 advised on 5/15/47 that aid was being furnished by Zero Mostel (100-209341) and others to the People's Cultural Union of America in its fight to defend Don West from a libel suit brought by Southern Fascists. (S) (U)

100-209341-14 p. 5
(72)

ND-426 on 5/15/47 furnished a letter bearing the signature of L. Barth and bearing the name Lawrence Barth (Edward Lindemann) (100-29334) at the top of this letter together with the address 58 Morton St., NYC. This letter was apparently directed to Mike Gold, a writer for the "DW." The letter requested aid for People's Cultural Union of America, in its fight to defend Don West from a libel suit. Barth also noted that on March 21,* a dramatization of the poems of Don West and a poetic drama, "Soldier for Freedom," by Frank Volney, would be held. The proceeds of this were to go to the West Legal Aid Fund. (S) (U)

100-29334-12 p. 7
(67)

*1947 or 1948.

According to a news article in "The Worker" dated 5/18/47, the Committee to Aid the Fighting South (100-350643) had been organized in NYC. This article stated that the committee which was to be a permanent body, was engaged in a campaign to raise \$10,000 by 6/1/47, to aid the CP activities in the South which included assistance in the defense of Don West against a trumped up libel suit.

100-350643-2 p. 3
(74)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

An unknown outside source who furnished information concerning CP activities in the NY area on 6/7/47, advised that James Langston Hughes (100-15139) was one of a "few well-known, highbrow intellectual Reds who were backing Don West, a communist preacher in Georgia."

100-15139-51 p. 3
(63)

On 6/28/47 the Birmingham Office advised that Claude Clossie Williams, founder and director of the PIAR, Birmingham, was known to be a close friend of Don West, prominent communist writer.

65-11750-88 p. 3
(53)

On 7/7/47 the NY Office was advised by an unknown outside source that the name of Jeremiah C. Ingersoll (100-420290) appeared on a list of well-known "highbrow intellectual reds" who were backing Don West who was being sued by Charlie Lewallen for libel for mentioning his name in a poem that West had written.

Add. info.

100-420290-14 p. 2
(82)

b2
b7D

[] advised that Donald L. West stated on 12/29/43 that he had attended a meeting with representatives of the Ruthenberg and Ford Branches of the CP in Atlanta. West was reported to have stated that he had just returned to Atlanta from Monteagle, Tenn., where he had been in contact with Robert F. Hall, Secretary of District 17, CP, Birmingham. Hall told West to meet with party members in Atlanta and give them information about a "spy" in the CP in Georgia. (S) (U)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

(continued)

[] stated that West added it had been determined that one Frank McAllister of Atlanta was the "spy" who was attempting to get information about the CP for the FBI. West further reported that Josephine Mathewson Wilkins was very friendly with McAllister and was watching him for the CP. At-85 questioned West as to Wilkins' connection with the CP and West replied that she was a good communist. (U) (S)

[] Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta (protect identity), advised in November, 1944 that Wilkins was in frequent contact with Don West. b7D

AT-1324 advised on 10/2/47 that Wilkins was associated with West in setting up the plans and program for the PPP in the state of Georgia. (S) (U)

Add. info.

138-918-12 p. 13,14,16,17
(11,22,100)
SI to para. 2
133-216-4 p. 8
(42)
SI 100-15613-42 p. 1,10
(18,29,64) (Add. info.)
SI 121-44539-4 p. 1,1A
(41)
SI 100-104989-13 p. 1
(19)

AT-1324-S* advised that on 10/10/47 an individual named Peter Price (121-43392) was in contact with Donald Lee West, and indicated that he had been sent to Georgia and would be in Atlanta for several months. (S) (U)

Add. info.

121-43392-37 p. 1,1A
(41,85)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT-1324 advised that Donald L. West was quite interested in the situation at Loganville, Ga., concerning the burning of two Negro churches and the Negro school at Loganville. ~~(S)~~ (U)

According to this informant, West had a long discussion with the Reverend I. J. Domas, pastor of the Unitarian-Universalist Church, Atlanta, on 12/16/47 after Domas had made a trip to Loganville. West stated that he would like to go to Loganville and wondered how he could obtain information concerning the burning of the above buildings. Domas suggested that West contact the editor of the "Atlanta Daily World," Negro newspaper, and the Reverend W. H. Borders of the Wheat Street Baptist Church, Atlanta, since they seemed to have all the facts. ~~(S)~~ (U)

44-1799-12 p. 1-3
(3,124)

AT-1324 advised that Don West attended a Wallace Meeting* in Chicago, on 12/29/47, and that his expenses were paid by the SCHW. ~~(S)~~ (U) 211.

65-29474-22 p. 5
(244)

*Possibly a Henry Wallace for President meeting.

AT-1324 advised on 12/31/47 that Joy Hume Falk, wife of Dr. Leslie Alan Falk (121-8217), was in frequent contact with Donald Lee West. According to the informant, Joy Hume Falk contacted West and Clark H. Foreman in connection with the Wallace-for-President movement. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Add. info.

121-8217-1X15 p. 1,1a,7
(96)
SI 121-8217-1X16 p. 1,2,7
(40,84) (Add. info.)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT-1324 advised that Clark Foreman invited Donald West to attend a meeting in Chicago on 12/29/47. Informant stated that West did attend the meeting and his expenses were paid from funds of the Alabama Chapter of the SCHW. ~~(S)~~ (U)

David Hampton Smith, 3740 Lacey Circle, Blair Village, Atlanta, gave a signed statement in which he stated that Donald Lee West told him in 1948 that Clark Foreman was a member of the CP.

According to AT-1324, AT-1331 and AT-1338, Clark Foreman made a number of trips to Georgia in 1947-48 in connection with the Wallace For President movement, and in this regard was in contact with Donald West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

124-7510-26 p. 9,15
(414)

The following references in the file captioned "Roy Nelson Goslin" file #116-86351, set out information concerning the activities of Don West, described as a self-admitted communist. During 1947-1948 Roy Goslin, a member of the faculty at Oglethorpe University was described as being a close friend of Don West, a former member of this faculty.

(U) [Records of the CP revealed that a CP membership card was issued to Jim Webb whose identifying personal data corresponded with that of Don West. West also used the alias of Jim Weaver as a CP member. Faculty members at Oglethorpe University advised that the professors at this school were associated as teachers and came together from time to time at social functions, but they did not know Roy Goslin to be a close friend to Don West or his family nor did Goslin share the CP views of West at any time.]

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

3 p. 1,2
8 p. 1-5,7
13 p. 2-6

(10,83,99,103)-
(10,83,99,103)-
(10,83,99,103)-

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to the files of the Atlanta Office, Reverend C.T. Pratt, Dalton, Ga., who was active in the PPP, was a constant contact and associate of Don West and transported West and other active workers in the PPP of Georgia, in his airplane to the Third Party convention in Philadelphia in 1948. West was extremely active in the PPP in 1948.

Add. info.

69-604-15
(55)

ONI advised that Melvin Arnold, Director, Division of publications, American Unitarian Association, Boston, stated that the Unitarian Service Committee camp in Georgia was run by Don West in 1946 or 1947. Arnold stated he suspected that West was a CP member. ~~(S)~~

According to ONI, Raymond B. Bragg, Executive Director, Unitarian Service Committee, Boston, stated that in 1948 the summer camp in Georgia was rather fouled up and he, Bragg, became suspicious of the way it was being run and went to Georgia to investigate. Bragg stated he found the newspaper people in Atlanta very suspicious of West. Bragg did not know whether West was a communist at that time but after talking with West, Bragg felt that he was not a suitable fellow to lead the camp program. Bragg stated that only two weeks of the camp season was left so he let things run along as they were, and at the end of the season he fired West. Bragg believed West was chairman of the PP's campaign in Georgia in 1948. ~~(S)~~

100-410647-1 encl. p. 9,10
(81)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[] advised that Forbes Iverson Hill (100-376340) who came to Atlanta in 1948 to work as a canvasser with the PPP of Georgia, was closely associated with PP leaders in Georgia such as Don West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Add. info.

100-376340-1 p. 1-3
(38,78)

These references in the file captioned "Harry Asbury Bromley, Clerk-typist - Appointee, Atlanta General Depot, Atlanta, Ga., Department of the Army," 121-23538, revealed that Bromley was a close associate of Don West and the Reverend I. J. Domas, pastor, Unitarian-Universalist Church, Atlanta. Reverend Domas and West were associated with the PP and West, although not a member, attended executive meetings of the above church and appeared to be an advisor to Domas. On one occasion, while West was in the congregation of this church, Domas read one of West's poems, asked West to stand, and introduced him as an example for the members of the congregation to follow. West was associated with numerous CP officials in Georgia and the South in 1946-1948. According to the 11/1/35 and 7/20/36 issues of the "DW" West was State organizer of the CP in the State of Kentucky in 1935-1936.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

2 p. 1
6 p. 1,3-6

(41)
(41,85)

During 1947-1948, William Wright Stafford, Field Organizer, UPWA, CIO was observed to have been in frequent contact with Donald Lee West. (Fisur)

Add. info.

121-12132-8 p. 4
(40)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The following references in the file captioned "John Alleman Leiser, aka," 121-17610, set out information concerning the activities of Leiser and Donald Lee West. Leiser claimed a personal friendship with West and used a copy of West's book of verse "Clods of Southern Earth" in teaching his English class at the Southern Industrial Institute, Camp Hill, Alabama. In January, 1946, West was observed in the company of Earl Browder, CP National Secretary, in NYC. West was observed in contact with numerous other CP functionaries in 1947 and 1948. A camp operated on the farm of West was sponsored by the Unitarian Service Committee of the Unitarian Church under the direction of Maurice Filler of Lowell, Mass.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

23 p. 1-3
43 p. 7
44 p. 1,5,6,8,28

(40,84)
(84)
(10,84)

AT-1324 on 4/26/47 advised that Don West had requested that William Stafford contact various labor representatives to write letters to the Unitarian Work Camp, 9 Park St., Boston, advising that he, West, was going to open a camp in Georgia and needed some assistance. (S) (U)

On 12/22/47 AT-1324 advised that Stafford had suggested to West that as many people as possible should be contacted in Atlanta and urged to write to Henry Wallace, urging him to run for President. (S) (U)

West had been in contact with Earl Browder in NYC and Max Weiss, member of the National Committee, CP, USA. (Various informants in Atlanta and NY area) (S) (U)

AT-1324 advised that Stafford told informant that Don West had received a letter from Clark Foreman, President of the SCHW, asking West to attend the Wallace for President meeting in Chicago. The Atlanta Chapter of the SCHW had also urged West to attend this meeting, and that this chapter had offered to pay his expenses. Stafford told West he should accept this invitation in spite of West's financial difficulties. (S) (U)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

On 1/1/48 AT-1324 advised that after West returned from the Wallace meeting in Chicago, he had urged a meeting between Stafford, West and Homer Chase, Georgia CP District Organizer, to talk things over. This informant advised that these three persons had met in Stafford's home and had discussed Wallace's trip to Chicago. (S) (U)

It was noted that Stafford was field representative, UPWA, CIO, (100-344835).

Add. info.

100-344835-2-6 p. 1-6
(34,730)

On 1/2/48 AT-1324 reported that Donald L. West had been contacted by an individual who stated that he was Editor in Chief of the Polish Press in NYC. He had recently arrived in Atlanta and had been advised by James Dombrowski of the Southern Conference Office in NYC, to contact West upon his arrival in Atlanta because West could probably furnish him information concerning problems of Georgia and the South. West met this individual and drove him to the West home near Oglethorpe University where West was a professor. (S) (U)

It was noted that this individual registered at the Robert Fulton Hotel, Atlanta, as M. Wionczek (105-16712) of NYC, on 1/1/48.

AT-1324 stated that West, later on 1/2/48, advised Eudice Tontak, Acting Secretary of the Atlanta Chapter of the SCHW, and frequent contact of West, that the Editor in Chief of the Polish Press and correspondent for the Polish Press to the United Nations, was at the West home. West indicated that Wionczek was interested in problems of the South and Tontak said that West should take care of the literary side of the problem. (S) (U)

105-16712-8 p. 1
(22)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Dr. Thomas M. Barnett, 3609 Kingsboro Road, NE, Atlanta, Ga., member, Unitarian Universalist Church, advised that he would question the loyalty of William George (121-11597) because of his close association with I. J. Domas. Domas, according to Barnett, was a close associate of Don West, who was listed as a communist by the HCUA on 6/15/47, according to the "Atlanta Journal" dated 6/15/47.

AT-1331 advised that on 12/29/47 I. J. Domas of Atlanta, and Donald Lee West left Atlanta together to attend a meeting of the PP in Chicago. (S) (U)

The 2/7/48 issue of the "Atlanta Constitution," an Atlanta daily newspaper, listed Don West as President for the Wallace for President Movement in Georgia.

Add. info.

121-11597-34 p. 1,7-9
(40,84)-
SI 121-11597-17X p. 1,5
(84)-

The "Atlanta Constitution," daily newspaper in Atlanta, dated 2/21/48, revealed that on the previous Saturday, Don West had addressed a Georgia Wallace for President conference held at Bibb County, Georgia, Court House in Macon, Ga.

Add. info.

