

of return post cards containing lists of questions pertaining to the safety of American institutions and policies. The cards were purchased and distributed by the organizations, and permitted their recipients to express their opinions on public issues.

A pamphlet published by the American Defense Society in 1945 advocates the following postwar military policy for the United States:

1. Universal military training of our youth.
2. A highly trained regular Army with every branch of a field Army represented.
3. Organization of outstanding scientists and military strategists into an independent continuing body to conduct research and investigation of all forms of offense and defense.
4. Maintenance of strong piles of military materials ready for any contingency.
5. Retention and fortification of all bases necessary to National Defense.
6. Preservation of America's present superiority on the sea under the plan announced by the Secretary of the Navy.
7. Maintenance of an effective and up-to-date air army in the Army and Navy, assuring at all times that we are abreast of all new developments.

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**NATIONAL SECURITY LEAGUE, INC.**

**ORIGIN AND OFFICERS**

The National Security League was organized in 1914 by S. Stanswood Hicken, a New York City lawyer, who served as its president for more than ten years without compensation. In 1923 C. M. Fenfield was executive secretary. J. W. Tiedeman served as executive secretary for many years and in 1941 stated that he and General Robert Lee Bullard, president of the organization, were the salaried officers, he receiving \$65 per week and General Bullard \$80 per week. The first headquarters was at 15 West 15th Street, New York City, and other headquarters occupied by the organization have been located at 19 West 14th Street, 17 East 49th Street, and 25 West 43rd Street.

**PURPOSE**

The National Security League, according to its own statement, was formed as a preparedness organization and began advocating preparedness for war in October, 1914. Following World War I its efforts were directed toward patriotic and educational purposes and toward the suppression of the radical movement.

**ACTIVITIES**

Following its organization in 1914 the League became a National organization, with branches throughout the United States. It claimed to have marched one million men in one day in a parade advocating preparedness. After the war the League advocated the adoption of the Constitution as a compulsory study in the schools of the United States. Programs of education were prepared for use in several states and the organization claimed to have been successful in having its program of compulsory teaching of the Constitution adopted in 13 states.

Numerous pamphlets were published and widely distributed pointing out the aims and dangers of "Socialism, Bolshevism, and Communism, and advocating an American America and permanent justice, order, peace and prosperity."

The League claimed a membership of between 150,000 and 160,000 with an additional membership of 300,000 in a women's affiliate organization immediately following World War I. In 1930 it claimed a paid membership of between 15,000 and 20,000.

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- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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During the 1930's the League became more or less inactive. In 1938 it was listed as one of the organizations cooperating with the Dies Committee in its investigation of subversive activities. In 1940 some interest is shown in the revival of the League in an effort to make it operate as "a gigantic propaganda agency which would restrict its activities entirely to appropriate publicity campaigns, in an effort to bring about a desirable public sentiment and opinion concerning National Defense and preparedness measures."

On June 17, 1945, the National Security League sponsored a talk in Milwaukee by Mrs. Agnes Waters of Washington, D. C. in which, according to newspaper announcements, Mrs. Waters referred to an alleged conspiracy "to bleed the United States white and make Soviet Russia a dominant nation."

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October 12, 1945

RE: NATIONAL CIVIC FEDERATION

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Origin

The National Civic Federation was organized in 1900 by Ralph Montgomery Hasley, who became Chairman of the Executive Council of the organization and continued to guide its activities until his death in 1939. It was the outgrowth of the Civic Federation of Chicago which was organized in 1893 by Hasley for the purpose of bringing about municipal reform in Chicago.

The presidents of the organization were successively Senator Marcus A. Hanna, August Belmont, Seth Low, V. Everit Lacy, Alton B. Parker, and Acting President Matthew Woll. Elihu Root was the honorary president from 1922 until 1927. Samuel Gompers became the vice president at the inception of the organization.

Upon the death of Hasley in 1939, Mack W. Beeks, brother of Mrs. Hasley's widow, became the Chairman of the Executive Council. Mrs. Hasley became Secretary of the Executive Council.

Headquarters of the organization for several years were maintained on the thirty-third floor of the Metropolitan Tower in New York City. Headquarters was subsequently moved to 35 East 44th Street and later to 332 Madison Avenue. Since 1942, the office of the Federation has been at 112 Park Avenue, a combination living room and bedroom used as living quarters by Mrs. Hasley.

Purpose

The announced purpose of the organization is to "seek the solution of some of the great problems related to political, social and industrial progress. It provides especially for discussion of questions of national importance and aids in the crystallization of enlightened public opinion and promotes legislation when desirable. It was the pioneer in bringing together in one educational movement representatives of the three great forces of capital, labor and the general public. It combats all forms of radicalism - Pacifism, Socialism, Communism, Bolshevism, Nazism and Anarchism; and advocates evolutionary rather than revolutionary procedure."

Activities

During the later 20's and early 30's the organization strenuously fought against American recognition of Soviet Russia, and not only demanded laws to outlaw Communists in this country but proposed a national economic conference to establish a world boycott on Soviet Russia. It supported conferences on trusts, the foreign policy of the United States, immigration,

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uniform state legislation, workmen's compensation, social insurance, taxation, industrial conciliation and public utilities ownership.

In 1940 the "Religious Recovery Division" was created within the Federation with the announced purpose of encouraging church attendance, using the slogan "The preservation of the church means the preservation of civilization." In 1941 the "Industrial Advisory Service" was announced by the Federation for the purpose of surveying industrial plants for security reasons and "to aid in eliminating revolutionary and subversive elements from organized labor." Since 1942 the efforts of the organization have been directed to the field of patriotic education.

The organization has depended upon voluntary contributions for its financial support, and there are indications that support has been meager since 1939.

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THE REGULAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

DATE 10/11/82 BY SP-2057/jng

The Regular Veterans Association is reported to have originated in 1932, at which time it was known as the Regular and Disabled Service Association with headquarters in the Victor Building, Washington, D. C. At that time, Captain E. B. Haines, Ocean City, New Jersey, was allegedly the Commander-in-Chief. Benjamin Johnson of Whitley, Kentucky, was the Senior Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief. Harry Dewitt of Washington, D. C. was reported to be Adjutant General and J. B. McAndrew, 724 Ninth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. was the official representative to the Veterans Administration.

In October, 1934, reorganization of this association was undertaken by one Walter Johnson, 418 Chestnut Street, Clarendon, Virginia, who had been National Commander. The organization then had approximately ninety members and was apparently a sole creation of Walter Johnson. Because it was not national in scope and Johnson could not show a definite need for its cooperation in presenting claims and in assisting in adjudicating veterans' claims, recognition was denied it by the Veterans Administration in January, 1935, as well as in October, 1936.

