

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: COMMON CAUSE

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70

United States Court of Appeals
District of Columbia Circuit
Washington, D. C.

Chambers of
Edmund Allen Tamm
United States Circuit Judge

October 14, 1970

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

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

My dear Edgar:

I submit herewith a brochure and solicitation
for funds from a group identifying itself as "Common
C.C. Cause." Some of the language in the brochure is rather
mystifying so I thought it would be well if you had this
material included in the Bureau files in the event you
receive inquiries about this organization.

Sincerely,

Ed (Allen Tamm)

EXP. PROC.

OCT 16 1970

JAN 5 1971

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ATTACHEE

REC-84

113809 - 1

MGT-65

OCT 26 1970

Handwritten initials/signature

Common Cause

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I would like to become a new member of Common Cause. I understand that my annual dues are \$12.00 which will receive the Common Cause newsletter plus material pertaining to special issues.

Check enclosed Bill me

MRS EDWARD TAMM
3353 RUNNYMEDE PL., NU
WASHINGTON DC 20015

AG

I wish to make a one-time contribution to Common Cause in the amount of _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-86 BY SP6 BTJ/CL
265.024

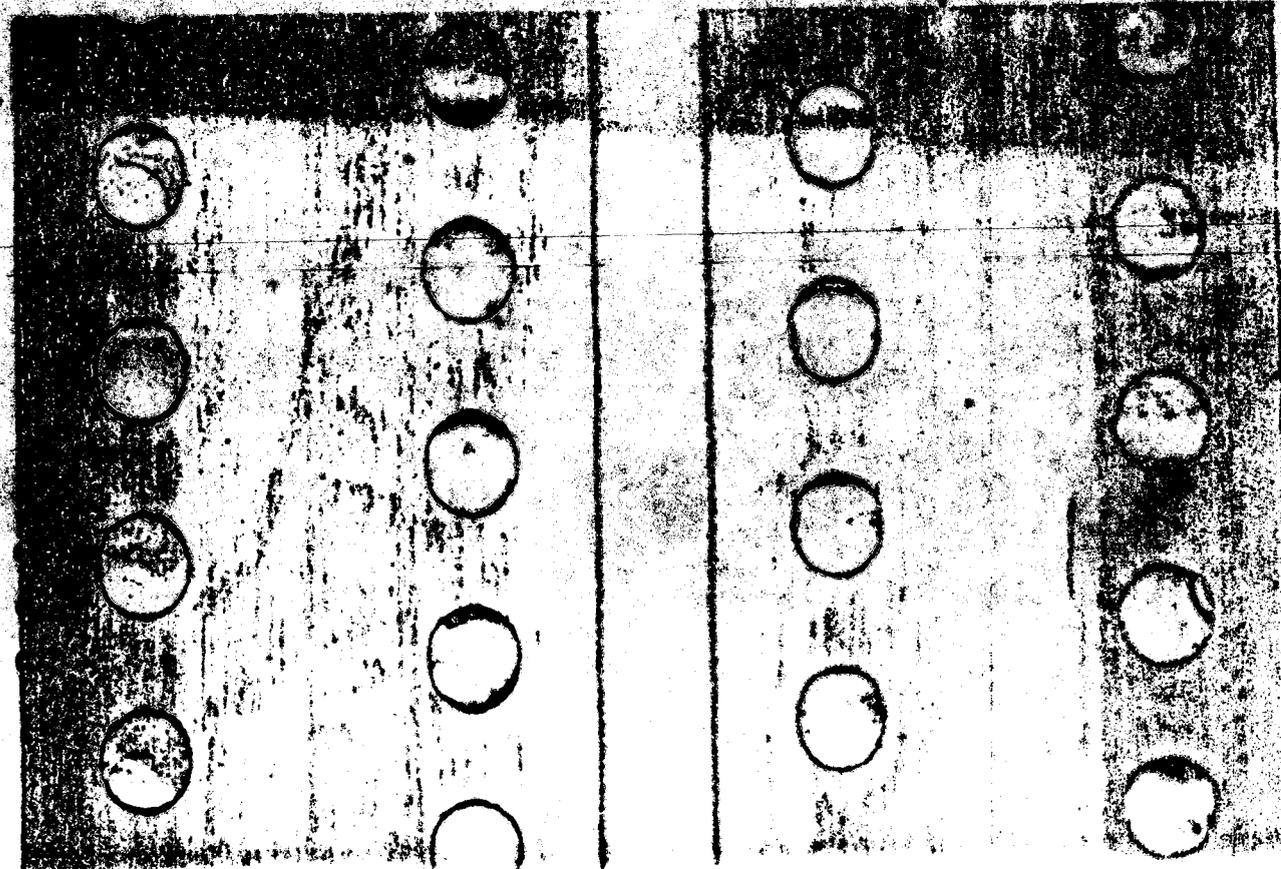
Of this amount, \$2.00 is allocated to the cost of the newsletter subscription (10 issues per year).