100-368276-3
(77)-

This reference in the file captioned "Floyd Hunter," sets out information concerning the association, activities and contacts between Hunter and Donald Lee West regarding Henry Wallace for President. There were numerous contacts and meetings at which time plans were discussed concerning the Wallace-for-President conference to be held in Macon, Ga., on 2/27/48, and the Wallace-for-President headquarters to be opened in Atlanta. (S) (U)

100-360931-1 p. 2,6
(37)-

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to an Atlanta report dated 3/19/48, AT-1324 who had been closely associated with Donald L. West, Executive Vice-chairman of the Georgia Wallace-for-President group, advised that he had heard West discussing the Third Party with many different individuals but that he had never heard West or any other individual mention Hannah Emily Silberstein (100-340377). ~~(S)~~ (U)

100-340377-29 p. 1,2
(20)

AT-1347-S advised that the PPP of Georgia, was founded in Macon, Ga., in the spring of 1948 under the direction and supervision of Homer Bates Chase and Donald Lee West. According to the informant, the PPP ceased to operate in the State of Georgia in 1950, but throughout the period of its existence, it was under the influence and control of prominent CP members of the State of Georgia. ~~(S)~~ (U)

140-3868-5 p. 5

(42)

SI 77-77551-12 p. 9

(2) (William Harrison Leathers, 875
Washington St., SW, Atlanta) ~~(S)~~ (U)

SI 100-280571-31 p. 16

(33)

SI 100-280571-32 p. 13

(33)

SI 100-15613-50 p. 2

(64)

SI 100-20211-30 p. 6

(7)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

In a letter dated 4/5/48 Sadie E. Winchester, 131 Eliot Ave., West Newton, Mass., requested information as to whether Don West was subversive. Enclosed with this letter was an enclosure entitled "Did You Know This?" which stated that campers at the Unitarian Youth Work Camp in Georgia for 1948, would study problems of the South with Don West, noted Georgia poet and teacher. This enclosure also stated that an HCUA report for 1944 listed West as state director of the People's Institute of Applied Religion, which it called "one of the most vicious communist organizations ever set up in this country. The report also listed West as a contributor to a book, "Proletarian Literature in the US," which was cited as subversive by the AG.

In a letter dated 4/16/48 the Bureau advised Miss Winchester that the Bureau files were confidential and available for official use only.

Add. info.

100-23792-53 p. 1 encl. p. 1
(66)

John E. Sims, Assistant to the President, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, advised that approximately in April, 1948, Mrs. Nicholas C. Read had contacted Mrs. B. David Napier, wife of the University of Georgia chaplain and requested the use of the Napier home for the purpose of having a poetry reading at which Don West was to be the guest and read poems which he had written. Mrs. Napier had a previous engagement but insisted that the guests use her home for the occasion. On returning home from her engagement she found several people including faculty members from the University of Georgia, engaged in a political discussion. Mrs. Napier advised those present that it was not her intention that her home be used for the organizing of a political group.

Mr. Sims exhibited an affidavit of Nicholas Cabell Read dated 5/9/48 which stated that about 4/12/48 he, Read, had attended a meeting at which Don West read poems and reviewed the Henry Wallace political stand.

Sims advised that Nicholas C. Read was director of the Southern Educational Film Production Service, the purpose of which was to produce film for the promotion of agriculture and education in eleven Southern states.

100-361895-3 p. 4,5
(76)

SI to para. 1
121-18720-9 p. 1
(84)

SI to para. 1
116-151276-2 p. 1
(83) (Source not clear)
SI, 121-18720-27 p. 5,6,12
(40) (Add. info.)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT-1324 advised that on 4/27/48 Mary Codington, 67 Avery Drive, NE, Atlanta, contacted Don West and asked if there was a Wallace for President movement in Atlanta and if there were, she desired to volunteer her services to this movement. She further told West that she had a brother in Washington, DC, who had heard of West in Washington and had attempted to contact West in Atlanta that weekend. ~~(S)~~ (U)

It was noted that Dr. John Fort Codington (121-11416) was the brother of Mary Codington.

Add. info.

121-11416-3X2 p. 1,2
(40,84)
SI 121-11416-3X1 P. 1
(84)
SI 121-11416-3X p. 1,2
(84)
SI 100-363428-1 p. 11
(37) (Add. info.)
SI 100-375253-2 p. 4
(38)
SI 100-375253-8 p. 17
(78)

On 5/5/48 Dr. T. M. Barnett, 360 Kingsboro Road, NE, Atlanta, advised that Donald Lee West had influenced Mr. and Mrs. Stillman P. Williams, 745 Ponce de Leon Terrace, NE, Atlanta, to join the Unitarian Universalist Church of Atlanta. The Reverend I. J. Domas was pastor of this church until 5/6/48 when, according to Dr. Barrett, he was asked to resign by the board of directors of the church.

Add. info.

124-543-12 p. 1,2
(41,85)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The 6/6/48 issue of "The Worker" contained an article entitled "The South Is Joining Up." This article stated in part that Don West had told a group of individuals who met in the Macon, Ga., City Auditorium on 5/8/48 that he was proud to shake the hand of a Negro and call him brother. This group of individuals were working to form the PPP of Georgia, which would ensure free elections and the end of segregation.

100-135-A "The Worker," 6/6/48
(60)

Congressman James C. Davis of Georgia furnished a letter dated 5/11/48 from Ed L. Norton, investigator employed by the University of Georgia, which indicated certain CP activities in the University. Norton's letter stated in part that the Southern Educational Film Service Company, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Georgia Educational Department were located on the University of Georgia campus at Athens. Employees of the above firms had formed the Wallace for President Club on the campus and were holding meetings periodically at the home of an employee. Literature dispatched to the students and to those attending the above club meetings included "My Dad Died Young" by Don West.

Copy of letter enclosed
100-356380-1 encl. p. 1
(75)

On 3/26/48 an article in the "Atlanta Constitution" stated that Donald Lee West and Reverend I. J. Domas, Pastor of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Atlanta, addressed a gathering of students at Emory University on 3/24/48. They flayed the plans for universal military training and asked the students present to sign a petition opposing universal military training.

AT-1324 advised on 3/30/48 that Robert Young (100-358787) of the Emory University Wallace for President Club wrote a letter to M. L. St. John, reporter for the "Atlanta Constitution," in which Young included a resolution which they had adopted at an Emory University Wallace for President Club meeting, which urged that Emory University discontinue segregation. Donald West advised the informant, in connection with the above letter, that the whole position of Wallace was against discrimination, Jim Crowism and segregation; that the club had authority to act on any local issue that they saw fit. (S) (U)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

James C. Davis, US Congressman of Georgia, (protect identity), on or about 5/17/48 advised that a Georgia Congressman had received a petition from the Wallace for President supporters in Georgia in opposition to the Mundt-Nixon Bill to control the activities of the CP. The name of Robert A. Young, 756 Elkhmont Drive, Atlanta, was signed on the petition under the signature of D. L. West.

The Atlanta newspapers publicized the fact that West, formerly a professor at Oglethorpe University, was asked to leave the University because of his political activities in the Wallace movement.

100-358787-1 p. 3,4
(9,21,36,95)
SI to para. 1,3
100-358787-4 p. 5
(21,95)
SI to para. 3
100-358787-12 p. 1,7
(9,21)

A reliable source (not identified) advised that one Robert Armstrong had aided Donald West and others in the preparation of a radio speech which was given by West on 5/20/48 in behalf of the PP of Georgia. (S)

Armstrong was a reported CP sympathizer and an officer of an unknown CP front organization (no source).

Richard Stauverman who was active with the PP in Georgia, Branson Price, former State Secretary of the PPP of Georgia; and Floyd Hunter, former Executive Director of the Atlanta Community Planning Council (not further identified), were frequent contacts and close associates of Donald Lee West. (No source)

121-32213-12 p. 2-4
(12,41)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On 3/5/48 Dr. T. M. Barnett, 3609 Kingsboro Road, NE, Atlanta, advised that he was a member of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Atlanta and that the pastor of the church, Rev. I. J. Domas, was frequently contacted by Donald Lee West. Dr. Barnett stated that West had been instrumental in infiltrating the church with a large number of his friends, among whom was Robert G. Armstrong (100-39986).

AT-1324 stated that on 5/3/48 Armstrong told him that Bill Stafford, United Public Works of America CIO Organizer, had told him that he, Armstrong, could help Don West in preparing his radio speech. This informant stated that on 5/20/48 West as executive vice-chairman of the People's New Party of Georgia, gave a radio speech over station WAGA, but the informant understood that Armstrong was one of the people who assisted in the preparation of this speech. (S) (U)

100-39986-18 p. 4
(18,30)

[redacted] advised the latter part of May, 1948, that Richard Stauverman was forming an organization known as "The Citizens Committee Against the Mundt Bill." At this time according to informant, Stauverman was in contact with Don West discussing a proposed trip to Washington, DC, where they would protest against the proposed Mundt Bill. (S) (U)

b2
b7D

[redacted], Atlanta, (protect identity), advised that Stauverman was parttime instructor at Emory University, Atlanta. (S) (U)

100-362211-1 p. 7
(76)

According to the Atlanta Office, Harry Mensh (100-237625) was in Atlanta visiting Donald L. West and Homer Bates Chase on the evening of 6/9/48.

100-237625-46 p. 9
(20)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

AT-1324 advised that on 6/9/48 Irving Goff, District Organizer for the CP of Louisiana, spent the night at the home of Donald V. West in Atlanta. (S) (U)

100-9673-160 p. 21
(43)

b7D

[redacted] Ga. (protect identity), advised that Don West had told him that he, West, was a CP member in Georgia in 1941.

During the past year, 1947, West had been observed in the company of Max Weiss, Homer Bates Chase, Mary Southard, Marvin Shaw and Nathan Ross, all CP functionaries. (Fisur)

AT-1328 advised that during October, 1947, he had observed West in contact with Dr. Elwood Grant Boddie, former CP chairman in Atlanta. (S) (U)

AT-1324 advised on 3/31/48 that Donald Lee West had mentioned to him that Mr. and Mrs. Richard Naiman of Atlanta were strong sympathizers of the Wallace for President movement. Informant advised in October, 1947, that during the past year he had seen West in contact with Homer Bates Chase, CP organizer for District 31, Peter Price, organizer for the Southern Negro Youth Congress, Mary Southard, "DW" correspondent, and Marvin Shaw, CP student organizer. West was active in the SCHW. (S) (U)

AT-1331 advised on 6/15/48 that he had observed West in contact with Homer Bates Chase on numerous occasions during the past year. (S) (U)

116-107582-13 p. 1,2
(40,839)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The following references in the file captioned "Clark Howell Foreman" file #100-45652, set out information concerning the activities of Donald Lee West, CP organizer in the South. West and Foreman, President of the SCHW, and whom West stated was also a CP member, attended meetings of the SCHW and also Wallace for President meetings in Chicago and Atlanta. Foreman contacted West several times during 1947-48 in connection with the Wallace for President movement. West was invited to attend a Paul Robeson Luncheon to be held on 6/19/48 in Atlanta. Foreman was to attend this affair also. (U) ~~(S)~~

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

12 p. 1-5
14 p. 2,6
20 encl. p. 1,10,18
31 p. 1
50 p. 1

(314)
(314)
(314)
(314)
(699)

AT-1324 stated on 12/27/47 that Henry Wald (100-280571) was a member of the SCHW and handled the money for that organization in Atlanta. Informant stated that at a meeting of Donald Lee West and Reverend I. J. Domas, Unitarian-Universalist preacher in Atlanta, Domas told West that he was going to the Henry Wallace meeting to be held in Chicago on 12/29/47, and that West should go with him. Domas told West to get Henry Wald to write West a check for \$100 for trip expenses as it would be a vital meeting, and that the SCHW money would be well spent for this purpose. Informant stated that West contacted Wald and arranged to call for the check at Wald's office. (U) ~~(S)~~

[] advised on 6/25/48 that William Wright Stafford met West and Stafford stated that he and Wald had visited several business men regarding the raising of money for Larkin Marshall, Third Party candidate for US Senator from Macon, Ga., in the 1948 election. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Add. info.

100-280571-6 p. 4
(334)
SI 100-280571-9 p. 5,6
(334) (Add. info.)

b2
b7D

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

David Hampton Smith, 3740 Lacey Circle, Blair Village, Atlanta, advised that he had known Donald Lee West since 1941 and that West was known to him as a CP member.

Smith advised that West told him that Larkin Marshall (100-373787) was a member of the CP.

The "Atlanta Constitution," dated 7/23/48 contained an article which revealed that Donald West, Larkin Marshall and others left Dalton, Ga., on 7/22/48, via private plane to attend the Third Party convention at Philadelphia.

100-373787-1 p. 1,4,9
(38,78)
SI to para. 2
100-398404-18 p. 1
(39)
SI to para. 2
100-394628-4 p. 3
(39)

On 7/28/48 Carl H. Roach, Route #5, Chattanooga, advised that while he was painting a house in the vicinity of 1055 Englewood Ave., Chattanooga, Clara Vincent (100-355161) approached him and wanted him to help organize for the Wallace party. Vincent stated that the PP was the only party and that it was affiliated with the CP. Vincent gave Roach literature which included "Georgia's Crisis" by Don West and "By Their Fruits, Education for Victory," by D. L. West.

100-355161-4 p. 6
(75,95)

AT-1324 stated that Homer Bates Chase, CP organizer in Georgia, discussed with Donald L. West on 11/23/47 his trip to South Georgia a few days before. Chase mentioned a preacher by the name of "Archer," from Darien, Ga., whom he had seen. West stated that he had heard that the preacher was quitting his job in Darien and going with the People's Insitutute. (S) (U)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

AT-1324 advised that on 12/4/47 an individual believed to be Archer Torrey (100-353696) visited West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Birmingham files disclosed that a Christmas Bulletin of the PIAR, dated December, 1947, listed a number of democratic leaders which included the name of Reverend Archer Torrey. It stated that Torrey would begin with the Institute on 1/1/48. Torrey would check closely with Don West in working out a program for Georgia, in which state he, Torrey, would be state representative.