Around March, 1935, the Regular and Disabled Service Organization was changed to the Regular Veterans Association, its present name, and by April, 1935, it claimed 212 paid-up members. By November 11, 1936, the organization claimed membership of 1,400 with a wide-spread geographical membership approaching national scope. The Regular Veterans Association was granted temporary recognition by the Veterans Administration on November 14, 1936, with G. Frederick Tucker, East Falls Church, Virginia, as representative.

This organization was formally and permanently recognized on August 10, 1938, by the Veterans Administration under the provisions of Section 200, Public 844 of the Seventy-fourth Congress approved June 29, 1936. At the time it filed formal application on August 3, 1938, it claimed to have membership of 6,856 members.

This organization was incorporated on March 26, 1935, apparently in the District of Columbia. In 1940, the National Commander was reported to be Earl Gardner, No. 11 Park Place, New York City, and the recognized representative to the Veterans Administration was said to be J. Carl West of Washington, D. C., the National Quartermaster and Service Officer of the organization. Roy B. Hoggood, 5122 Fulton Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. was formerly National Commander having been elected in July, 1937.

The purpose of the organization apparently is to represent and assist veterans of the Regular Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, who have served at least one year in any of these services. Its purpose is also to secure legislation and to give other assistance to place this group of regular service personnel in a position at least as favorable as that given to war veterans.

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October 12, 1945

MOTHERS OF SONS FORUM

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Mothers of Sons Forum, which is also known as the "Mothers of Sons Forum of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky," was reportedly founded in October, 1939, by women with sons of military age. Reportedly it has been engaged in isolationist activities and is known to have been active in Cincinnati, Ohio, since June, 1940. At first it appeared to be a bona fide isolationist organization but later activities allegedly were directed toward severe criticism of the Administration, the publication of vigorous anti-British propaganda, and in November, 1941, it was alleged that the group had dwindled down to a small number of anti-Semitic women who were anxious for England to lose the war at any cost. Certain of its members have participated in trips to Washington, D. C., in conjunction with such organizations as "Women United" and the "America First Committee."

At a meeting of this organization in November, 1941, various members are reported to have been critical of the President of the United States, various Senators, and Wendell Wilkie alleging a tie-up between these individuals and the Jews. The members are reported to have disapproved of sending troops outside the boundaries of the United States and in pursuance of this policy they allegedly consistently opposed the draft bill as well as the extension of the Selective Service Act and the Lend-Lease bill.

ORGANIZATION

In October, 1940, the officers of the Mothers of Sons Forum were said to be the following:

- Mrs. Fred Droege, Jr., President
  - Mrs. Josephine Mahler, Vice President and Recording Secretary
  - Mrs. E. J. Johannigman, Treasurer
  - Mrs. E. C. Nelson, Corresponding Secretary
  - Mrs. Frank Mahler
  - Mrs. J. W. Rure
  - Mrs. E. J. Lavell
- Board of Directors

In February, 1941, the officers of this organization were said to be the following:

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
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- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
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Mrs. Ethel Green, President  
Mrs. Burnetta Gausepohl, Registrar  
Mrs. Josephine Mahler, Vice President  
Mrs. E. J. Jannahingman, Treasurer  
Mrs. A. H. Shearman, Recording Secretary  
Mrs. Robert H. Lavell, Corresponding Secretary

In 1943 the officers and members most active were said to be the following:

Mrs. Stewart (Lucinda K. Benge, President  
Mrs. Sadie Barry, Vice President  
Miss Parris, Corresponding Secretary  
Mrs. Louise Bruser, Recording Secretary  
Mrs. Anna M. Luken, Treasurer  
Mrs. A. G. Hejtan, Chairman, Ways and Means Committee

Active members include Mrs. Ethel Green, North College Hill, Ohio; Mrs. Josephine Mahler, Mrs. Arbogast of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Josephine Mueller, and Miss Laura Benge, daughter of the President.

In 1943 the address of this organization was that of its president, 111 West St. Clair Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

#### ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP

The total number of members is unknown but it is probably relatively small. From attendance at meetings the membership may be estimated at between 50 and 100. The size of the organization necessarily limits the scope and variety of its operations, which may be divided conveniently into four categories:

1. Membership meetings. Regular meetings are held in the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, twice a month. The average attendance is between 40 and 50. Outsiders are observed at these meetings, although attendance is supposed to be limited to members. Each meeting is opened by the singing of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," since the officers of this organization consider that the National Anthem which was formerly used has been changed and expurgated to suit foreign interests and is no longer "truly American."
2. Lobbying. Political lobbying is a speciality of this organization and is conducted either by letter or in person. Picketing allegedly was resorted to in November, 1941, when a group demonstrated before the headquarters

of Bundles for Britain in Cincinnati, Ohio, reportedly shouting, "Churchill is a Jew. Roosevelt is a Jew, and this is a war of Jewish capitalist."

3. **Public Meetings.** The organization has been active in the past in supporting either by attendance at or actually sponsoring various public gatherings, usually lectures by well-known individuals whose views are in relative harmony with its own.
4. **Publications.** This is one of the most important functions of this organization. Besides miscellaneous material like "throwaways" and posters, reportedly having decided bias, this organization is alleged to have issued in 1941 a bulletin entitled "P - S." This publication is said to have adopted a defeatist attitude. The "Bulletin," however, of the Mothers of Sons Forum is the official publication of that organization. This "Bulletin" is claimed to be the result of the combined efforts of any members of the organization who chose to contribute to it. It is issued every 10 or 12 days and is composed of three to five pages of captious and some times caustic criticism and appears in mimeograph form. It would appear that the distribution of the "Bulletin" is limited to a relatively few copies. There is evidence, however, that the "Bulletin" does find readers outside the membership and outside Cincinnati, Ohio, proper. It has been reported in Middletown, Ohio, and has gone as far afield as Des Moines, Iowa, and Seattle, Washington.

October 12, 1945

ALLIED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES, INCORPORATED

This organization had its inception at a patriotic meeting in Cooper Union, New York City, on February 22, 1920, under the auspices of the Tammany Society and other organizations. In October, 1922, thirty patriotic societies with a combined membership of six million throughout the country were incorporated under the laws of New York as "The Allied Patriotic Societies, Incorporated", the announced purpose being to oppose radicalism and revolutionary doctrines, and to develop a comprehensive system for the dissemination of knowledge of American principles and institutions. Among the incorporators were John E. Voorhis, President of the Board of Elections and Grand Sachem of the Tammany Society; Anson C. Baker, Secretary of the Bowery Mission; Colonel William A. Simpson, United States Army retired; Major Edward Underwood of the Salvation Army; and Dwight Bransen of 55 Broadway, New York City, Chairman of the organization. Headquarters of the organization was maintained at 55 Broadway in New York City.