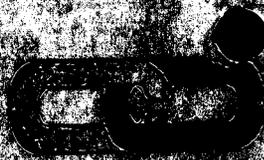
Common Cause, Inc. Washington, D.C. 20044

Common Cause

See us at our next meeting - good standing

See us at our next meeting - good standing





common cause

100 WASHINGTON ST. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

Dear Friend:

I would like to ask you to join me in forming a new, independent, nonpartisan organization to help in rebuilding this nation. It will be known as Common Cause. It will not be a third party but a third force in American life, deriving its strength from a common desire to solve the nation's problems and revitalize its institutions of government.

There is so much that needs to be done. There are so few who are properly organized to do it. We must end the war. We must bring about a drastic change in national priorities. We must renew our attack on poverty and discrimination. And we must keep at it until we build a new America.

I know many of you share my concern and my deep sense of urgency. We must act now. We must demand more of ourselves and much, much more of our leaders. We must shake up and renew outworn institutions.

Common Cause offers you the opportunity.

Many people today recognize that national priorities must be changed, but they don't know how to go about it. They are shocked by the facts of poverty and pollution and inadequate housing, but they don't know what to do.

The first thing Common Cause will do is to assist you to speak and act in behalf of legislation designed to solve the nation's problems. We are going to build a true "citizens' lobby" -- concerned not with the advancement of special interests but with the well-being of the nation. We will keep you up-to-date on crucial issues before Congress. We will suggest when and where to bring pressure to bear.

One of our aims will be to revitalize politics and government. The need is great. State governments are mostly feeble. City government is archaic. The Congress of the United States is in grave need of overhaul. The parties are virtually useless as instruments of the popular will. We can no longer accept such obsolescence.

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DATE 9-9-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CSL
265,024

Most parts of the system have grown so rigid that they cannot respond to unanticipated disaster. They are so ill-designed for their purposes that they waste taxpayers' money, make good programs and frustrate every good man who enters the system.

The solutions are not mysterious. Any capable city councilman, state legislator, party official, or Member of Congress can tell you highly practical steps that might be taken tomorrow to make the system more responsive. But there has been no active, powerful, hard-hitting constituency to fight for such steps. We can provide that kind of constituency.

Skeptics say "But you can't really change such things." The Congress of the United States has changed in dramatic ways since its founding. Why should we assume it has lost the capacity to change further?

The political parties have changed even more dramatically since the birth of the Republic. They can change again.

Common Cause is an outgrowth of the ^{Washington D.C.} Urban Coalition Action Council. Operating under a governing board of extraordinary diversity (mayors, minority group leaders, and leaders from business, labor and the major religious groups), the Action Council proved to be astonishingly effective. The Council has worked with a variety of allies in the civil rights organizations, the labor movement, the business community, and other groups. It has participated in major legislative victories, including extension of the Voting Rights Act, passage of the Welfare Reform Bill in the House, and defeat of a measure that would have virtually ended nonpartisan voter registration programs.

In short, we know from first hand experience that citizen action can be effective. We ask you to join us in making it even more so.

I shall not attempt to list here all the issues with which Common Cause will be concerned. We believe there is great urgency in ending the Vietnam War on a scheduled timetable. We believe there must be a major reordering of national priorities. We believe the problems of poverty and race must be among our first concerns. We will call for new solutions in housing, employment, education, health, consumer protection, environment, family planning, law enforcement and the administration of justice.

As our membership grows, we will ask members to help in identifying priority issues.