TS-18 advised that Claude Williams, Director of PIAR called a meeting on 3/2/48 to be attended by West and others. The purpose of this meeting was to define issues around which to call an Institute meeting in Birmingham regarding the Wallace program. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Files of the Atlanta Office revealed that on 5/22/48 Donald Lee West accompanied Reverend Archer Torrey to Birmingham and attended Ala. a meeting of the PIAR. Torrey was a close associate of West.

Reverend Talbert Morgan, St. Marks Episcopal Church, Brunswick, Ga., advised that during latter August, 1948, a Mrs. Ainslie Christie, 1901 F St., Brunswick, telephoned him, saying that Don West had called her asking where he might reach Torrey. West had called her two additional times, and she was of the opinion he had the wrong number.

[100-353696-8 p. 7,10,11 ~~(S)~~ (U)
(21,35,74)
SI to para. 5
[100-353696-22 p. 3 ~~(S)~~ (U)
(35) (AT-1324)]

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The following references in the file captioned "Joseph Arthur Rabun, aka," set out information concerning the activities of Rabun and Donald Lee West. West, self admitted communist, and President of the Wallace for President movement in Georgia, contacted Rabun on 4/26/48 when Rabun was independent candidate for Governor of Georgia, stating he and the Henry Wallace for President people would like to talk to Rabun since they agreed on the same issues. On 11/19/47 Henry A. Wallace, Presidential candidate, and Clark Foreman, former President of the SCHW, arrived in Atlanta and were driven to Macon, Ga., by William Stafford, secretary of the Wallace for President movement in Georgia, accompanied by West and Joseph Rabun. (U) (S)

(U) [During the period October, 1947, and June, 1948, Don West was in frequent contact with the Reverend Isaiah J. Domas, Pastor of the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 669 West Peachtree St., NE, Atlanta. (S) On 8/10/48 it was learned that West was helping to organize a work camp for teenaged youngsters, which camp was sponsored by the Unitarian Service Committee of the Unitarian Church.]

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

140-15100-8 p. 1,4,5,7,9-11
12 p. 1A,9,11

(42486)
(42486)

According to Atlanta report dated 9/7/48, Henry L. Wald, manager of the Concord Radio Shop, 265 Peachtree St., Atlanta, was very active in the Wallace movement in Atlanta and had been in contact with Don West and Homer Chase on numerous occasions.

100-237625-47 p. 4
(72)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Ralph McGill, Editor of the "Atlanta Constitution," advised that Floyd Gibson Hunter (128-5176) was active in the campaign of the PP of Georgia and that this party was dominated by such individuals as Donald Lee West, an admitted member of the CP.

During 1948 and 1949 Mr. and Mrs. Floyd G. Hunter were closely associated with Donald West. (Tesur)(S)(U)

Add. info.

128-5176-8 p. 1,6,7
(41)

George Murray Branch (100-409330) advised that he was active in the PPP of Georgia during 1948 and 1949, and that through his activities in this organization he became acquainted with Donald Lee West. Branch stated that he had seen West on several occasions through West's employment as a huckster in the section of the city in which Branch resided. Branch stated he had read both volumes of West's books of poetry, "The Road is Rocky," and "Clods of Southern Earth." He stated he does not believe any one could give a literal interpretation to West's Poetry as he feels certain that if West was a communist, he would not write such poetry.

100-409330-12 p. 3,4
(39)

SI 100-432228-26 p. 3,9
(40)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Records of the Loyalty Board, Federal Security Agency, Washington, DC (~~protect identity~~), revealed that John Fort Codington (100-367455) in 1949 declared that he did not know Donald Lee West and had never attempted to meet him.

West was a CP member in Georgia in 1941 and in 1948 was in contact with the CP organizer for District 31 of the CP, which comprised the State of Georgia. (AT-1324-S*) (~~S~~) (U)

Add. info.

100-367455-17 p. 9
(37577)

b7D

[redacted] Ala. (~~protect identity~~), advised that the Alabama Farmers Union, which had offices in the O'Neal Building with the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union (ACW), conducted an extensive educational program in Alabama in 1947-1949. This informant stated that his observations had convinced him that the educational activities of the Alabama Farmers Union, believed to have been financed in 1947-48 by Allied Ventures Incorporated (100-380517), was part of a program known as "Operation Dixie" designed by the ACW-CIO and PAC-CIO to force the textile mills in the South under the control of the ACW-CIO.

This informant stated that the ACW-CIO had been successful in organizing the textile mills in Andalusia and in 1946 joined with the Alabama Farmers Union in an educational program which brought a number of high officials of the Farmers Union and ACW-CIO to Andalusia. He advised that for the ACW-CIO came Gladys Dickason, educational director, Don West and others.

100-380517-1 p. 5
(79)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

This reference is a letter dated 1/1/49 from Congressman Estes Kefauver, enclosing material sent to him by one Ernest Seeman, Erwin, Tenn. This material contained a letter to Seeman from one H. H. Lewis, Cape Girardeau, Mo., requesting Seeman to tell Don West of Lula, Ga., to contact Lewis.

Above material enclosed
100-39563-22
(67)

John Ernest Jones, Postmaster, Lula, Ga., (121-8306) advised on 1/21/49, that he had received a letter from the Post Office Department in Washington, DC, stating that the Post Office Loyalty Board had a report of investigation of Jones and requested Jones to answer certain questions for their consideration. Jones stated one of the questions related to his association with Donald Lee West. Jones stated that he advised the Post Office Department that his daughter and his wife's sister attended a meeting in NYC several years ago, which meeting was sponsored by the PIAR. He advised them that Don West paid the expenses of his daughter and sister-in-law to attend this meeting as an award to his daughter for her school work. Jones explained that West was at that time Principal of the Lula High School where his daughter attended.

121-8306-15 p. 1
(40)

On 3/25/49 Thomas M. Barnette, 3609 Kingsboro Road, NE, Atlanta, advised that he, William V. George and I. J. Domas were members of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Atlanta. Barnette stated that he questioned the loyalty of William George because of his close association with Domas; that Domas was a close associate of Don West and that West, on 6/15/47 was listed as a communist by the HCUA.

100-336109-11 p. 3
(73)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to a Savannah report dated 3/31/49 a mail cover placed on Arnold Goldman (100-326591) revealed that Goldman received mail from Don West, Douglasville, Ga.

100-326591-8 p. 3
(72)

On 4/6/49 Evans Wilder (100-361060) advised that Eloise Stafford, wife of William Stafford of the CIO, and a CP member, had told him that Don West had gone sour on them much to their sorrow and dismay (not further explained).

100-361060-4 p. 5
(76)

b7D

According to an Atlanta report dated 4/25/49, AT-1340 advised that William W. Stafford, 621 Hill St., SE, Atlanta, was an associate of Donald Lee West. Stafford was a CIO, UPWA organizer and according to [redacted] Ga., (protect identity), was an admitted CP member. U

100-361152-2 p. 2
(37)

Dr. Philip Weltner, President, Oglethorpe University, advised that Philip Jack Lorenz apparently came under the influence of Don West while West was a professor at Oglethorpe University from 1946 until 1948. Weltner stated that he believed Lorenz became interested in communism from his association with West but he did not know whether Lorenz was a CP member. West was discharged from the university when it was learned that he was a CP member.

AT-1324 advised that in 1948 Jack Lorenz had been a frequent contact of Don West and had accompanied West to the Third Party National Convention in Philadelphia in 1948. West told informant that he was pleased with an editorial regarding the Freedom Train which Jack Lorenz had written for the Oglethorpe University school paper. (S) (U)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

The 6/5/49 issue of the "Atlanta Journal" carried an article which stated that Jack Lorenz was discharged from an Atlanta grocery store and that authorities at Oglethorpe University had indicated that Lorenz was influenced by Don West, admitted CP organizer, who was eased out of his teaching position at the university. It was also indicated that West was a brother-in-law of Nat Ross, the South's top communist.

Add. info.

116-155396-3 p. 2,6,7
(40,88)

OSI made available a copy of an unsigned statement prepared by Harvey Marshall Matusow (100-375988) concerning his pro-communistic activities and affiliations, for a representative of the HCUA dated 10/19/51. Matusow stated in part that in August, 1949, he went with a group of individuals to Peekskill, NY, from Camp Unity. At Peekskill, Matusow stated he was given the job of managing the bookshop. Among the activities of the bookshop was a twice weekly poetry reading session held on the lawn in front of the bookshop. The reason was to sell books of left wing poets, Don West, Mike Quinn, Aaron Kramer and others. ~~(S)~~

Copy of above statement enclosed
100-375988-35 encl. p. 65
(78)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to a San Juan report dated 8/25/49, Ernie Lewis, a constant contact of Eudice Tontak, an active member of the CP at Atlanta, had also been contacted by Donald L. West, Atlanta CP official, in reference to the Wallace-for-President movement.

100-364075-1 p. 2
(21)

The 6/19/34 issue of the "DW" carried an article which stated that Don West was to speak at an Anglo - Herndo protest mass meeting on Wednesday night at the Dudley House in Boston.

On 5/10/48 West was observed in the company of Irving Goff, CP organizer for the State of Louisiana.

[] advised that on 9/26/49, Gertrude Mary Stumpf (100-265412) advised that she had received a letter from Don West, who seemed to be down and out. (S) (U)

b2
b7D

Add. info.

100-265412-10 p. 4
(2,33,72)

A WFO memo dated 11/28/49 revealed that Hedwig Stieglitz Kuhn (121-20726) had corresponded with Donald Lee West, a key figure in the Atlanta area CP. (No source)

121-20726-9 p. 1
(41)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7D

[redacted], San Antonio, Texas (protect identity) advised that in 1950, Marjorie Beatty (100-373040) spoke frequently of Harriett N. Leary and indicated to informant that she wanted informant to meet Mrs. Leary and Don West, a "young author."

b7D

According to [redacted], San Antonio (protect identity), Mrs. Leary was believed to be a CP sympathizer and possibly a CP member.

100-373040-5 p. 3,4
(77)

b7D

[redacted] (protect identity) advised on 4/29/50 that Donald West or Weaver was an organizer in the CP at Knoxville, Tenn., but was not directly associated with the Tennessee Valley Authority group (not explained).

121-6159-316 p. 3
(10,104)

The San Francisco Office furnished a copy of an outline prepared by Richard E. Combs, Counsel for the California State Legislature's Un-American Activities Committee. This outline detailed the contemplated hearings to be held in Oakland, commencing 5/8/50. It was noted that Mr. Combs apparently intended to question several prospective witnesses with regard to Julius Robert Oppenheimer (100-17828). The prospective witnesses included Joseph F. Gelders, who was to be questioned regarding the activities of Don West, among others, in the CP and the SCHW.

100-17828-222 encl. p. 10
(65)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to a WFO report dated 6/1/50, Alva W. Taylor was closely associated with Donald Lee West.

It was noted that Taylor had long been associated with communists and liberal elements in the vicinity of Nashville and the southeastern states.

100-250450-27 p. 5
(33)

Paul Crouch (protect identity) identified Donald West alias Jim Weaver, as District Trade Union Representative for the CP in North Carolina and South Carolina during 1934-35; District Organizer for the CP in Kentucky for 1935-36, and as an author and writer for CP and Left Wing publications.

The "DW" dated 3/13/34 carried a poem by Donald West entitled "Listen, I Am a Communist." The "DW" dated 6/19/34 carried an article which disclosed that Don West was to speak in Boston. The 11 "DW" dated 6/22/37 identified West as a CP organizer in Kentucky, who was present at a reception in behalf of Maude White, the only Negro member of the Central Committee of the CP.

AT-1324-S* advised on 6/1/48 that one Dammers unsuccessfully attempted to contact Don West. This unknown Dammers left a message for West to call him at CR-3273. (S) (U)

It was noted that the Southern Bell Telephone Directory listed the home telephone number of Franz Louis Philipp Spanier with alias Dammers (100-354550) as CRescent 3273. (S) (U)

David H. Smith advised that West was a close personal friend and constant associate of Homer Bates Chase, the self-admitted CP District Organizer in the State of Georgia, from 1946 to August, 1950.

100-354550-14 p. 1,2
(9,74,99)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On 8/28/50 David Hampton Smith (100-381831) advised that he was well acquainted with Don West and had met him while West was a Congregationalist minister in a small rural area in Georgia while he, Smith, was in the 7th grade. Smith stated that numerous attempts were made by West to induce him to join the CP.

Mr. and Mrs. William Roy Smith, parents of David Hampton Smith, have been furnishing information concerning Donald Lee West since August, 1950.

100-381831-1 p. 2,3
(90)

On 8/28/50 David Hampton Smith, 3740 Lacey Circle, Blair Village, Atlanta, advised that Donald Lee West had told him that Herman Rich (100-373621) and his wife, Anita Rich, were members of the CP, and were as "red as sin."

b2
b7D

[redacted] advised that Joseph Gross was a close associate of Don West. (S) (U)
Add. info.

100-373621-1 p. 3,4
(38,78)
SI 100-373428-1 p. 3,4,5
(38,78) (Add. info.)