MEMBERSHIP

Among the societies included in the new corporation were the following: Colonial Dames of America, Patriotic New Yorkers, The American Legion, Bowery Mission, Bronx County Republican Committee, Chinese-American Citizens Alliance, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Cincinnati, Daughters of Holland Dames, Huguenot Society, Law and Order Union of New York State, League of Foreign Born Citizens, Mayflower Descendants, New York Historical Society, Salvation Army, Sons of the American Revolution, and Tammany Society.

In 1923 the organization claimed it represented 57 societies with seven million members.

ACTIVITIES

The original program of the organization was designed to cover a period of ten years, and included plans to suppress seditious advertising in foreign languages, the sponsoring of a measure to require foreign language newspapers in this country to print certain parts of the publication in English, the home teaching of the English language in foreign born families, aiding the naturalization courts in impressing on the minds of aliens the importance of becoming American citizens, and the advocacy of the maintenance of an Army and Navy of sufficient size to protect the nation against any possible uprising of elements in the United States which would destroy the Union and at the same time incur the respect of foreign governments.

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Monthly meetings were held by the organization, before which speakers of national importance discussed matters of interest to the group. In 1925 the organization advocated legislation restricting immigration and requiring all aliens to register, in order to aid immigration officials to deport those illegally in the country, as well as to protect those here legally.

In 1928 Dwight Brown, who had served continuously as President of the organization, claimed to represent twenty-eight million members and at that time stated the organization had lead a campaign against Soviet propaganda for ten years.

Beginning about 1937 the allegation was made that the Allied Patriotic Societies, Incorporated was anti-Semitic and somewhat Fascist in nature. In 1939 it was allegedly affiliated with the American Coalition Society, reportedly anti-Jewish and anti-New Deal. On March 30, 1945, one member of the board of directors of the Allied Patriotic Societies, Incorporated stated that he felt sure that there had been some Nazi infiltration in the Society, but that the Society had been dormant since the beginning of 1942. He stated, "We have at last awakened to a peril which as I see it will be quickly removed should it appear again when the Society resumes its activities, if it does resume."

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J. J. Kelly:LP

October 12, 1945

**Re: ORDER OF THE FOUNDERS AND  
PATRIOTS OF AMERICA**

The above-named organization is said to be a patriotic group with chapters in various scattered states. Its membership is limited to American citizens whose lineage can be traced to American colonists prior to May 13, 1697 or to a patriot who served the country during the period from 1775 to 1783.

In May of 1941, a patriotic meeting was held in the Chapel of Princeton University in New Jersey under the joint auspices of the patriotic societies in New Jersey. The following named organizations, with others, were among those who participated:

New Jersey Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Jersey  
New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution  
The New Jersey Society of the Colonial Dames of America  
The Huguenot Society of New Jersey  
Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Jersey  
Sons of the Revolution, New Jersey Society  
Order of the Founders and Patriots of America

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RE: UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The captioned organization, also known as the "United Mothers", was founded in the early part of 1940, by Mrs. David K. Stanley and several other women residents of Cleveland, Ohio. Initially the group was known as "The Daughters of Uncle Sam." Mrs. Stanley was elected President of the organization and was assisted in her duties by Mrs. Phillip Morreal as Vice President.

PURPOSE

According to the announcements of the organization, its general purpose was said to be that of "preserving our Constitution and the American form of Government and defending it whenever and wherever exposed to attack from within our border." The group, according to its constitution, was nonsectarian, nonpolitical, and dependent financially upon voluntary support. Its active members were mothers or other women who subscribed to the objectives of the organization. Associate members consisted of husbands, fathers, brothers, and friends of active members who likewise subscribed to its general purposes and objectives.

ACTIVITIES

The first program of any consequence participated in by the members was that of interposing very strenuous objections to the Selective Training and Service Act. The group distributed considerable literature attacking the theory of conscription, and a number of the members of the organization participated in a "march on Washington" at the time the Selective Training and Service Act was being considered by Congress. These members, together with other women, reportedly participated in a "mothers' vigil" at the Senate during the time the Selective Training and Service Act was being considered by that branch of Congress.

Shortly after America's involvement in the war the group altered its program and directed its criticism to the practice of stationing American soldiers in Great Britain and other points not directly in the war zones. In the Spring of 1942, the membership of the group also directed considerable criticism toward America's program of sending large quantities of supplies and equipment to its Allies.

The organization as a whole was considered a strong supporter of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan, and sponsored several rallies at

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Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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which Smith was the principal speaker. In 1943 the group was opposed to any world cooperation on the part of the United States, favored isolationism, opposed President Roosevelt's Fourth Term, New Deal Administration, and was said to be highly anti-Semitic and anti-Communist. The organization maintained offices at the Arcade Building in Cleveland, Ohio, and for the most part sought to carry out its program and policies through the distribution of literature and through the medium of holding meetings at various intervals. The literature printed by the group was distributed through the mails to various Governmental officials and to approximately 1,000 persons whose names were on its mailing list. The public meetings reportedly never assumed any considerable size and were generally attended by the membership. Reportedly many of the programs of the group and much of its literature were based on the writings and statements of Reverend Charles Coughlin. In addition to its own literature the organization at its meetings distributed "The Cross and the Flag" published by Gerald L. K. Smith; "Fact-O-Gram", reported to be the organ of the Constitutional Educational League of Joseph Kamp; and the publications of Elmer J. Garner of Wichita, Kansas, who was one of the individuals under indictment in the sedition conspiracy case of U. S. vs. Joseph E. McWilliams. A newspaper expose of this organization pointed out that the organization distributed the leaflet "Roosevelt's Jewish Ancestry" by Robert Edmonson of New York, who was also a defendant in the above described case of U. S. vs. Joseph E. McWilliams.

In June of 1945, the organization as such was reliably reported to be inactive. However, at that time information was received that its members were absorbed in a new organization called "The Intelligent American Voters League."

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

RRR:ems

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: 10/2/45

FROM : Mr. E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST PARTY, et al  
SPECIAL INQUIRY  
STATE DEPARTMENT

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- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
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- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

There is attached a copy of a State Department interoffice memorandum from [redacted] to [redacted] containing a request that the Bureau supply for the use of the State Department information in brief summary form on the listed organizations.

If you concur, it is suggested that this memorandum be referred to the Internal Security Section so that the desires of the State Department may be complied with. It is suggested that separate memoranda be prepared on each of the organizations for personal delivery to the State Department by the Liaison Section.