We do not expect every member to agree with every detail of our agenda. But our governing board has learned in these years of experience that it is possible to arrive at significant proposals that will be agreed on by Americans of widely differing backgrounds.

We take the phrase "Common Cause" seriously. The things that unite us as a people are more important than the things that divide us. No particular interest group can prosper for long if the nation is disintegrating. Every group must have an overriding interest in the well-being of the whole society. It follows that our agenda must be an agenda for all Americans -- for the poor, the comfortable and those in between, for old and young, for black and white, for city dweller and farmer, for men and women.

Many of you who will receive this letter share my anger at institutions and individuals that have behaved irresponsibly. But, if we're going to focus our anger, a good place to begin is with ourselves.

We have not behaved like a great people. We are not being the people we set out to be. We have not lived by the values we profess to honor.

~~America is not the nation it set out to be.~~ And we will never get back on course until we take some tough, realistic steps to revitalize our institutions. That won't be easy or comfortable. Institutions don't enjoy the process of renewal. But we had better get on with it.

In recent years we have seen altogether too much complacency, narrow self-interest, meanness of mind and spirit, irrational hatred and fear. But as I travel around the country, I see something else. I see great remaining strength in this nation. I see deeper reserves of devotion and community concern than are being tapped by present leadership. I see many, many Americans who would like to help rebuild this nation but don't know where to begin.

I invite you to be among the first to join us in Common Cause.

We cannot and should not depend on big contributors. The money to support our work must come from the members themselves.

We therefore ask you to enclose a check for \$15 with your membership application. Or, if you prefer, we will bill you later for that amount.

If you can afford to, we would appreciate an additional contribution - any amount.

With a large and active membership we can begin to remake America.

Sincerely yours,



John W. Gardner

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (62-4)

DATE: 10/19/70

FROM : SAC, TAMPA (62-4)

SUBJECT: COMMON CAUSE, P. O. Box 220, Washington, D. C. JOHN W. GARDNER, 2100 M Street NW, Washington, D. C. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9-9-84 BY SP8BTS/col

214

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau is a four-page letter signed by JOHN W. GARDNER, Chairman, Common Cause, 2100 M Street NW, Washington, D. C.; a membership application for this organization; a self-addressed envelope on this organization; and an envelope with return address of "JOHN W. GARDNER, 2100 M Street N.W., Washington, D. C."

Referenced letter indicates Common Cause is to be a third force in American life, desiring to solve the nation's problems and revitalize its institutions of Government, and indicates it is being organized to end the war and attack poverty and discrimination. This letter indicates that the Common Cause is an outgrowth of the Urban Coalition Action Council.

The above material was received by [redacted] who forwarded same to the Tampa Division for their information.

This material is being forwarded for the information of the Bureau and no investigation is being conducted by the Tampa Division concerning this matter.

62-113809-1X
100-342490-28

OCT 25

REC-47

OCT 21 1970

2 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
1 - Tampa
lp
(3)

ENCLOSURE
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

EX-103

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CRIME RESEARCH



5 OCT 28 1970
1971

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-81 BY SP9BT/ksl

U.S. POSTAGE
Permit No. 488
Washington, D.C.

OCT 14 1970

common cause

P.O. BOX 280, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20044

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

As I would like to become an active member of
Common Cause. I understand that my annual dues of
\$15.00 entitle me to receive the Common Cause news-
letter and material pertaining to special issues.

I want to do more. My check includes an
additional contribution to Common Cause
in the amount of _____

Check enclosed. Bill me.

[Redacted Name]

b7c

AH

*Of this amount,
\$2.00 is allocated
to the cost of the
newsletter subscription
(10 issues per year).

Detach membership card before returning application

common cause

P.O. Box 280, Washington, D.C. 20044

is a member in good standing

Please to certify that

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-81 BY SP9BT/ksl

October 20, 1970

Honorable Edward A. Tamm
United States Circuit Judge
District of Columbia Circuit
United States Court of Appeals
Washington, D. C. 20001

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5736
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Dear Ed:

Common Cause
Washington, DC

Your letters, with enclosures, of
October 13th and October 14th have been received
and I certainly appreciate your interest and thought-
fulness in bringing this information to my attention.