The following references in the file captioned "Ernest Seeman, was.," set out information concerning the activities of Don West. West was a contact of Seeman during the period July, 1948, through September, 1950. In 1947 West was paying the box rent for Atlanta Post Office Box 1178, which was rented to the PIAR. In 1948 West spoke in the Unitarian Universal Church of Atlanta, advocating the weakening of the national defense and stated that those who differed were Fascists and Capitalists. The "DW" dated 6/22/47 stated in an article, that West was present at a reception given for Maude White, only Negro woman member of the CP Central Committee. During 1947 and 1948, West was known to have associated with national CP functionaries.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

65-33599-12 p. 13
21 p. 9,10
32 p. 1
63 p. 32,33
73 p. 35

(54)
(4,24,54)
(54)
(4,25,54)
(4,25,54)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On 9/23/50 [redacted] Detroit, advised that on this date he had conversed on the telephone with Hazel Schleicher who stated that she had been very busy in party work. She recommended and urged informant to obtain reading material from the library. She also recommended that informant read some of the books written by Don West. (S) (U) b2 b7D

[100-368931-35] (S) (U)
(77)

The following references in the file captioned "Harry Lifshitz, was." file #100-365048, set out information concerning the activities of Lifshitz and Don West. West, an admitted communist, who was a friend of Lifshitz, received a letter from Lifshitz during October, 1950, which contained information that Lifshitz would be unable to use West's farm but he believed that his son-in-law might be able to use the farm. Lifshitz also expressed a desire to West to return to Russia.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

1 p. 3
16 p. 1,3,4

(37,76)
(37,76)

[redacted] (S) (U) described "The Road is Rocky" as a book written by Don West which was critical of the US participation in the Korean War and which dwelled upon the alleged discrimination and under-privileged conditions of the Negroes and Mexican-Americans.

[redacted] stated that the sectional drawings of the above book were drawn by Bill Lytle (100-394455). (S) (U) b2 b7D

[redacted] advised on 3/7/51 that Lytle remarked that he had done the original painting of Don West which was set out in "The Road is Rocky." (S) (U)

[redacted] advised that during Christmas time of 1950, a group believed by informant to have been communist, purchased and distributed blankets to needy Mexican-American people in San Antonio. This group included Don West, Elizabeth and William Lytle. (S) (U)

100-394455-1 p. 1,6,7
(80)

SI to para. 4

[100-395169-1 p. 5]
(80)

(S) (U)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Dorothy Bushnell Cole (100-74875) arrived at NYC from abroad on 12/14/50 as a passenger on the French Line, SS "Liberte."

During the baggage inspection conducted by US customs, it was observed that Cole was in possession of considerable propaganda material. Through the cooperation of the customs inspector it was possible to photograph the pertinent material which included the following poems by Don West: "The Alien," "Little Scared One," "Another Awful Story," and a letter dated 11/12/50 signed by West.

100-74875-28 p. 1,2
(70)

According to Atlanta report dated 12/18/50, Raleigh A. Whitfield, Route #4, Atlanta, advised that Walter E. Washburn (100-14379) was a friend of Don West.

b7D

[redacted] Ga. (protect identity), advised that Washburn formerly lived on the farm owned by Don West.

The Postmaster, US Postoffice, Douglasville (protect identity), advised that Washburn formerly associated with West, having lived on the West farm about a year ago.

Chief J. W. McLarty, Douglasville Police Department, advised that he had had no information regarding Washburn's association with Don West in recent months.

Add. info.

100-14379-3 p. 2,3
(63)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

OSI furnished a copy of a report setting forth the results of an interview with Aubrey Claude Robinson (140-19254) on 2/20/59. Robinson stated in part that during 1950-51 while the Robinsons lived in Macon, Ga., they were in contact with Don West who resided in Atlanta. Robinson stated that West, who was an acquaintance of his, Robinson's, father-in-law, William R. Smith, editor of the "Macon News," published a book of poems, which became a best seller. West dedicated one or two of his poems to Robinson's father-in-law. ~~(S)~~

At the suggestion of the father-in-law, Robinson had invited West to his home on one or two occasions, and the Robinsons also went with West to give a reading of his poems to the students at Wesleyan College. Robinson stated he knew West to be of extreme liberal beliefs but he judged them to be confined to his literary works or efforts. He did not know West was connected with the CP. ~~(S)~~

140-19254-38 encl. p. 20

(47)

According to an Atlanta memo dated 1/4/51, Donald Lee West was in a constant travel status for the Home Missions Council of North America*, out of Chicago, and had no permanent residence address as of January, 1951. (No source)

100-358086-2-5

(36)

b6
b7C
b7D

*Not identified

On 1/10/51 [redacted] Atlanta (protect identity), advised that the people most prominent in the leadership of the PPP of Georgia were Donald West, Eudice Tontak and Homer Bates Chase.

SA [redacted] CIC, Atlanta (protect identity), advised that Bill Houston had stated that West was one of the leaders in the PPP of Georgia.

According to [redacted] for the "Atlanta Journal," Atlanta (protect identity), Houston was a member of a committee in the Atlanta unit of the CRC.

Add. info.

121-29525-9 p. 3,4

(11,85)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The following references in the file captioned "Harriett Leary, nee Nelson, was." stated that during the early part of 1951, Don West had expressed a plan for starting a "mass circulation" magazine which would cost \$2000 to \$2500 to publish the first issue. In connection with this project Harriett Leary was believed to have given or pledged some money for this magazine. Leary invited a number of persons to her home at 128 West Evergreen St., San Antonio, on 1/21/51 to hear Don West read some of his poetry. Leary mailed communist literature to numerous individuals who in most cases, were not acquainted with Leary. This literature included pamphlets containing poems entitled, "If Sometimes Sorrow," and "Sad, Sad America," by Don West. This literature also contained a leaflet soliciting orders for the book "The Road Is Rocky" by West. West was a friend and close associate of Harry Koger, CP member.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-387706-2 p. 7,18,19
8 p. 4,11,12,15,16

(79)
(79)

[redacted] Milam Building, San Antonio, Texas (protect identity), advised that he had learned on 2/16/51 that Don West planned to start a "mass circulation" magazine like the "New Republic" which West stated would cost \$2000 to \$2500 to publish the first issue. West indicated that Harriet Leary had given or pledged some money for this magazine. [redacted] stated that there were three angels whom West had successfully contacted to obtain additional funds. These people were identified as C. A. Wheatley, Hettie Brown (100-43145), and E. A. Basse all of San Antonio. ^{b7D}

[redacted] stated that he was acquainted with E. A. Basse, and [redacted] did not believe Basse would be receptive to any request to finance West's magazine.

Add. info.

100-43145-13 p. 1,3
(31,68)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

San Antonio advised that in approximately April, 1951, Don West was reportedly residing in the home of Harry Koger, San Antonio. Koger advised on 6/11/51 that West was located near Camp Warren, Minn., agitating among migratory workers.

100-47736-137X
(69)

Atlanta advised on 6/28/51 that Atlanta informants were contacted regarding Don West with negative results.

West had not been seen in Douglasville, Ga., but several weeks ago, West had left the following forwarding address at the post office in Douglasville: 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas. (No source)

100-47736-170
(69)

A letter dated 7/19/51 from the US Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, DC, furnished the results of a polygraph examination (80-5) of several individuals by the Commission's Oak Ridge Security Office. These individuals including Gertrude Ehrlich, were prospective employees at the Oak Ridge project. During the polygraph examination of Ehrlich she stated that while teaching at Oglethorpe* she was acquainted with Don West, a professor who was supposed to have been a member of the CP of America. West was discharged for this cause.

80-5-824 encl. p. 4
(55)

*Oglethorpe University, Ga.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

According to an Atlanta report dated 7/21/51, Reverend D. T. Babcock, 1034 Westmore Drive, Atlanta, advised that he was pastor of the Big Bethel Church, Atlanta, for eight years and was transferred to Savannah by Bishop R. R. Wright to make a spot for Reverend Dwight Vincent Kyle (100-373327), who was Bishop Wright's son-in-law. Reverend Babcock stated that Reverend Kyle was active in the PP in Atlanta and that he held meetings at the Big Bethel Church which were attended by Donald Lee West and Homer Bates Chase.

It was noted that Chase was a self-admitted communist.

Add. info.

100-373327-10 p. 1
(38)

b2
b7D

According to a San Antonio memo dated 8/3/51, [] regularly advised of the receipt of literature from Grace Koger, 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, including the book, "The Road is Rocky" by Don West, who resided at the Koger home intermittently. (U)

100-377466-5 p. 1
(79)

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

According to a Knoxville memo dated 9/18/51, [] advised that she had heard [] (100-347609) make the statement that they were associated with Nat Ross, Don West and Claude Williams. (S) (U)

It was noted that Ross, West and Williams were officials of the CP.

100-347609-53 p. 4
(73)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b7D

According to an Atlanta report dated 9/28/51, [redacted]
[redacted] NY (protect identity), advised that a
farm owned by Donald Lee West at Douglasville, Ga., was located in a
most deserted and out of the way area, and could be used as a hiding
place for missing fugitives.

b7D

[redacted], Douglasville (protect
identity), advised that he was well acquainted with the area around
the farm of West and that he drove through this territory almost
daily, and at no time had he seen anyone who resembled Henry Winston
(100-1473) or other missing fugitives in and around that region.

Sheriff Mack Abercrombie, Douglasville, stated he would be
alert in regard to any strangers who appeared at the farm of Donald
Lee West.

b6
b7C

[redacted]
and [redacted] all of whom resided in the vicinity of
the West farm, advised they would contact the Atlanta Office in the
event they received information concerning strangers residing on the
West farm.

100-1473-313 p. 3,4
(16,27)
SI 100-17738-523 p. 2,3
(29)
SI 100-35868-706 p. 3
(8,30)
SI 100-104799-419 p. 2
(32)
SI 100-52444-487 p. 2,3
(32)
SI 100-47736-1371 p. 28,29
(32)
SI 61-8077-575 p. 2,3
(24)
SI 100-199173-496 p. 3
(33)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The following references stated that during June or July, 1951, [redacted] had accompanied Harry and Grace Koger, 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, on a trip to Atlanta to visit Don West. West was a friend and close associate of the Kogers. It was learned on 10/26/51 that West had also corresponded with [redacted] Texas. Grace Koger distributed leaflets, soliciting orders for Don West's book, "The Road is Rocky." One leaflet was entitled, "Read What They Are Saying About Don West's 'The Road is Rocky'," and set out in part was the following: "Mrs. Skipper Jones (wife of a Union boilermaker) writes from Brownsville, Texas: "There aren't words to tell what we think of the poems. They are more than wonderful...they are a "shot in the arm" and who doesn't need one now and then.'"

b6
b7C

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-391173-1 p. 2,3

(38,790)

100-391174-1 p. 2,3

(38,790)

b7D

[redacted], self-confessed former CP member (protect identity), advised that Elya Isaar Bresler (100-19062) had stated that he, Bresler, was a very good friend of Don West and wanted Matusow to meet West.

The "Weekly Dispatch," official publication of the American Federation of Labor Trades Council in San Antonio, dated 11/9/51, contained an article by Elya Bresler in which he praised Don West's book (book not identified) and recommended the book and pointed out that it could be ordered from Harry and Grace Koger, 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas.

West was the author of a book of poems entitled, "The Road Is Rocky." (No source)

100-19062-25 p. 9,14
(65)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[] advised that on 11/30/51, a social gathering was held at the home of Harry Koger, 110 West Cypress, San Antonio, Texas. During this meeting Koger stated that through Don West, they had heard from a party in North Carolina who wanted Harry and Grace Koger to organize a large southern meeting either in New Orleans or Atlanta for all southern states to discuss Civil Rights. (S) (U)

Add. info.

100-404575-2 p. 3,5

(80)

SI 100-403959-2 p. 2,4

(80)

The report of the Un-American Activities Commission, for the State of Ohio, 1951-1952, stated that on 2/25/52, during the testimony of Harvey M. Matusow, he was asked to describe the organization known as People's Songs and its relation to the CP. Matusow stated that all employees of People's Songs were CP members and the organization itself was set up by the CP. Matusow stated that the April, 1948, issue of the People's Songs publication made mention of Don West, telling of his activities in Georgia at the time. He had written a book of poetry called "Clods of Southern Earth," which the CP used in political agitation at a later period. Matusow stated that Don West worked and organized for the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, a CP front organization in the South where they attempted to organize poverty-stricken farmers, Negro and white, where they found any weakness.

100-384724-50 encl. p. 108,115,422

(79)

This reference is an index to the Military Weekly intelligence reports during the period 7/4/52 to 12/19/52. Included in the index was the following:

Individuals

WIR and Page Number

West, Donald Lee

33-2; 36-3

100-7660-5459 p. 12

(28)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[] visited the [] San Cristobal (SCVR), New Mexico (100-378604), in August, 1952. on 8/13/52 while informant was sitting on the porch of the dining hall, he noticed a blue spiral notebook lying on a chair. Informant stated that upon examination of this book he found that it contained names and addresses. Informant took the book to the SCVR office and gave it to [] who leafed through it. The first page was a record of a trip to visit the progressive poet Don West and song writer and union woman [] This page was quite detailed and contained quotations of some radical remarks made by West and [] Later a man named Hoxley from Los Angeles claimed the book. (S) (U)

100-378604-92 p. 26
(79)

The book written by Harvey Matusow (100-375988) entitled "False Witness," made reference to an article in the "Syracuse Herald-Journal" newspaper, dated 8/13/52, captioned "Witnesses Bare Red Plot to Infiltrate Boy Scouts." This article stated in part that Harvey Matusow had told the Senate Sub-committee that the CP was attempting to infiltrate the Boy Scouts. Matusow cited the example of Don West, a Baptist clergyman and CP organizer in Georgia. Referring to Ohio un-American commission hearings, Matusow testified that he was taking his statement from the testimony of John and Martha Edston, who had testified that Mr. West had seven churches under his jurisdiction and a Boy Scout troop was organized in each church and his plan was to indoctrinate. Matusow stated that he met West at a CP meeting in 1951.

100-375988-1041 encl. p. 99
(78)

According to an Atlanta report dated 11/26/52, a trash cover maintained on the headquarters of the CIO PAC, 75 Ivey Street, NE, Atlanta, disclosed that George Mitchell was in frequent contact with Donald L. West.