Attachment

*17140*  
*10-17-45*  
*JdH*  
NOV 5 1945

*5000*

RECORDED & INDEXED  
162-43818-798

TO : FC - [REDACTED]

DATE: September 26, 1945

FROM : PL - [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Information on Organizations

We are compiling information on various organizations which will be useful to the Department of State from the public opinion standpoint. If the Department of Justice has information in regard to the membership, and views or activities of the following organizations as they touch on international relations, we shall be very glad if they will give us a brief summary of any such information that might be useful:

- [REDACTED] America First Party 62-43818 100 ref
- [REDACTED] American Defense Society, Inc. 6/10/43 63-4711 25 ref
- [REDACTED] R. American National Patriotic Society, Pittsfield, Illinois
- [REDACTED] National Civic Federation 62-997 20 ref
- [REDACTED] 112 Park Avenue, New York, New York
- [REDACTED] National Security League 62-53709 y. 62-9782 25 ref
- [REDACTED] 45 W. 45th Street, New York, New York
- [REDACTED] Mothers of Sons Forum, Cincinnati, Ohio 100-46294 20 ref
- [REDACTED] Regular Veterans Association 94-4 sub 4458 10 ref
- [REDACTED] 1115 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
- [REDACTED] We, the Mothers Mobilize for America 100-9412 135 ref
- [REDACTED] United Mothers of America 100-1370 P.C. 60 ref
- [REDACTED] Allied Patriotic Societies, Inc. 62-3960 15 ref
- [REDACTED] Order of the Founders and Patriots of America 94-1-2345-7313, 94-1-22295 ref.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS ~~UN~~CLASSIFIED  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY \_\_\_\_\_

ALV  
b7c

PL:CWS:dk

62-43818-798

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

107-1

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

SU FILE NO. **14-66**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10/21/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/9, 12, 15, 23/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject addressed a group of approximately 70 people at Temple Square Hotel, Salt Lake City, the night of 10/13/45. In his talk Subject was jubilant over the strength of his movement stating that 108 publications now regularly accept his articles received by only 3 two years ago and that plans were under way for organization of 15,000 fireside groups. Subject charged former President FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT with hoping, expecting, and desiring an attack on Pearl Harbor which would relieve him of his promise not to send American Servicemen abroad unless attacked. He also stated that ROOSEVELT deliberately withheld knowledge of the impending attack from those in charge of the defense of Pearl Harbor. Subject stated he was leaving Salt Lake City 10/11/45 for Los Angeles, California. Left forwarding address of 1204 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, California.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** Detroit letter to Bureau dated 9/26/45

**DETAILS:** AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Referenced letter advised that Subj. planned to be in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 13, 1945, where he would give an address at the Temple Square Hotel. Arrangements were made by Special Agent in Charge JAY G. NEWMAN

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/11/93 BY SP8010**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Jay G. Newman</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - Detroit 3 - Salt Lake City	COPY IN FILE 62-1145-3818-799 OCT 29 1945 COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 13 1964 RECORDED & INDEXED 3

NOV 20 1945



SU: 14-66

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The People's Daily World as of October 13, 1945, carried an article entitled "Protest Can Halt Smith Meetings". This article stated that public protest can prevent GERALD L. K. SMITH from speaking at the Los Angeles Poly Technic High School the following Wednesday night. According to this article, SMITH was scheduled to speak in Pomona the following Tuesday, Redlands on Thursday, Pasadena Lincoln School Friday and Masonic Auditorium, Long Beach on Saturday.

SU: 14-66

A check of the registers at the Hotel Utah, Temple Square Hotel and the Newhouse Hotel, all Salt Lake City, Utah, were made in an effort to determine where Subject resided during his stay in Salt Lake City with negative results.

[REDACTED] advised that on October 16, 1945, a telegram had been received from Los Angeles, California from the Subject requesting that all mail be sent to him at 1204 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, California. In accordance with this telegram, one letter and one telegram were forwarded to him on this same date. b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

SU: 11-66

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

b7c, b7d

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan  
October 19, 1945

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director, FBI

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION  
(62-43814)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6050/ED  
ON 8-11-77

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the teletype from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated October 18, 1945, discontinuing use of [redacted] and [redacted]

On October 18, 1945, I conferred with [redacted] for the [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, concerning services rendered by [redacted] in cooperation with Bureau work.

[redacted] who has been extremely cooperative with this office in the past, has expressed some concern over the services presently being maintained on Gerald L. K. Smith, particularly in view of the background and explosive nature of this individual. It was his thought that a possibility existed whereby there would be repercussions of a serious nature should anything ever be disclosed concerning this specific arrangement.

In view of [redacted] agreement to furnish us with all of the other services now presently in effect, I agreed with him to discontinue the set-up in connection with Gerald L. K. Smith. As a result, [redacted] were discontinued at 4:30 p.m. October 18, 1945.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Very truly yours,

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

RECORDED & INDEXED



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NOV 6 1945

EX-39 62-43814-80  
OCT 25 1945

Declassification  
8/11/77

DATE

62-1126

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b7D

b7D

November 3, 1945

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8 BJS/mh

Dear Sir:

*gc*

A plague has struck the State of California, recently  
Los Angeles; Gerald L.K. Smith.

Our Board of Education permits him to rabble in our school  
buildings. To the numerous protests they pass the buck, saying  
the State Law compels them to do this. Even one of our alleged  
City Councilmen, ~~Meade~~ McClanahan, introduced Smith at one of his  
meetings.

Students in large numbers have protested, but Lawrence L. ~~Larrabee~~,  
President of the Board of Education, loftily scores students and parents  
who protest.

Smith, as is well known, is the stooge of Burton K. Wheeler,  
the alleged U.S. Senator, and others in Congress, along with "Bertie"  
McCormick, who is leading a Hitler movement to "seize the Government",  
quoting him. Is this not subversive? Knowing the efficiency of the  
F.B.I. , I am asking what is wrong that will permit subversive activity,  
under the often abused name of free speech.

**RECEIVED  
STOP DESK**

It would be greatly appreciated if we, the people, better  
understood this matter. Certainly one of the most important matters  
now is to win the battle of peace, and these renegades are trying  
to lose it.

Yours very truly,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address block]

*ack  
11-16-45  
FSA*

*b7c*  
100-43819-803  
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178  
30 NOV 8 1945  
[Handwritten initials]

November 16, 1945

ORDERED

62-43818-803

[Redacted]

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated November 3, 1945.

I wanted you to know that I appreciate your interest in communicating with me as you did.