Sincerely,
E. A. Tamm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-86 BY [Signature] / CSC

NOTE: Former Assistant to the Director Tamm is on the Special
Correspondent's List and is known to the Director on a first name basis.

MAILED 21
OCT 20 1970
COMM-FBI

[REDACTED]

By letter
10/14/70 he enclosed literature from an organization, Common Cause,
John W. Gardner, Chairman. Gardner was formerly Secretary of Health,
Education and Welfare and resigned 3/1/68. We have had prior corre-
spondence with him and our last outgoing was 1/31/68 regarding a speech
matter. Bufiles reveal an organization by the same name which was self-
described as an anti-communist group and it was discussed in an SAC
Letter on 5/8/51. Gardner's organization is self-described as a new
organization dedicated to solving the Nation's problems and acting as a
"citizen's lobby." Mr. Tamm is a former Assistant to the Director who
EOD 12/1/30 and resigned 6/25/48.

- Tolson _____
- Sullivan _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Beaman, C.D. _____
- Callahan _____
- Casper _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Tavel _____
- Walters _____
- Soyars _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

NOV 5 1970

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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94-1-309-127
ORIGINAL FILED IN

TRUE COPY

Oct 29 1970

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

*0 on
my...*

Dear Sir:

I received the enclosed letter requesting my membership (money) for a new organization. Can you tell me if they are clean? that is, no subversive people or organizational tendencies?

Yours Very Truly

[Redacted signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-86 BY SP8 BT/lex

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EX-110

REC-56 62-113809-1X1
~~100-348490-30~~

OCT 29 1970

1- ENCLOSURE *5*

*acknowled
10/25/70
[Redacted] jll
86*

*1 T. C.
10-26-70
AC*

TRUE COPY

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Oct 21, 1970

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

Dear Sir:

I received the enclosed letter requesting my
membership (MONEY) for a new organization.

Can you tell me if they are clean? That
is, no subversive people or organizational
tendencies?

Yours Truly,


STANDARD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-86 BY SP8 BTJ/CS/L

6-2-80

file
0

1 T.C.
10-26-70
RCL

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RESPONSE

October 28, 1970

~~100-124941-90~~
~~62-113809-1X1~~

CST

[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-86 BY SP8 BTJ/cx

Dear [Redacted]

In reply to your letter of October 21st, with enclosure, information in our files must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice. Please do not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to Common Cause.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 8
OCT 28 1970
COMM-FBI

NOTE: There is no record of correspondent in Bufiles. He enclosed a letter urging the recipient to join a new organization, Common Cause, John W. Gardner, Chairman. Gardner was formerly Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare and resigned 3-1-68. We have had prior correspondence with him and our last outgoing was 1-31-68, regarding a speech matter. Bufiles reveal an organization by the same name which was self-described as an anticommunist group and it was discussed in an SAC letter on 5-8-51. Gardner's organization is self-described as a new organization dedicated to solving the Nation's problems and acting as a "citizen's lobby."

- Tolson _____
- Sullivan _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Brennan, C.D. _____
- Callahan _____
- Casper _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Tavel _____
- Walters _____
- Soyars _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

with (3) [Redacted]
NOV 11 1970
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TEB/a

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

IAN5 1971-11-2

R5

Memorandum

TO : SAC, DALLAS (100-0)

FROM : [Redacted]

SUBJECT: COMMON CAUSE
SM - MISCELLANEOUS

DATE: 10/22/70

3-

Enclosed for the Bureau is some literature received concerning Common Cause. This literature was forwarded to the Dallas Office by a [Redacted] in a letter received at Dallas 10/21/70. [Redacted] stated that the enclosed literature was received by her from [Redacted] she was forwarding this literature for information of the FBI.

Dallas indices are negative concerning the above captioned organization. [Redacted] and Urban Coalition [Redacted]

[Redacted] letter, with enclosed literature, has been acknowledged. [Redacted] 2100 N. ST. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037

Since the Dallas indices are negative regarding above captioned organization and names, no further action is being taken by Dallas OACB.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-9-86 BY SP8 BTJ/lal

REC-35

62-113809-1X2
100-218190-29

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED
[Redacted]

112

OCT 23 1970

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 2) (RM)
- 1 - Dallas [Redacted] pd



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

3:30 10-23-70