[] stated that Mitchell was the leader of a "Gentile Branch" of the CPA in Atlanta. (S) (U)

b2
b7D

100-389188-3 p. 3
(22,38)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The "DW" dated 1/13/53 contained an article entitled "Annual Citation Awards Set Up for Negro Leaders." This article stated that the National Committee to Defend Negro Leadership (100-398404) made its first annual citation of Negro men and women who had fought for democracy and peace in the face of attack. According to this article, other features of this cultural program included songs by Paul Robeson and the reading of poems by Don West and others.

100-398404-A "DW" 1/13/53
(80)

b6
b7C

[] of the Jenner Committee on 2/11/53, furnished information concerning individuals known to have been connected with the CP. These individuals included Bill Robertson who was married to Mary West, (sister of commie Don West) in 1949.

100-357148-31 encl. p. 9
(75)

Correlator's Note: Information contained in the above reference was the first indication that Don West had a sister named Mary.

On 5/11/53 the Mobile Office furnished the Bureau a report containing the identities of various persons who were associated with Barbara Robinson, wife of Rudolf Sobernheim (121-44104), during a strike and union organizational activities at Andalusia, Ala., during 1946. The Mobile Office suggested that the Bureau might desire to search the Bureau indices concerning these individuals.

This report also contained information concerning Don West, who was believed to be identical with Don Lee West.

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

Information developed did not indicate any degree of closeness in the association of West and Robinson.

121-44104-11 p. 1
(85,90)

Correlator's Note: The above report was filed as serial 14 of the above file. William H. Albritton, Attorney in Andalusia, advised that one Don West, a preacher, was brought to Andalusia by William Howard Mooney, an associate of Barbara Robinson, to speak at prayer meetings held during the strike at the Alabama Textile Corporation in 1946.

The Los Angeles Office furnished a copy of the statement made by Alan Jerome Kohlman (100-341778) to INS on May 18-20, 1953, at Los Angeles, regarding his knowledge of organizations including the CP. Kohlman advised concerning the CP activities of Don West whom he stated was a militant and professional functionary of the Party and a very capable organizer, tactician and very industrious. West was the district organizer of Kentucky. He attended meetings, and initiated the organizing of the Workers Alliance.

Above statement enclosed
100-341778-34 p. 12,13,16,17,19,22,
(73) 25,26,43,50

b2
b7D

[redacted] advised that the PP of Georgia was formed on 3/8/48 at Macon, Ga., and that Homer Bates Chase and Don West, both self-admitted communists, were instrumental in the formation of the PP of Georgia. (S) (U)

[redacted] Atlanta, (protect (U) identity), made available on 7/31/53 a printed letterhead of the PPP of Georgia, which listed the Executive Vice-chairman as Don West. (S)

100-409330-2 p. 4,5
(81)

SI to para. 1

100-413788-8 p. 3
(39) [redacted] (S) (U)

b6
b7C
b7D

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[redacted] advised that at a meeting of the Guardian Club (100-407926) held at 230 Shelburn Drive, San Antonio, on 8/27/53, Harry Koger commented that it was a shame that many of the Progressives overlooked what a good paper the "Southern Farmer" was. He stated that more Guardian Club members should support this paper. He remarked that Don West wrote articles for the "Southern Farmer." ~~(S)~~ (U)

1950. ~~(S)~~ (U) According to CIA, Harry Koger was a CP member in September,

100-407926-2 p. 6
(81)

Paul Crouch (protect identity) advised that Donald West joined the CP in 1934, and was assigned to the State of North Carolina as Trade Union Organizer for the CP.

b7D

[redacted] (protect identity) advised that a CP member told him in 1949 that West was a CP member but had quit the Party.

In connection with the investigation of [redacted] (100-47433), Newark files revealed that as of 10/5/53, Donald West, an associate of [redacted] was a CP member in Georgia.

b6
b7C

100-47433-7 encl. p. 3,5
(8)

[redacted] advised that he attended an American Peace Crusade (APC) National Committee meeting held in NYC on 11/15/53. During the course of a conversation with [redacted] of the APC (100-377391) [redacted] informant stated that [redacted] advised that he intended to go to Georgia for the purpose of helping to develop the peace movement in the South. [redacted] advised that he intended to contact one Don West in Atlanta for the purpose of trying to use him to gain support in progressive circles in the South. [redacted] indicated that West was a respectable liberal. ~~(S)~~ (U)

b2
b7D

100-377391-773 p. 4
(79)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b6
b7C

[redacted] (100-382914) advised that he had been closely associated with persons who were confirmed communists whom he had met through Donald L. West, Douglasville, Ga., in 1954. These individuals were all close friends of [redacted]

West was a farmer who was working in the publishing field and was publishing the "Southern Newsletter," P.O. Box 1307, Louisville, Ky., this address, however, was not used as the publication was being mailed from the home of Perry Cartwright, Business Manager, 4746 $\frac{1}{2}$ Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, also a communist.

100-382914-6 p. 2,3
(22)

Robert Lewis Brannan (100-362519) advised on April 16, 19, 1954, that Hardy Scott an organizer for the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers Union, was an active CP member in Houston. Brannan stated that Scott left Houston for the State of Georgia where he stayed with Don West, a poet who had a farm somewhere in Georgia.

100-362519-30 p. 3
(76)

Paul M. Crouch, former CP official, advised on 6/18/54 that he recalled that Don West, locally known as Jim Weaver, reported that Loretto Bailey (140-4040) was active in the Burlington Defense Committee.*

140-4040-25 p. 1A
(85)

*Committee to aid convicted strikers arrested in dynamiting Burlington Mills, Burlington, NC.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

In connection with the investigation of "Dean Cornelius Hoxsey" file #100-414790, ONI developed information relating to a visit of Hoxsey at the residence of Don West in Douglasville, Ga., on 8/25/54. The following references set out details regarding above visit. Hoxsey stated that he did not know West but that West was a friend of his father.

This investigation also revealed that one Samuel Sillen, Editor of "Masses and Mainstream," a CP magazine, visited the West farm on 8/1/54 and brought Hetty West, daughter of Don West, with him. Sillen departed the West farm on 8/10/54. It was learned that West had an extensive CP history and the West farmhouse was found to be in a very remote area of Douglas County, Ga.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER.

1 encl. p. 1-4
2 p. 1-3

(39,81)
(10,81)

b6
b7C

On 9/11/54 [redacted] State Attorney's Office, Miami, advised that Paul Crouch when in Miami recently furnished the names of individuals whom he knew as CP members in North Carolina. The name of Don West was among these individuals.

100-373466-9
(78)

The "DW" issues for 6/19/34, 11/1/35, 7/20/36, 10/5/36, and 6/22/37, made mention of Don West as a CP organizer for the State of Kentucky and/or the CP organizer in the South.

b6
b7C

William H. Leathers, self-admitted CP member, advised that [redacted] (100-20211) had recently attended a meeting on the same date as the Rosa Lee Ingram Club meeting, 9/26/54, Atlanta. Leathers stated that the meeting was held in a church in Atlanta and was addressed by Don West. (S)

(U)

Add. info.

100-20211-35 p. 3
(65)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

[] and [] advised that during March, 1954, Harry Koger sent out to various persons in Texas a mimeographed form letter (set out) concerning contributions to help organize an agricultural workers union. This letter began with quotations from a poem by Don West entitled "The Road is Rocky." Koger stated in a postscript that upon request he would send a copy of West's "The Road is Rocky," to each contributor. The letter was signed "Fraternally yours, Harry Koger." (S) (U)

b2
b7D

[] formerly [] advised on 10/22/54 that Koger was proceeding shortly thereafter to NYC on a fund raising tour and stated that he planned to contact en route Don West of Atlanta. (S) (U)

According to [] the idea of an independent agricultural workers' union originated with Harry Koger, and Otis Nation, CIO organizer, with the approval of the CP headquarters in NYC and Texas. (S) (U)

100-408891-25 p. 8-10,12 (U)

(81)

SI to para. 2

100-408891-23 p. 1

(81)

SI to para. 1

100-408891-3 p. 1-3

(81)

This reference in the file captioned "Nannie Leah Washburn, nee Nannie Leah Leathers, was." set out information concerning the activities of Donald L. West. On 10/14/51, the Reverend West officiated at the marriage of Walter E. Washburn and Nannie Young. West spoke at a meeting of the Rosa Lee Ingram Club in Atlanta on 10/24/54. In 1945, West was permitted to review the files of the "DW" in NYC. The "Atlanta Journal" on 8/14/52, reported West as saying that twenty years ago he had written a poem that appeared in the "DW." He stated that he was a communist then, but denied that he was a CP member as of August, 1952. West was scheduled to join Harry Koger in NYC about 11/11/54 to aid in obtaining assistance from the NYC CP leaders in organizing the UCFVWA. On 1/18/54, West requested Leah Young Washburn and other members of the Leathers family in Atlanta, to attempt to obtain subscriptions to the "Farm and Home" magazine published in Montgomery, Ala., by Aubrey Williams.

100-375721-32, p. 6,35,36,40
(22,78,90,91)

*United Citrus Fruit and Vegetable Workers of America.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The following references in the file captioned "Rosa Lee Ingram Club," stated that Reverend Don Lee West delivered an address to the Rosa Lee Ingram Club on 10/24/54, after which he advised the members that he had no money to donate to the very worthy cause, but would donate books he had written in order that they could be sold, and the proceeds given to the Treasury of the Club. West had taken no other part in the activities of this club and was not a dues paying member, although Octavine Reid, President, carried West on the membership list of the club.

Brief documentary details of West's CP background and activities for the period 1934-1954 are set out.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-415676-3 p. 15,16,21-23,30
13 p. 2

(82,88,90)
(82,88)

On 11/18/54 Junius Irving Scales (100-11592) was arrested in Memphis, Tenn., by Bureau agents. At the time of his arrest, Scales was carrying a large brief case containing work papers, reports, notes and other material relating to the CP and Scale's activities (material set out). The diary belonging to Scales contained what appeared to be his appointments and the fly leaf and last three pages of the diary appeared to be miscellaneous notes. These notes included the following:

"Don W. Abercrombie Feed and Grist Mill
(know him) Douglasville"

The Don W was possibly Don West of Georgia.

100-11592-266 p. 106,262
(63)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[] advised on 2/8/55 that he was advised by Virginia Durr (100-38295) that she had recently been in contact with Don West. Informant stated that he had personal information that West was a member of the CP in past years. ~~(S)~~ (U)

100-38295-66 p. 4
(46)

b2
b7D

[] advised that in March, 1955, he had occasion to observe various material in the possession of Harry Koger. Among this material was a carbon copy of a letter which read as follows: ~~(S)~~ (U)

"Dear Don:

(U) ~~(S)~~ "Here are some names and addresses most of whom would be glad to get the publication. No doubt you already have several of them on your list." ~~(S)~~ (U)
Signed "H. K."

Attached to the letter was a list of names and addresses, including the name and address of Harry Izzie Epstein (100-43139). ~~(S)~~ (U)

[] advised that Koger stated that Don West was publishing a newspaper known as "The Southerner" in Dalton, Ga. In view of this fact, informant concluded that the above letter was obviously written to Don West. ~~(S)~~ (U)

b2
b7D

[] ~~(S)~~ (U)
[] identified Koger as a CP member.

Add. info.

100-43139-11 p. 2,3
(31,68)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

[] advised that on 3/16/55 [] (100-355575) name appeared on a list in possession of Harry Koger. This list was apparently to be sent to Don West, who published a newspaper known as "The Southerner." Accompanying this list was a short note from Koger to West, which commented in part that most of the listed individuals would be glad to get the publication. (S) (U)

Koger was a CP member according to [] (S) (U)

100-355575-51 p. 3

(75)

SI 100-373040-15 p. 2,4

(37, 77)

SI 100-414446-8 p. 4

(81)

SI 100-186178-33 p. 2

(71)

[] HCUA (61-7582) requested information from WFO concerning the location of Don West and stated that he desired to subpoena West if he were able to locate him. This person was undoubtedly identical with Donald Lee West, who as of 5/23/55, resided at South Thornton and Central Ave., Dalton, Ga., care of Church of the Union Assembly of God.

WFO was instructed to tell [] that these requests must be made to Bureau headquarters. If a representative of the committee contacted the Bureau regarding the above request, it was recommended that the address of Don West be furnished to the committee. b6 b7C

61-7582-2757 p. 2,3

(24, 52)

M. G. Lowmann, executive secretary, Circuit Riders, Inc., National headquarters, 18 East Fourth St., Cincinnati, on 9/16/55 reported the following information: Don West was alleged to have roomed with a Harold Preece in Chicago.

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

Preece was alleged to have procured a newspaper reporting job for a reporter (who was a CP member, for the purpose of reporting to a federal investigating agency in the 1940 period).

b6
b7C

[] and [] (not identified) could probably furnish interesting information regarding both Don West and Harold Preece.

100-372124-27 encl. p. 3
(77)

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

[] advised on 11/10/55 that CP consideration was being given to having [] (100-372543) take a job in the South where [] would be an assistant to Don West, editor of a small newspaper. (S) (U)

b2
b7D

According to [] this newspaper was called "The Southerner," at Dalton, Ga.

100-372543-14 p. 3
(77)

The following references in the file captioned "The Southerner" file #100-418268, set out information concerning the connection of Donald Lee West with the above publication. West was editor and co-publisher of "The Southerner" from March, 1955, until January, 1956, at which time West was expelled from the Church of God of the Union Assembly by Reverend C. T. Pratt, owner of the paper. Since that time, West has had no control over the editorial policies, or the publication of this paper.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

2 p. 1, encl.
6 p. 1
9 p. 1
10 p. 1

(39, 82)
(22, 39, 82)
(22)
(90)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The 2/22/48 issue of the "Macon Telegraph and News," published at Macon, Ga., stated that a conference of Georgia Wallace for President leaders had been held in the courthouse at Macon, on 2/1/48. According to this article the following committeemen had been named to make arrangements for a statewide conference: Co-Chairman Rev. C. T. Pratt, Dalton, Ga. Executive Vice Chairman, Donald Lee West, Atlanta.