In the event you have information in the future which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Los Angeles Field Division which is located at 900 Security Building, Los Angeles, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mk

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 NOV 18 1945 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NOV 21 1945

*[Handwritten signatures and initials: JCH, WJ, GWH, ZSB]*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-3598

REPORT MADE AT <b>KANSAS CITY</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11/5/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/7/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c rjd</span>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION</b>	

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

GERALD L. K. SMITH made two speeches at East Side Baptist Church, Topeka, Kansas, 10/7/45. During afternoon session spoke principally of Communist activities in Europe and extent of infiltration into the United States. During evening session prefaced remarks by challenging Jews in the audience to take notes and get together afterwards to criticize him. Followed his official remarks with tirade against Communism, stating that it would destroy religion by killing the heads of churches, by forcing people to take up Communism or by throwing individuals into prison.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** Letter from Director to Detroit dated 9/26/45

**DETAILS:**

[REDACTED] DYBY  
NOV DESK reported on the two speeches made by GERALD L. K. SMITH at the East Side Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, on 10/7/45, as follows:

"STALIN has control of all of Europe and is now reaching out for America. He advocated sending all refugees back to their original countries to make homes for the returning soldiers and stated that all women should quit their jobs and go back to raising children. He related all of the money is going to foreign countries, as well as our natural resources and we are not receiving any pay for this. As a result the people are being heavily taxed. He criticized industrial banking in Wall Street and indicated they were the cause of our money going to foreign countries."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Dwight Brantley</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT	62-43818-804
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 - Bureau</li> <li>3 - Detroit (Enc.)</li> <li>3 - Kansas City</li> </ul>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">F B I</p> <p>25 NOV 7 1945</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED</p> <p>DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8BJ/MG</p>
<p>COPIES DESTROYED</p> <p>144 134</p> <p>205 OCT 18 1964</p>	

He stated that the Russian soldiers were not "tin gods" as they raped women from 16 to 61 and anyone who believed in Russian policies should go to Russia and live there.

He remarked that in the past the FBI has dug up quantities of Communistic material which had been paid to be published by CHARLES CHAPLIN of Hollywood and that CHAPLIN is not a citizen of this country, has never become one, and when questioned about it, stated "It's not for me." He stated he believes in sending this kind of people back where they came from.

He stated the people should go home and thank God that HENRY WALLACE is not President of the United States as there would be bureaucracy in the Government. He stated he could not say anything for or against President TRUMAN but is observing him. He claimed to hate the swastika and stated "The red flag of Russia and the swastika are 'snakes cradled in the same den.'"

He stated at this afternoon speech that it was more or less a preliminary for his speech which was to be given that evening and he remarked during his afternoon speech that he would give the people an insight on pre-Pearl Harbor activities.

During his evening address he is reported to have been very cautious and slightly nervous. He at no time mentioned anything about pre-Pearl Harbor activities. He prefaced his address by stating that he knew there were Jews seated in the audience as he could spot them and he stated they could take their notes down and get together afterwards and criticize him. He stated the Jews were fortunate to be in this country, but if they liked Palestine better, they should go back there. He remarked that the majority of refugees in this country were Jews and that they should be sent back so our soldiers could have jobs. He finished up by stating he wanted the audience to understand he was not against the Jews.

He then spoke on Communism, saying that Communism would destroy our religions by killing the heads of our churches, by forcing the people to take up Communism or by throwing them into prison. He stated that Russia controls all of Europe now, also all of Asia and is reaching out for the United States and claimed that if we loaned STALIN the money that he is attempting to borrow that money could well be used for returning servicemen. He remarked there were Communists on the Government payroll until TRUMAN got into office. In addition thereto, he is reported to have stated that Russia has Communist agents operating in this country in every precinct, ward and county, as well as the Army, and they are trying to undermine our people and are now getting into our schools and churches. He added that this country is doomed because of Communism.

He stated that when that time comes CHRIST will appear, as no one man will rule the world. This he stated is shown by HITLER's fall, ROOSEVELT's death, and he now understands that STALIN has liver trouble and can only live 90 days.

He advocated that the money be taken from money-mongers on Wall Street and be put into the hands of Congress so that it could be used for veterans and unemployed in this country.

During the course of the evening address he is reported to have taken about 15 minutes for an open forum. During this time he was asked why HARRY BRIDGES was not deported and his answer was in substance that ROOSEVELT needed him in backing his, ROOSEVELT's, elections. When asked about HENRY WALLACE, he replied that WALLACE was a stooge and a front for Communism and that SIDNEY HILLMAN and WALLACE were working together for the development of the Political Action Committee.

When asked if DREW PEARSON was a Communist, he stated that PEARSON was not, but he would print anything to attract attention.

SMITH was asked if he had ever been indicted and he replied he had never been indicted for anything and the reason people might have thought so was because he was with the America First Party and people thought he was a Nazi. He stated that if he had anything to do with Nazis or Communists, the FBI would arrest him.

He was also asked if WALTER WINCHELL was a Communist. He replied that WINCHELL was not, but that he was Jewish and that he got his stories by being a keyhole snooper. In this connection he stated he could not see why the people glorify WINCHELL and yet talk down someone like LINDBERGH.

He ended his speech by imploring the people to get together in groups and seriously discuss means of defeating Communism.

The crowd who attended are reported to have been members of the East Side Baptist Church.

Distributed at this meeting were copies of "The Cross and the Flag," also photographs of GERAUD L. K. SMITH and his wife and a pamphlet entitled "The Plan." Also distributed were envelopes entitled "America First Crusade." He stated they were entitled "America First Crusade," but he was passing them out so that the people could send in money for subscriptions for "The Cross and the Flag."

There are being enclosed to the office of origin advertisements appearing in the Topeka State Journal dated 10/4/45 concerning SMITH's speech at the East Side Baptist Church, as well as a newspaper item appearing in the Topeka Daily Capitol on Monday 10/8/45.

KC 100-3598

There are likewise being enclosed to the office of origin a copy of "The Cross and the Flag" and photographs of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife and a pamphlet entitled "The Plan." A copy of the America First Crusade is likewise being furnished to Detroit.

**ENCLOSURES:** To Detroit, copies of above listed pamphlets and clippings.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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To: Walter W.  
From:  
Date: October 18, 1945  
Subject:

10 Handy

Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy

If you want to vomit, read the attached.

*[Handwritten signature]*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-9 BTJ/mk

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Rec from G. H.  
10/29/45  
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62-4317-8  
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EX-80

NOV 15 1945  
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**[Redacted]**  
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POSTWAR RECOVERY COMMISSION

(GERALD L. K. SMITH'S LATEST OUTFIT)

(Excerpts from a report on a meeting of the Postwar Recovery Commission held Sunday evening, September 30, 1945, at the Century Room, LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.)

"Perhaps the most interesting and significant part of the evening session of Gerald L. K. Smith's Postwar Recovery Commission was the question period. The remarks concerning our President were the most violent and vile I have ever heard. The first question given to Smith was why wasn't the President's casket opened?