An article appeared in the 5/2/55 issue of the "National Guardian" entitled "A New Paper is Born; Welcome 'The Southerner'." This article stated in part that "The Southerner" was a monthly newspaper, published in Dalton, Ga., by the Reverend Charlie Pratt, Pastor of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, and Donald L. West, poet and teacher.

b7D

[redacted] Special Assistant AG, State of Georgia (protect identity) on 2/23/56 advised that West was employed as a minister of the Church of God of the Union Assembly from early 1955 until he was expelled by that group on 1/13/56 when he refused to take the non-communist oath. In connection with this church, West edited the monthly publication, "The Southerner" and was also listed as a co-publisher of this publication.

Add. info.

25-433256-5 p. 1-4
(12)

A General Investigative Intelligence report for Atlanta dated 7/15/55 through 1/15/56, disclosed that Reverend C. T. Pratt, was reported to be using the church as a means of raising money to finance business projects in the name of the church. One of these projects was a newspaper published in Dalton, Ga., known as "The Southerner." Pratt employed Donald Lee West as editor of this paper. (No source)

A recent county grand jury conducted an investigation of the allegations of communist activity of West in his editorial policies in "The Southerner." West was subpoenaed before the grand jury and refused to answer questions based on his constitutional rights under the Fifth Amendment. (No source)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

b6
b7C

Lt. [] N A, Dalton Police Department, advised that the activities of Pratt and West might lead to some local disturbances because of strong feelings locally in support of, or against, the Pratt-West group.

62-75147-2-89 p. 217
(24)

b6
b7C

[] University of North Carolina advised that on 1/18/56 he was contacted by HCUA (61-7582) Representative [] [] advised that the committee had learned through newspaper investigation in Georgia of the activities of Don West, who published "The Southerner." [] stated that the committee positively would subpoena West but did not state if it was the intention of the committee to subpoena him at the March hearings or at a later date.

61-7582-2946 p. 1
(52)

The following references in the file captioned "Thomas Henry Koger, was.," set out information concerning the activities of Don West, CP member, and Harry and Grace Koger. West was a very close friend and associate of the Kogers and was a temporary resident at the Koger home in 1950-1951. The Kogers spent considerable time in the distribution of the book entitled "The Road is Rocky," a book of poems written by West which was dedicated to Harry and Grace Koger. During February, 1951, Harry Koger and West took a trip together to Oklahoma City. In 1955 West and the Reverend C. T. Pratt of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, Dalton, Ga., were publishers of the publication, "The Southerner," in which the CP was vitally interested. West attended meetings (type not given) with Koger and in February, 1956, West visited CP headquarters in NYC. ~~(S)~~ (U)

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

West was one of the founders of the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tenn., and was active in the CP in Atlanta, in 1934. He took an active part in the defense of Angelo Herndon, a Negro, who was arrested in Atlanta for distributing CP literature and charged with inciting a riot. West was state organizer in Kentucky for the Workers Alliance in 1937 and organized the ALB in Kentucky and raised several hundred dollars for this organization. West was reported to have been active for the APM in Bethel, Ohio, in 1940.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-33752-6 p. 9,13	(94)
8 p. 1-4	(7,18,30)
111 p. 2	(67)
119 p. 6-9,14,18,19	(67)
145 p. 2,20-22,26,28,33,34,38-40,48	(67)
146 p. 1	(30)
158 p. 1-4	(7,30)
160 p. 2,3	(7)
164 p. 6,7	(18,30,67)
184 p. 5,6,8	(7,67,89)
203 p. 14	(46)
205 p. 6	(30,46)

b2
b7D

[redacted] advised that Don Lee West in January, 1956, conferred with Claude C. Williams at William's home in Helena, Alabama. West came to Alabama from Dalton, Ga., for the purpose of consulting persons in Alabama concerning the setting up of a newspaper. According to this informant, West was forced to leave Dalton because of his past CP connections. Williams wished to cooperate with West and would assist in financing the paper and would also contribute articles. These articles were to concern religious matters and would be written for the purpose of influencing ministers to follow the CP line. (S) (U)

[redacted] Pelham, Ala.
(protect identity), advised that on 3/6/56 Don West attended a meeting of the Pelham Citizens Council (105-46526) of which [redacted] held at the Pelham school house, Pelham, Ala. West obtained some of the literature.

b6
b7C
b7D

105-46526-2 p. 4
(83,90)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] advised on 11/10/55 that the CP was considering sending [redacted] (100-355091) and [redacted] to the South where [redacted] would work as assistant to Don West, editor of a small-town newspaper. (S) (U)

[redacted] advised that on 12/29/55 he learned that Don West, either the owner or editor of "The Southerner" of Dalton, Ga., had come to NY to interview [redacted] for a job on his newspaper and that [redacted] had made a trip to NY about 12/20/55 to confer with West. Informant stated that [redacted] had accepted West's proposition and would be going to Georgia to work. b2
b6
b7C
b7D

100-355091-60 p. 2,8
(73)

According to an Atlanta memo dated 4/20/56, an investigation was conducted in the Atlanta and Dalton, Ga., areas in an effort to locate [redacted] (100-355091), with negative results. [redacted] original plan in coming to Dalton was to accept employment with Donald Lee West, who was then editor of "The Southerner," which was affiliated with the Church of God of the Union Assembly. (No source) b6
b7C

On 1/13/56 West was expelled from the above mentioned church and relieved of all duties with "The Southerner." Since that time, West had published a paper entitled "The New Southerner, Voice of the South," in Montgomery, Ala. West's exact residence was unknown, but he still owned his home on Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., which appeared to be unoccupied. (No source)

[redacted] State of Georgia (protect identity), advised that West allegedly had been living with Aubrey Williams in Montgomery, Ala. b7D

100-355091-48 p. 2
(35)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

b2
b7D

[redacted] advised that Donald West had visited CP head-
quarters in NYC on 2/10/56. ~~(S)~~ (U)

b6
b7C

[redacted], Knoxville, advised that
on 3/17/56, she observed an automobile bearing Georgia license parked
at the residence of [redacted] (100-414701), [redacted] for
approximately one hour.

On 5/29/56 [redacted], clerk, Motor Vehicle Bureau, Atlanta,
advised that the above automobile was registered to D. L. West, Route 4,
Douglasville, Ga.

b6
b7C

Add. info.

100-414701-14 p. 1-3
(10/30/95)

NY-1286-S* on 7/3/56, reported that Donald West was in NYC
for the purpose of raising funds for his publication "The Southerner,"
which he had started again and of which two issues had appeared.
Isidore Gibby Needleman (100-341652) was asked by an individual known
to informant only as Frank whether Needleman might be able to interest
the group in Hampton Bays, NY, in supporting West. Needleman suggested
that Moses Sherr was the proper person to approach. ~~(S)~~ (U)

NY-559-S* described "The Southerner," which was edited by
West and published under the auspices of the "Church of God's
Assembly," as "the religious expression of the 'DW'." This informant
added that the CP wanted this periodical which had discontinued publi-
cation, reinstituted inasmuch as it was an "essential instrument and
weapon in the fight for Negro freedom in the South." ~~(S)~~ (U)

Moses Sherr was elected to the Board of Directors of the NY
Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild for 1954-1955, according to the
"NY Guild Lawyer," a publication of the NYC Chapter.

[100-341652-561 p. 52] ~~(S)~~ (U)
(8)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

John Cye Cheasty, Attorney, 67 Wall St., NYC, on 7/20/56, advised that he was employed as a private investigator by the Cities Transit Bus Company to investigate the circumstances surrounding the bus boycott by Negroes at Tallahassee. Cheasty stated that his investigation had failed to indicate that the bus boycotts at Montgomery and Tallahassee were communist inspired; however, he had ascertained that Don West, whom he described as an Alabama communist leader, had been in Montgomery and Tallahassee during recent weeks.

Fla
100-135-61-192 p. 1
(60)

The 7/27/56 issue of "The Cleaver," official publication of Armour Local 347, UPWA (100-35658), carried an article regarding Don West who was scheduled to speak in Chicago on 8/2/56. This article characterized West as being a poet, author and great crusader for freedom in the South. It further stated that he was the editor of "The New Southerner," a newspaper with over five thousand readers since 1953 and reached thousands of people in every southern state. The article stated that "The New Southerner" spoke out against the Eastlands, Talmadges and the White Citizens Council (not further explained).

100-35658-491 p. 49
(67)

b6
b7C
b7D

Lt. [redacted] GBI, Atlanta, Ga. (protect identity), advised that [redacted] (100-427492) contacted Donald Lee West, Douglasville, Ga., on 8/8/56 and invited West to accompany him to Ft. Benning, Ga., to visit a friend, David L. Moose. This informant also advised that on 11/22/56, [redacted] automobile was observed parked at the residence of Don West, Douglasville. An automobile registered to John E. Hester, Sr., was also parked at the residence of West on this date.

(continued)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(continued)

On 11/28/56 Lt. [] advised that [] was employed as a laborer on the farm of West and operated an automobile registered to John E. Hester, Sr.

b6
b7C

Add. info.

100-427492-1 p. 1,6,8,14,15
(40,83)

NY-559-S* advised that Don West, accompanied by Edward Eugene Strong, had visited CP headquarters in NYC on 2/10/56. (S) (U)

According to CG-5824-S, Strong as of 12/8/55 was a member of the CP National Administrative Committee. (S) (U)

[] Post Office, Douglasville, Ga. (protect identity), advised on 11/28/56 and 2/8/57 that [] (100-373305), was employed as a farm laborer on the farm of Donald Lee West, Route 4, Douglasville.

b6
b7C
b7D

Add. info.

100-373305-29 p. 1,2
(37,77)
SI to para. 3
100-373305-28 p. 1,2
(37)

b6
b7C

For record purposes, [] of the SISS inquired as to the last known addresses of four individuals including Don West. He was informed that West resided at Route 4, Douglasville, Ga., as of 2/25/57.

62-88217-2215
(53)

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This reference concerning hearings of the State of Louisiana Joint Legislative Committee on subversion in racial unrest, revealed that during the testimony of Manning Johnson, former CP member, on 3/8/57 Johnson read the names of numerous individuals who were connected with the NAACP. Donald L. West was among these individuals.

b6
b7C
b7D

On 3/9/57 [] CP member and informant for FBI, testified that she met Don West at a Peace Crusade meeting held in Chicago in September, 1940, sponsored by the APM of Chicago. [] stated that on one occasion after the above conference, she had visited West at Bethel, Ohio. West, who had a church in Bethel and several missions near Cincinnati, stated at this time that he had in his various missions Boy Scout troops and that he hoped to bring these youngsters up in the YCL. [] stated she believed West was a Party member who was sent to theological school by the Party for the express purpose of preaching the doctrine of the CP under the cloak of religion. [] introduced the front record of West (set out).

62-103863-13 encl. p. 201,223,224,235,
(1,14,45) 246

The following references in the file captioned "Southern Newsletter" file #100-427197, set out information concerning Don West in connection with the above publication. West was reported to be a staff member of the "Southern Newsletter," although he was not listed in the publication as such. West was a regular contributor to the newsletter and the September, 1957, issue contained a statement in support of this publication by West.

Perry Cartwright listed as circulation manager of the "Southern Newsletter," was associated with West in the publications "The Southerner" and "The New Southerner." Cartwright also handled arrangements for public appearances by West during a visit of West in Chicago in 1956.

SERIALS

1 p. 1 encl.
4 p. 2
16 p. 2,3,4

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

(82)
(82)
(40,47)

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The "Atlanta Constitution" dated 10/27/57 contained an article entitled "Two A-Spies Ruled From Memphis Quiz." This article stated in part that the SISS hearings in Memphis were concerned with reported communist activities in the mid-South area, and that 18 persons had been subpoenaed to testify. These individuals included Don West of Douglasville, Ga.

65-59028-A "The Atlanta Constitution,"
(55) 10/27/57

The "Washington Star" dated 10/29/57 contained an article entitled "Woman Balks at Probe of Red Activity in South." Concerning the SISS hearings at Memphis, Tenn., this article stated in part that the lone "unfriendly" witness, Donald L. West, who said he had a farm near Douglasville, Ga., turned away some 20 questions on the ground that answering might tend to incriminate him.

100-205295-A "Washington Star,"
(20) 10/29/57
SI 100-205295-A "Commercial Appeal,"
(8) Memphis, Tenn.
10/29/57

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] advised that during the week of 11/17/57, [redacted] (100-391922) had engaged in a conversation concerning the developments within the CP and stated that the Party would have to change if he fooled with it any more. He stated the CP would not get anywhere as long as it concentrated on Negro people altogether. Van Camp stated that the CP had expelled many good people for telling them that they could not just concentrate on Negro people alone. As an example, he mentioned Don West, who he said was a good man but that they had gotten mad at him because he would not go along with them on the Negro question. (S) (U)

100-391922-18 p. 4
(47)

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Senator Eastland furnished to the Bureau two letters dated 5/8/58 and 5/12/58 written by Buford W. Posey (121-44539) of Philadelphia, Miss., to [redacted] a lawyer of Washington, DC. In these letters Posey identified certain individuals in the South as communists or dupes. These individuals included Donald L. West. b6 b7C

Senator Eastland requested an evaluation of Posey as a possible Government witness and also requested information on the individuals identified in Posey's letters.

It was recommended that Senator Eastland be advised of Posey's mental instability and also ascertain whether he still desired information concerning the individuals identified by Posey.