"Smith answered that perhaps this was in accordance with the wishes of the family who were generally consulted in such cases. However, he added with his tongue in his cheek, that he had heard various stories, 'perhaps he had committed suicide or his body was in a state of decomposition for many reasons' or for various other reasons. There have been rumors that he committed suicide.

"A [REDACTED], who is in the investment business and has offices at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] popped up and cracked: 'Mr. Smith, the real reason why they wouldn't open the casket was that they were afraid he would jump out and run again!' This brought down the house.

"It was at this point that [REDACTED] gave me some of the toilet paper with pictures of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt printed on each sheet with the captions ?DEAD? and LIVING. He made the comment that 'you should hear the one I know' but he did not elaborate on these remarks. [REDACTED] passed this paper out in great sheets at the close of the entire meeting."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8BJ/mb

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT**

FILE NO. **100-408**

REPORT MADE AT <b>Saint Louis, Missouri</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11-7-45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10-1,2,3,4,5, 9,10,15-45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases. AMERICA FIRST PARTY.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION</b>

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF DATE

GERALD L. K. SMITH held an AMERICA FIRST PARTY mass meeting on 10-4-45 at Kiel Auditorium, Saint Louis, with 702 persons attending. SMITH talked re Communists, the San Francisco Conference, Tyler Kent Case, and urged all refugees be returned to Europe. Group of soldiers, veterans and Communists distributed handbills outside meeting hall. Closed meeting held by SMITH at DeSoto Hotel, Saint Louis, 10-5-45 with 350 persons present. SMITH repeated previous stories and talked regarding the Pearl Harbor disaster.

-RUC- ~~SP-9673/mf~~

REFERENCE:

Bureau File #62-43818. **ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE**  
Letter from Detroit to Bureau dated 9-26-45.

DETAILS:

On October 1, 1945, the Manager's Office of the Municipal Auditorium in Saint Louis, was contacted, where it was learned that GERALD L. K. SMITH had rented Assembly Hall No. 2, for the night of October 4, 1945. An examination of the rental agreement disclosed that the hall was rented in the name of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and was signed by Miss RUTH LOHBECK, 3824 Juniata Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri. Informants report that RUTH LOHBECK is actually Mrs. DON LOHBECK, the wife of one of SMITH's principal supporters in Saint Louis. The rental agreement called for the payment of \$60.00 with an additional \$10.00 charge for the services of a public address system operator. The agreement contained a statement, "It is understood there will be no admission charge and no literature sold." This rental agreement was dated September 17, 1945.

*attached*  
*EX-45*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

- 5 Bureau
  - 3 Detroit
  - 2 Saint Louis
- COPIES DESTROYED 05 OCT 1964

F B I  
25 NOV 9 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

NOV 27 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c  
b7D

On this same date, [REDACTED] of the DeSoto Hotel, 11th and Locust Streets, Saint Louis, Missouri, was contacted and after examining the hotel records, advised that Miss RUTH LOHBECK had rented the sixteenth floor of the hotel for October 5, 1945 and stated that the meeting would start at 8 P.M. on that date. The rental was in the name of the Postwar Recovery Commission. Miss LOHBECK paid \$45.00 down at the time the hall was rented and the total charges were to be \$85.00. Miss LOHBECK advised the hotel management that she expected about 400 persons to attend the meeting. Prior to the actual holding of the meeting information was received by the Saint Louis office, indicating that the Communist Party in Saint Louis, intended to organize some resistance to the meeting.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

62-43818-806

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*Handwritten notes:*  
\* [unclear]  
\* [unclear]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Saint Louis Police Department was advised because of the possibility of trouble. The Saint Louis Office of Military Intelligence was also advised as they had previously expressed the desire to have Military Police officers present in any demonstration involving soldiers.

At about 7:15 P.M., on October 4, 1945 the writer personally saw [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] assembled with a small group of soldiers and discharged veterans near the entrance to Assembly Hall No. 2 in the Kiel Auditorium. [REDACTED] did not pass out any of the handbills but stood off to one side, apparently in an effort to keep out of the picture. [REDACTED] was very active in handing out the leaflets which purported to be an open letter to the people of Saint Louis from a group of American war veterans. One copy of the leaflet distributed is being furnished to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report and one copy is also being furnished to the Detroit office.

Local newspaper photographers took photographs of persons approaching the entrance to the meeting hall and several of the photographs printed in the Post Dispatch and Star Times newspapers the following day are being retained in the Saint Louis file.

No disturbance was evident between the pickets and the persons wishing to attend the meeting. As is the custom the auditorium management placed an usher at the door to the assembly hall and by mechanical counter it was determined that 702 persons attended this meeting.

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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62-43818-806 pgs 4-6

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b7D

The Saint Louis Star-Times newspaper on October 5, 1945 reported SMITH's talk on the previous night. The newspaper article, a copy of which is being retained in the Saint Louis file, reported that SMITH crated for more than two hours and that he didn't stop until his followers had finished taking a collection in paper shopping bags. The newspaper reported the "Six foot, slightly paunchy, rabble rouser admitted he was a good speaker, and, as the shopping bags were being passed, told his listeners that they had gotten their money's worth." SMITH told them, according to the newspaper, that they would have to pay \$1.65 to hear ELEANOR ROOSEVELT and that he, SMITH, was twice as good a speaker as Mrs. ROOSEVELT. In taking the collection, the newspaper reported, SMITH told the audience not to give "chicken feed", that if they could give only a nickel or something like that, that they should not give it, but should come up front and he would give them a nickel. The newspaper account also reported the distribution of the circulars but the newspapers apparently were not aware of the fact that the circulars were being distributed by Communists.

The Star-Times reported that as SMITH entered the Auditorium that evening, Private First Class, ED B. BROWN of San Francisco, a member of the Eighth Infantry Division, handed SMITH a circular and said, "Mr. SMITH, read this. Here is what we veterans think of you."

The Star-Times also reported that SMITH had interspersed his talk with a tax on the Star-Times. They reported that he denounced "This mangy Star-Times, this left-winger, this stooge of Stalin, this cur of journalism." The Star-Times also quoted SMITH as saying that what he had to tell on the next night in the closed meeting at the DeSoto Hotel would be so hot that it would burn up the carpet under his feet.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On October 5, 1945, [REDACTED] of the DeSoto Hotel, advised the Saint Louis office that FRED [REDACTED], a leader of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, had put considerable pressure on [REDACTED] in an effort to get him to cancel the contract with subject SMITH for the use of the sixteenth floor of that hotel. [REDACTED] advised that he consulted his attorneys and was told that there were no legal grounds upon which he could cancel the contract without incurring a definite liability for breach of contract.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU: One copy of a leaflet entitled, "An open letter to the People of Saint Louis."  
One copy of an 8 page pamphlet entitled "The Plan".