121-44539-31 p. 4
(22)

According to a Bureau memorandum dated 5/27/58, the SISS (62-88217) was interested in holding additional hearings regarding communism in the South. To assist this committee, it was requested that the identities of any possible Government witnesses who could testify against one or more of the individuals from the South identified by [redacted] in letters to a Washington, DC, attorney as being communists or communist dupes be made available. Individual memoranda containing public source material on six of the individuals named by [redacted] were furnished. The names of individuals were set forth in these memoranda who could be considered as possible Government witnesses in this connection. The six subjects included Donald Lee West. b6 b7C

Copy of memoranda enclosed
62-88217-2497 p. 1 encl.
(24)

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The November, 1955, issue of "The Southerner," a monthly newspaper then published at Dalton, Ga., contained the full text of a speech made by Aubrey Williams (100-52504) at the Church of God in Dalton on 10/14/55. The article revealed that Williams was introduced to an estimated four thousand people by Don West, Editor of "The Southerner."

b2
b7D

[redacted] advised that West had as of 3/26/56 plans to publish a newspaper which he planned to call "The New Southerner." West indicated that he had made arrangements with Aubrey Williams, Editor of the "Southern Farmer" in Montgomery, Ala., to publish the paper. Informant stated that West was being assisted in this matter by Claude Clossie Williams, Director of the PIAR. (S) (U)

The 3/30/56 issue of the "Montgomery Advertiser," Montgomery, Ala., carried an article captioned "Self-Syled 'Voice of New South' Rolls Off Presses at Southern Farmer Printing Plant." This article stated that Donald L. West, formerly of Dalton, was publishing "The New Southerner" and that the first issue of this paper was produced at the "Southern Farmer" printing plant at Montgomery. A considerable portion of the rest of the article was devoted to the background of West.

[redacted]
New Orleans (protect identity), advised on 9/30/58 and on 10/30/58 that Don West was among the persons who were paid substantial sums of money by SCEF during the months preceding those dates.

b6
b7C
b7D

It was noted that the SCEF was listed as a CP front organization.

Add. info.

100-52504-50 p. 7,8,17,18
(19,46)

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Chief Nick Nohach, Chief of Police, Butler, Pa., advised that Reverend [] of Butler was concerned about the visit of a group called the Koinonia Foundation (105-17284) to Butler on 1/7/59. According to Chief Nohach, Reverend [] believed this group was connected with the Koinonia Farm Leader at Americaus, Ga. [] stated that the Georgia group was associated with the Highlander Folk School, a communist training school and that Don West, a prominent CP functionary, was a member and organizer of the Georgia Koinonia group. [] stated that West had appeared before the Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and had testified on October 28-29, 1957 before this committee.

b6
b7C

105-17284-16 p. 1,4
(2,47,83)

On 3/22/60 Alton Anderson Lawrence, 608 North 16th St., Bessemer, Ala., advised that he became active in the Socialist Party (SP) about 1932. He stated that during the early part of 1936, the CP changed its position from opposition to the SP to one of a united front with the SP and about this time Don West, CP functionary, approached him to join forces with the CP. Lawrence recalled that he outlined to West basic differences between the SP and the CP, a primary one being the CP's position that Soviet Socialism would have to be adopted in the US; another was the CP discipline with which Lawrence did not agree. In spite of these differences, West maintained that they were both working for the same objectives and consequently, they should join forces. West encouraged Lawrence to read various Marxist publications.

100-108199-4045 p. 11
(47)

The following references captioned "Grace Marie Koger, was." set out information concerning the activities of Harry and Grace Koger and Don West. On 1/21/51 Grace Koger was invited to the residence of Harriett N. Leary, 128 West Evergreen, San Antonio, to hear Don West read some of his poetry. A meeting was held at the Koger residence, 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, on 11/8/51. The primary purpose of this meeting was to get help from those present to fold and mail leaflets soliciting the sale of Don West's book of poems, "The Road is Rocky."

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West resided with the Kogers for several months during the early part of 1951 and in June, 1951 Harry and Grace Koger visited West who was believed to be residing in Alabama.

On 6/1/51 West of Douglasville, Ga., requested that his first class mail be forwarded to 110 West Cypress St., San Antonio, the residence of Harry and Grace Koger. About 5/1/51 Elya Bresler, a friend of the Kogers visited the Koger home at which time West was residing with the Kogers. Bresler appeared to be a friend of West also. Grace Koger was very active in distributing literature advertising the book entitled, "The Road is Rocky," by Don West. Several publications carried articles concerning the sale of this book. On 8/17/61 a social gathering was held for Mr. and Mrs. Don West at the residence of Bob Colvin in San Antonio, where the Wests were visiting Harry and Grace Koger. On 2/10/56 West visited CP headquarters in NYC. West was mentioned in several copies of the "DW" as a CP organizer for Kentucky and/or in the South.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-391719-2 encl. p. 1	(80)
4 p. 1,10,12,15,16,18,	(80)
19,21,22	
20 p. 5,25	(80)
41 p. 1,15,16	(39,47,90)

b6
b7c

[redacted] District Lodge #119, International Association of Machinists (IAM), Fort Worth, Texas, advised that on 10/14/61 [redacted] an employee of the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company, Fort Worth, had asked [redacted] (100-363271), also an employee of this company, some questions at a hearing held before Western Lodge #324, IAM, concerning [redacted] communist attitude. During the above questioning [redacted] was asked if he knew Don West. [redacted] replied that he recognized the name of Don West and when asked if he had ever met West, [redacted] replied no.

100-363271-51 p. 9
(47)

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According to an Atlanta report dated 5/7/63, Frank Marshall Akers, III (100-120834) advised that he spent considerable time and money gathering information which he thought might be of value to the CIA and was at present maintaining a lookout for several former CP members namely Don West and [redacted] who had previously lived near Carrollton, Ga., but were both believed to be living in Atlanta at this time. b6 b7C

105-120834-1 p. 4
(47)

[redacted] furnished a partial list of sponsors of the National Committee to abolish the HCUA (100-433447) as of 10/1/63. This list included Don West, Douglasville, Ga. (S) (U) b2 b7D

100-433447-395 encl. p. 5
(47)

The following references in the file captioned CP,USA, contain information pertaining to the activities of Donald Lee West, an official of this organization.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-3-32 encl. p. 1	(87)
2019 p. 1	(56)
2768 p. 48,49	(14,56)
5579 p. 163-165	(56)
100-3-4-649 p. 2	(87)
5659 p. 6	(56)
5696 p. 4	(56)
6011 p. 20	(56)
100-19826-1X1 Changed to 100-3-11-1X1 p. 12	(6)
100-19826-4 Changed to 100-3-11-4 p. 2,3	(65)

(continued)

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REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
61-3963-180	
Changed to	
100-3-14-180 p. 38	(34)
100-3-30-223 p. 16	(56)
100-3-32-362 p. 1	(56)
369 p. 1	(56)
421 p. 2,3	(89)
424 p. 3,4	(25, 56)
432 p. 1,13-15	(89)
100-3-33-X2 p. 1,2	(57)
61-7026-3	
Changed to	
100-3-33-3 p. 40,55-57,67	(3)
61-7026-13	
Changed to	
100-3-33-13 p. 2	(3)
100-3-33-25 p. 37	(25)
43 p. 11	(25)
109 p. 1,2	(14)
119 p. 12,13	(14)
168 p. 6	(25)
175 p. 1,4,5,9-13	(25, 57, 87)
184 p. 1,14,20	(103)
188 p. 1,9-14	(5, 15, 103)
191 p. 2,9,11	(15)
193 p. 1,3,15,17,20-22,25-30	(5, 15, 57)
196 p. 1,2	(57)
198 p. 1	(57)
202 enc1. p. 1	(57)
205 p. 1	(94)
206 p. 2	(26)
208 p. 2-4,8,14,15,17,18,31-37, 39,40,44,45,57,58	(26, 57)

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REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-3-33-217	p. 2	(57)✓
225	p. 9,13,26	(26)✓
238	p. 6,13	(15,26)✓
244	p. 3,7,13,15,19	(26)✓
248	p. 5,12	(26)✓
249	p. 2	(57)✓
253	p. 3,9	(26)✓
257	p. 3,10	(26)✓
270	p. 4	(26)✓
302	p. 26	(43)✓
304	p. 27	(43)✓
306	p. 27	(5)✓
309	p. 27	(15)✓
322	p. 27	(15)✓
100-3-34-X	p. 2	(87)✓
61	p. 12	(15)✓
100-3-39-422	p. 24	(57)✓
100-3-40-164	p. 13,15,16,18,20	(58)✓
166	p. 10,15,18,22,24	(58)✓
169	p. 15-17,18	(58)✓
173	p. 11,15,16,19,20,23,25	(58)✓
175	p. 9,12-14,16,17	(58)✓
223	p. 1,18	(58)✓
100-15627-27		
Changed to		
100-3-46-27	p. 70	(88)✓
100-15627-37		
Changed to		
100-3-46-37	p. 36,40	(64)✓
100-15627-43		
Changed to		
100-3-46-43	p. 1	(64)✓
100-3-46-47	p. 1	(26)✓
100-15627-48		
Changed to		
100-3-46-48	p. 56,58	(64)✓

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REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-15627-53 Changed to 100-3-46-53 p. 2	(64)
100-3-46-108 p. 7	(58)
295 p. 2A	(58)
311 p. 1	(58)
100-3-57-79 p. 5	(58)
100-3-59-152 p. 163	(92)
198	(27)
100-3-60-543 p. 20	(58)

The following references in the file captioned CP,USA contain information pertaining to the CP activities of Donald Lee West in the categories as set out below:

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

Membership

100-3-68-2059 p. 2	(27)
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Organization

100-3-69-84 p. 1	(15)
108 p. 1,2	(15)
2182 encl. p. 6	(58)
7626 p. 2,3	(27)

Education

100-3-71-927 p. 2	(27)
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REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

Political Activities

100-3-72-259	p. 2	(15)
283	p. 1-4,7	(15,59)
286	p. 1-3	(16)
288	p. 1,2	(16)
302	p. 1,2	(16,59)
326	p. 1	(16,59)
364	p. 1-3	(59)
365	p. 1	(59)
371	p. 1,2	(59)
389	p. 1 encl. p. 1	(5)
394	p. 3,4	(59)
410	p. 1	(16)
414	p. 1	(59)
467	encl. p. 1	(59)
553	encl. p. 2	(59)

Brief

100-3-74-9986	p. 3,4	(59)
14286	p. 15	(59)

Farmers

100-3-79-20	p. 1,2	(16)
28	p. 1	(16)
287	p. 7	(60)

International Relations

100-3-81-241	p. 1	(16)
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Religion

100-3-82-A	"Atlanta Consitution,"8/13/48	(27,60)
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Security Measures

100-3-84-222	p. 1	(59)
439	p. 1	(16)
647	p. 1	(27)
1055	p. 2	(27)

(continued)

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REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

Pamphlets and Publications

100-3-86-178 p. 2
224 p. 2

(60)
(89)

Strategy in Industry

100-3-89-1448 p. 1,2
1469 p. 1

(16)
(6,60)

Cultural Activities

100-3-90-3 p. 3

(60)

Underground Operations

100-3-94-563 p. 1

(44)

100-3-94-2-12 p. 2,3

(27,60)

100-3-94-5-194 p. 2
202 p. 9

(60)
(60)

100-3-94-8-19 p. 4 encl. p. 33

(60)

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The following references in the file captioned "General Activities CP" file #61-7559, set out information concerning the CP activities of Donald L. West. West was district organizer for CP District #23, Louisville, which district comprised the entire state of Kentucky. He was reported to be a minister and was also reported to have stirred up trouble at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. West attended the tenth National Convention of the CP held approximately July, 1938. The June-July issue of the "Protestant Digest," 1940, contained an article concerning peonage in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, by Rev. Donald L. West. West made a trip to his native state to obtain first hand information in regard to peonage and its operations. West was a frequent contributor to the "DW."

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

85 p. 6
744 p. 4
931 p. 4
3063 p. 5
3142 p. 93
3172 p. 3
4277 p. 20
7599 p. 5
9703 p. 1
11220 p. 77

(51)
(51)
(93)
(51)
(51)
(51)
(93)
(51, 92)
(13)
(51)

The following references in the file captioned "APM" file #61-10498, set out information concerning the activities of Don West, CP member, who was active in the APM. West attended and sponsored meetings of the APM and spoke at some of them. APM meetings were attended religiously by CP members as part of their CP assignment work. West shipped literature to the APM, 1133 Broadway, NYC, from Meansville, Ga., where he printed a small newspaper called "The Country Parson."

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

403 p. 9
832 p. 8, 14
859 p. 1, 3-5
A "DW", 3/10/41, p. 3
A "DW", 6/16/41, p. 1

(52)
(4)
(14)
(4)
(14)

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The following references in the file captioned "Highlander Folk School" file #61-7511, set out information concerning the activities of Donald Lee West, one of the original founders of the Highlander Folk School. West left the school to become, first, Socialist state secretary for Georgia; then district trade union director of the CP in North Carolina; then, as Kentucky state organizer for the CP. Officials of the Highlander Folk School acknowledged the use of a parody on "My Country 'Tis of Thee," which was written by West and appeared in a pamphlet of workers' songs distributed by the school in 1938. West edited the "Country Parson," newspaper in Meansville, Ga., from 1/1/41 to June, 1941, and was founder and director of the Southern Folk School at Kennesaw, Ga., in 1935. West attended Vanderbilt University and won a scholarship to study abroad and supposedly traveled extensively in Europe. West stated that he organized an Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Kentucky consisting of thirty members and raised several hundred dollars for the brigade.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

72 p. 1,51,154

81 p. 1,3-6

117 encl.

A "Chattanooga News", 11/13/40

A "Washington Post", 8/24/47

A "Jackson Daily News", 10/16/57

A "The Atlanta Constitution", 12/16/57

(50,105)

(4,24)

(50)

(51)

(51)

(51)

(51)

The following references in the file captioned "Ku Klux Klan, aka" (KKK) file #100-7801, set out information concerning the activities of Don West, who had been designated as the top CP functionary in Atlanta. [redacted] for the United Public Workers of America Local at the Lawson General Veterans Hospital, Atlanta, was in contact with the CP district organizer for Georgia and also Don West. West, who was executive vice president of the Georgia "Wallace for President" committee, stated that Governor Thompson should have had State troopers at the polls on election day so that all eligible to vote, both Negro and white, would have been assured of their right to vote. West had formerly been a member of the Unitarian-Universalist Church in Atlanta, whose pastor was connected with the PPP of Georgia. At a meeting of the Douglasville, Ga., Klavern,

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b7c

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KKK, on 4/29/58, the Exalted Cyclops of the Klavern discussed the possibility of visiting Don West, but no plans were made for this visit. In 1942 West was appointed Superintendent of Schools at Lula, Ga.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-7801-469 p. 3	(62)
577 p. 3	(62)
586 p. 1	(62)
598 p. 45	(62)
996 p. 1	(28)
3963 p. 114, 119	(46)
A "DW", 8/17/46	(62)
100-7801-2-274 p. 235	(46)

The following references in the file captioned "National Maritime Union of America" (NMU) file #100-120818, set out information concerning the activities of Donald L. West, CP member and member of the NMU. West was one of the intellectual comrades who under the jurisdiction of the NMU, was working on ships and at the same time handling messages, watching situations and reporting in an intellectual manner, conditions in various parts of this country along the coasts and other sections of the world.

West was a good friend of Mrs. F.D.R.* He was a Vanderbilt graduate, and was also in charge of the CP in Georgia. Later West was placed in charge of CP District #23 with headquarters at Louisville, Ky. The next move that West made was to work around the airfields of Fairfield, Ohio, then to ships. West's NMU book number was 48506.

SERIAL	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
9 p. 2	(88)
29X8 p. 1	(88)
49 encl. p. 1	(70, 88)
2976 encl. p. 13	(2)

*Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

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The following references in the file captioned "PIAR" file #100-44814, set out information concerning the activities of Donald Lee West, Georgia State Director of this organization. West was also listed on the letterhead as a sponsor of the PIAR. The program of the institute had been a scriptural interpretation of communism allied with labor unionism among the sharecroppers and cotton pickers of the South.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

1 p. 22,23
6 encl. p. 1,4
32 p. 2
46 p. 1,2
52 p. 1,2
54 p. 5,21,23
54X p. 1,2
73 p. 4,5,15,16
81 p. 7,10
87 p. 5,6
95 p. 1
108 p. 1,2
125 p. 14,26
133 p. 1,2
160 p. 3
162 p. 7

(19)
(19)
(8)
(31)
(8,31)
(19,68)
(68,94)
(19,68)
(19,68)
(31,68)
(31)
(31)
(69,94)
(69,94)
(69)
(19)

The following references in the file captioned "Cominfil of the PP of America" contain information pertaining to the activities of Donald Lee West, a CP organizer in the South, who was instrumental in the formation of the PPP of Georgia. West was executive vice-chairman of the State Committee of this organization as of 3/8/48.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-357934-33 p. 2-5,15,16,20,21
89 p. 2,3
227 p. 2
1023 p. 10,143
1133 encl. p. 107
1620 encl. p. 1
A "Washington Daily News",
8/13/48
A "Washington News", 8/13/48

(21,36,75)
(36)
(9,36)
(9,36)
(75)
(9)
(75)
(75)

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The following references in the file captioned "Southern Conference for Human Welfare" file #100-10355, set out information concerning the activities of Donald Lee West, top CP functionary in Atlanta, Ga. West took a leading part in getting the arrangements committee organized for the Henry A. Wallace meeting on 11/20/47 in Atlanta, and attended most of the preliminary meetings in connection with this affair. West attended a Wallace meeting in Chicago as a representative of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. West was also a signer of the declaration of the Declaratory Conference on Civil Rights at Charlottesville, Va., and was described as a writer for the "DW" in the past.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

82 p. 20	(6)
94 p. 1,2	(17, 28)
264 p. 1,2	(28)
277 p. 1,2	(6, 28)
282 p. 2,3	(6)
288 p. 1,2	(17, 28)
290 p. 1,2,3	(17)
291	(62)
299 p. 1	(6, 17)
300	(17)
301 p. 1-4	(18)
329 p. 18	(62)
339 p. 3,6,7	(18, 28, 62)
345 p. 2	(62)
363 p. 27,32,47	(29, 62)
406 p. 3B,52	(29, 63)
420 p. 4	(6, 63)
744 p. 4	(46)
762 p. 2-4,6	(46)
813 p. 25	(46)
A "New Orleans States", 8/28/47	(63)

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The following references in the file captioned "Southern Negro Youth Congress" file #100-6548, set out information concerning the activities of Donald West. West was a top CP functionary in the Atlanta Division, who attended meetings of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, a CP youth front movement. West also spoke at some of these meetings.

SERIAL

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

250 p. 37	(61)
259 p. 1	(61)
268 p. 4,5,7	(28)
295 p. 1,2,5,6	(17)

The following references in the file captioned "Samuel Joseph Hall, Jr., wa.," set out information concerning the activities of Donald L. West. West was a known CP member who was described as a "hot and cold member," having been in and out of the Party several times over a period of many years. Hall, a known associate of West, was in contact with West who had assisted him in the organizing of the CP in the Birmingham area.

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER

100-1548-103 p. 1	(6,17,27)
122 p. 2,3	(61)
143 p. 3,4	(61)

The following references appear in the main files of the individuals listed below. These references pertain to the associations, contacts and activities of these individuals and Donald Lee West, a CP member, in the CP and/or CP front organizations in the Atlanta, Ga. area.

NAME

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

100-194967-6 p. 2-4	(33,71)
9 p. 2-4	(33,71)
13 p. 2,3	(71)
14 p. 1	(72)
17 p. 1	(33)
19 p. 2	(72)

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b7C

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NAME

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

65-9302-1 p. 5
4 p. 1-3

(53)
(53)

100-349078-17

(74)

22 p. 8,9

(35,74)

25 p. 1

(35)

35 p. 1,4,7

(35)

51 p. 16,17

(9,20,35)

57 p. 2,3,5-10,
12,13,15,16

(9,20)

68 p. 1-7

(20)

70 p. 1

(21)

75 p. 1-3,5-8

(9,21)

79 p. 1-5

(35)

85 p. 3,5,9,11,13,
15,18

(35,74)

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b7c

108 p. 2,14

(74)

112 p. 19-24

(21,74)

128 p. 8,9

(9)

141 p. 8

(74)

158 p. 8

(74)

252 p. 53,76

(35,74)

A "Atlanta Jour-
nal" 6/5/49

(74)

100-372461-1 p. 1,2

(21,77)

2 p. 4

(21,77)

4 p. 1

(77)

5 p. 1,2

(9)

6 p. 1-3

(9)

100-26872-68 p. 2,3

(18,29)

84 p. 2

(29,66)

93 p. 13,17

(29)

100-46430-3 p. 2

(8,31)

62 p. 2

(19)

75 p. 1

(32)

77 p. 1,3

(32)

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NAME

REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP
PAGE NUMBER

100-46430-48 p. 2	(32)
49 p. 3	(32)
59 p. 1,2	(19)
100-99518-3 p. 1,2	(70)
7 p. 3,4	(70)
17 p. 3	(32,70)
29 p. 15	(8,32)
100-48057-3 p. 1,2	(69)
10 p. 1,5,7,8,13	(69)
11 p. 1-5,10	(69)
14 p. 1,2	(69)
15 p. 1,3,4,5	(69)
61-7617-22 p. 35	(13)
43 p. 8	(13)
58 p. 24,25	(13)
152 p. 7	(52)
175 p. 1	(24)
178 p. 1	(52)
180 p. 4	(4)
100-356023-1	(21)
5 p. 2-5	(21,75)
100-360282-1 p. 2	(37,76)
6 p. 1,2	(76)
100-355143-1 p. 7	(21)
6 p. 1, encl. p. 2,4	(36)
8 p. 1-4	(36,75)
13 p. 2,6	(36,75)
24 p. 6	(36)
100-286270-1 p. 1,2	(20)
2 p. 1	(34,95)
5 p. 1	(34)
9 p. 1,2	(34)
14 p. 1-3	(20)

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The following references set out meetings and affairs of the CP and/or CP front or related organizations which Donald Lee West attended or planned to attend. West spoke at some of these.

CP

DATE	PLACE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
June, 1936	NYC	61-443-1230 p. 6	(50)
12/29/43	Atlanta	100-104734-17 p. 2	(19)
		100-241219-2 p. 1;2	(20)
		123-15108-8 p. 10,11	(85) (Add. info.)

APMC

11/11/40	Cincinnati	100-14276-14 p. 4	(6)
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APM

11/11/40	Cincinnati	100-32887-7 p. 3	(67)
		100-145177-1 p. 3	(2)
		100-176003-7 encl. p. 9	(71)

The Citizens Committee of Smithfield, Ala.

3/22/43	Birmingham	100-24548-13 encl. P.	(66)
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SCHW

Nov. 28,30, 1946	New Orleans, La.	100-345517-41 p. 10	(73)
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Socialist Union of America

1/22/56	Chicago	100-408387-151 p. 16	(81)
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Washington Bookshop Assn.

9/16/49	Washington, DC	100-24699-262 p. 10	(66)
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The following references pertain to investigations and/or hearings of Congressional Committees. Information regarding the activities of Donald Lee West in connection with CP and CP front organizations, was set out in testimonies of individuals, exhibits and reports.

COMMITTEE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
HCUA	39-915-592 p. 350,779	(93)
	Dies Committee, statement of Walter S. Steele	
	61-7582-66 p. 17	(94)
	1298 encl. p. 451,	(13)
	591,1464,1468	
	1683 encl. p. 26,47	(52)
	2095 encl. p.2810-	(13)
	2812,2874	
	3087 encl. p.3626	(52)
	3938 encl. p.2627	(45)
	2634,2662,2664,	
	2665	
	61-10149-536 encl. p.15	(52)
	100-10355-273X p. 5	(62)
	392 p. 5	(63)
100-26912-3567 encl.p.108	(67)	
100-100123-33 encl.p.15,18	(70)	
Dies Committee Report Vol. 1 p. 128,314,625	(49,93)	
Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization of the Committee on the Judiciary, US Senate	62-88217-21 Pt.1 encl. p.	(53)
	504	
	677 encl.p.29	(53)
	775X1 encl.p.217	(45)
	1206 encl.p.3,4,7,	(53,99)
	25,55,77	
	1495 encl.p.12	(53)
	1525 encl.p.329	(53)
	330,Vol.310	
	2054 encl.p.1236	(53)
	2382 encl.p.25-31	(12,49,106)
	(Testimony of West Oct.28,29 1957)	
2594 encl.p.14	(45)	
SISS	-A "Memphis Press- Scimitar," Memphis, Tenn., 10/29/57	(1,14)

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COMMITTEE	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
Subcommittee to investigate the Admin. of the Internal Security Act and other Inter- nal Security Laws of the committee on the Judiciary, US Senate	100-10355-535 p. 136	(63)
	100-340922-340 encl. p. 9	(73)
Subcommittee of the Com- mittee on Foreign Relations, US Senate	121-23278-267X12 p. 167	(85)

The following references in Bureau file 100-15252, pertain to reports on the investigations and/or hearings of the committees of the California Legislature. Information regarding the CP activities of Don West was included in this material on un-American activities.

SERIAL	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
41 p. 451,526	(64)
59 p. 106	(64)

The following reference contained information of an administrative nature. There is no activity of Donald Lee West involved.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-311873-2 p. 1	(34)

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The following references set out information concerning the books and publications listed below which were written by Donald Lee West. Included was information pertaining to the use of these publications by CP fronts and the sale and distribution of them. In 1947 the book entitled "Clods of Southern Earth," was listed as an assigned reading in the Jefferson School curriculum dealing with problems of the Negro people.

NAME OF BOOK OR PUBLICATION	REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
"Clods of Southern Earth"	100-227027-122 p. 65	(72)
	61-6728-596 p. 4	(50)
	121-40848-2 p. 2	(85)
"The Road is Rocky"	100-7660-5265 p. 14	(61)
"The Road is Rocky"	100-43139-5 p. 9	(68)
"Why I Am a Communist"		
"The Road is Rocky"	100-333343-40 p. 2	(72)
	100-360089-16 p. 13	(76)
	100-373805-77 p. 2,3	(78)
	100-416013-1 p. 4	(82)
"The Road is Rocky"	140-22587-1 encl. p. 2	(48)
"Why I Am a Communist"		
"The Southerner"	100-9753-42 p. 11	(62)
	100-14196-59 p. 12	(63)

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REFERENCES NOT INCLUDED IN THIS SUMMARY

The following references on Donald L. West, and Don West located in files maintained in the Special File Room of the Files and Communications Division, Records Branch, were not reviewed:

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-345686-4	(20)
105-34074-1633	(47)

The following reference was not available during the time this summary was being prepared.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-7801-4509 p. 419	(96)

Pertinent portions of the following reference was unavailable at the time this summary was being prepared.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
100-3-33-329 p. 5,27	(15,26,57)

The following reference on Don West located in the Personnel Records Unit was not reviewed.

REFERENCE	SEARCH SLIP PAGE NUMBER
67-597351-1	(45)

See the search slip filed behind file for other references on this subject which contain the same information (SI) that is set out in the main file. Differences in source will be noted on the search slip.

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