ENCLOSURE TO DETROIT: One copy of a leaflet entitled "An open letter to the People of Saint Louis."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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**FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS  
RELEASE**

**SUBJECT:** BERNARD L. K. SMITH

**FILE:** 62-43818

**SUB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VOL:** 48

**PAGES REVIEWED:** 66

**PAGES RELEASED:** 60

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

FILE NO. **44-7 DB**

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

REPORT MADE AT <b>BUFFALO, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-24-45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/14, 18/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION</b>

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*Charles E. [unclear]*  
On 9/16/45 at Mary Seaton Room, Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y., SMITH addressed meeting of approximately 500, sponsored by Buffalo Economics League. Petition was circulated urging Father COUGHLIN's return to the radio. SMITH addressed "intimate" meeting at Statler Hotel, Buffalo, evening of same date. Essence of SMITH's remarks at both meetings set out.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

-RUC-

DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8BJJ/mc

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau Files 61-7055 and 62-43818.  
Letter from Detroit Field Division to Director, dated September 7, 1945.

**DETAILS:**

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

**[REDACTED]** *b7c b7d*  
cover the meetings *lin*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>J. B. Wilson</b> <i>Special Agent in Charge</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>62-43818-808</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 Bureau 3 Detroit (Encl.) 2 Buffalo <i>cc - [unclear] 11-19-45</i>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>RECORDED</b> <b>INDEXED</b> <b>EX-47</b> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">25 SEP 25 1945</p>

which SMITH was scheduled to address on Sunday, September 16, 1945 at Buffalo, New York. [redacted] stated that in keeping with the policy of the paper in the past, the Courier Express did not wish to give any but nominal publicity to SMITH's appearance in Buffalo and that he, [redacted] personally wished to be cooperative with this office in furnishing detailed information and would make a copy of the reporter's notes available to this office.

[redacted] subsequently advised that [redacted] covered the meetings and made available his notes. [redacted] pointed out that [redacted] had not set forth repetitious matter which had been the subject of SMITH's talks on previous occasions but had confined the material made available to this office, for the most part, to such matter not previously discussed by SMITH at meetings in Buffalo.

The report of [redacted] reflects that SMITH spoke at two meetings during the date, Sunday, September 16, 1945, both of which were sponsored by the Buffalo Economics League, presided over by JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President. The first meeting took place in the Mary Seaton Room at Kleinhans Music Hall at 2:30 P.M. SMITH was introduced by STOFFEL as the "Number One American of America" and then SMITH informed the audience of approximately 500 persons that he would address a more "intimate" meeting later in the evening at the Hotel Statler. [redacted] report is set out below:

He said he was never ashamed of being an America Firster. Switching into his theme for the day, SMITH said the proposed forgiveness of war debts which, he said, totaled 41 billion but would mean 82 billion, would result in the virtual donation \$3,000 by each American family to foreign countries.

SMITH said he talked with a soldier who was totally disabled, and had been receiving \$115 a month, but that it was being reduced to \$60 a month because of some "technicality." SMITH didn't say what the technicality was. He did, however, recall to the audience that it was he who had suggested at the start of the war that soldiers should be given a \$1,000 bonus upon discharge from the service.

"They said I was a crackpot, but I say we owe it to our soldiers," SMITH said.

SMITH congratulated President TRUMAN for abolishing Lend-Lease, saying that "if he will function that way in other directions, he will be the kind of President we need in this country."

ALL  
ENC. 670  
S.L.

BU 14-7

SMITH said that as long as we have the Federal Reserve System, depressions will keep occurring in this country. The only way they can be avoided, he said, is to have constitutional money, coined by Congress, and tax-free and interest free.

"Let's plow under the international bankers instead of the pigs and cows," he declared.

Then he said, "I am going to tell you things you will never be able to read in the Buffalo Courier-Express." Then he rehashed over the story in the C-X about his meeting two years ago in Eagles Hall when he supposedly stepped on the American Flag.

"I'm asked many times why I don't sue," he said. "But it entails too many things, and all I would be doing is hiring lawyers. But I am suing Radio Outlet for \$100,000 for WALTER WINCHELL's allegation that I stepped and spit on the American Flag. The trial is coming up in December."

SMITH said he wasn't so much worried about himself, but about his son in the Army. He said that at the time of WINCHELL's radio broadcast, his son was a candidate for Officer's Commission, and that "I have reason to believe that the statement cost him his admission to officer's rank."

"I don't care how soon he (son) gets back here, but that he knocks h--- out of WALTER WINCHELL," SMITH said.

"The Reds have a groundwork laid to take over the USA. We knocked h--- out of Hitler and we beat Japan, and now we are turning it over to Stalin."

"Russia would not permit a committee of Congress to enter Russia." SMITH said he was quoting a member of congress as saying that reports from Europe indicate that every German woman between the ages of 14 and 67 under Russian rule were being raped. He added that 20 million Christians in Russia are being crucified. When we recognized the puppet Lublin government in Poland, he said, "we sacrificed in vain the lives of our boys."

818

Right after the Labor Party victory in England, said SMITH, members of the party with HAROLD LASKI, the Communist, walked in the Parliament singing the Internationale, the Red Song.

"Communism is sweeping the world. If we quit occupying Japan, as has been suggested by some military leaders, within a year, Stalin will communize it. It would be better to leave 100,000 troops there as occupation forces."

SMITH predicted defeat for the upcoming French elections. He quoted a Detroitier as saying that the Communists could paralyze the entire city of Detroit.

SMITH said the most powerful man at the San Francisco Conference was Senator VANDENBURG of Michigan. SMITH said he served notice on the Senator there that if he underwrote Russia, it would mean the end of his career in the Senate, because SMITH would see to it that all the America Firsters in Michigan did not vote for him when he is up for re-election soon.

The veto power of the Charter, said SMITH, makes it worthless. The important question for the U.S. is: How much authority will our delegate have?

At this point, he related some of his experiences at San Francisco, his difficulty in obtaining hotel accommodations, and the trouble in obtaining halls for his speeches. He said he gave an impromptu speech in the lobby of the Mark Hopkins Hotel, and boasted he held an America First meeting next door to where Molotoff gave a cocktail party.

SMITH, during the meeting circulated petitions, urging the return to radio of Father Coughlin. He said that during his latest trip to Washington, he had requested authorities not to whitewash the Pearl Harbor investigations.

He told about TYLER KENT, an American code clerk who was allegedly imprisoned because he had copies of all the cables between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL. He demanded that KENT be returned to this country for trial in an American court.

During the meeting, MORTON LEVY, Chairman of the New York State Americanism Committee of the Jewish War Veterans, asked

SMITH whether it was true that ~~GEORGE VOSE~~, who heads SMITH's Nationalist Veterans of World War II was convicted in May, 1943, of selling Army goods and passes to soldiers.

SMITH replied that the same allegations were made by ~~ARCHIE GREENBERG~~, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, and printed in the Jewish Sentinel in Chicago, and that VOSE had sued the paper for \$100,000. "The outcome of the trial will be your answer," SMITH said.

SMITH said that VOSE's discharge papers say "conduct excellent." He advocated abolishment of immigration until all American soldiers have returned home, and given jobs. He said the 60 million jobs idea is a fake.

report stated that SMITH's evening meeting at the Statler Hotel was limited to those who were given cards at the afternoon meeting.  report on this meeting is as follows:

SMITH said that ROOSEVELT's passing "liberated many people."

SMITH told his listeners to watch the Pearl Harbor investigations. He said that ~~JOHN T. FLYNN~~ has evidence to prove that P. H. was likely to happen.

He said that when the truth of Pearl Harbor was given out, "it may blow his (ROOSEVELT) name right out of history."

"The truth is so deadly that no Congressmen dared to oppose the investigations."

"Some terrific things are coming out about Pearl Harbor."

"Pearl Harbor was not a sneak attack." The Roberts report is strictly whitewash, and designed to make KIMMEL and SHORT the goats for the affair."

SMITH said he had received a long distance telephone call from Washington, but more than that, right from the Capitol, and had received information to the effect that the day after ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL met for their Atlantic Charter meeting (August, 1941), Lloyds of London cancelled all its insurance on the Hawaiian Islands.

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BU 14-7

SMITH said that Chang Kai Shek wanted peace a few years ago, but was persuaded to go on by ROOSEVELT who lent him 100 million dollars to stay in the war.

Going back to TYLER KENT, SMITH said that WILLIAM JENNING BRYAN's grandson was in possession of similar information, and that several years he returned to the U. S., and one day shortly after his arrival, was found dead in his hotel room.

He said that many American soldiers who followed the America First Committee were being returned to Europe and other fronts with the special assignment of digging up the dead bodies of their countrymen.

[REDACTED] made available to the office a copy of "The Plan", a pamphlet prepared by the Post War Recovery Commission, P.O. Box 697, Detroit 31, Michigan, which, he stated, was obtained by [REDACTED] at the Mary Seaton Room where the literature was distributed at SMITH's meeting.

b7c  
b7D

ENCLOSURE: To Detroit - Copy of "The Plan" prepared by the Post War Recovery Commission, P.O. Box 697, Detroit 31, Michigan.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

808

62-43818-808

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle  
Criminal Division

November 19, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-47

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BSM/MLC

Reference is made to our previous correspondence regarding the above captioned matter.

For your further information there are attached copies of the following investigative reports:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 24, 1945, at Buffalo, New York, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, was.; The America First Party; Internal Security - G, Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 12, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases; America First Party; Internal Security - G, Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 16, 1945, at Cleveland, Ohio, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases; The America First Party; Internal Security - G, Security Matter - Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 18, 1945, at Chicago, Illinois, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases; America First Party; Internal Security - G, Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 18, 1945, at St. Paul, Minnesota, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, was, et al; Internal Security - Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 24, 1945, at Salt Lake City, Utah, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith; America First Party; Internal Security; Sedition."

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 RECORDED 8  
 Enclosure  
 NOV 1 1945 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 ESB:mn  
 62-43818

ALL b7c  
 [Handwritten signatures and initials]

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

(THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT**)

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT <b>PITTSBURGH, PA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11/19/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/19; 11/6/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY (C) SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, representing the American First Party, spoke at the North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall, Pittsburgh, Pa., 9/19/45. 450 persons attended. SMITH'S lecture included a report on his attendance at the San Francisco Conference, as well as an attack on the policies of FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, whom he blames for the success of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, a condemnation of the economic Royalists, Communists, and the United States Department of State for its action in the Tylar Kent matter.

-RUC-

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc

**REFERENCE:**

Teletype from Detroit, 9/18/45

**DETAILS:**

The following information regarding this meeting was furnished by **[REDACTED]**

AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH spoke at the North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the evening of September 19, 1945. Approximately 450 persons attended the lecture. Present on the platform with MR. SMITH were MARIE LOHLE, Chairman of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, CHARLES A. MADDEN, MRS. SMITH, and an unidentified person who represented the California Pastor's Committee.

SMITH opened his lecture by announcing that he is in the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>James B. Porter</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>62-43818-809</b> <b>191.51-105-44</b> <b>205 OCT 18 1964</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Detroit 2 - Pittsburgh	RECORDED & INDEXED <b>110</b>
MB	

*1cc - Campbell  
12-2-45  
ES H. [unclear]*

*4-1-1946 rec'd in [unclear] 11/27-303*

midst of a nation-wide tour which he characterized as the "American First Crusade". He then reported on his visit to San Francisco during the United Nations Conference. He told of how he had been refused lodging in several of the hotels and how he had been expelled from hotel lobbies and accused of "unlawful assembly." He also told of how his meetings in San Francisco and Los Angeles had been extremely successful.

He then discussed the Pearl Harbor attack and said that his Committee holds FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT personally responsible. He said that he intended to do everything in his power to bring about a full and open investigation of the matter.

During the course of his remarks, he denied anti-Semitism and also denied that he was a reactionary. He said that he is referred to as a reactionary by the Communists and referred to as a radical by the "economic Royalists" and "international bankers" who, he said, are attempting to strip this country of its wealth and prosperity. He presented as usual his own economic views and plans for the salvation of America.

At the end of the meeting, MRS. LOHLE made a short speech in which she set forth three resolutions which will be sent to the Congressmen and Senators from this district:

1. The Pearl Harbor investigation should be pursued until the public has been given a complete and honest report on the facts.

2. Tyler Kent, State Department Code Clerk who had been incarcerated in England for disclosing secret correspondence between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL, should be guaranteed safe passage back to the United States and a fair and open and impartial trial.

3. The United States should engage in no wars of any kind, particularly no war with Russia.

At the conclusion of SMITH'S talk, a collection was taken up.

~~REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-~~

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[REDACTED]

b2, b7D

Y09

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle  
Criminal Division

December 3, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
SEDITION

For your further information regarding the above-captioned individual,  
there is transmitted herewith a copy of the investigative report of Special  
Agent [redacted] dated November 19, 1945, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Attachment

<sup>b7c</sup>  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8 BTJ/mh

ESB:hh

62-43818 - 809

RECORDED  
EX-28

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 3  
★ DEC 3 - 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 DEC 4



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
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Nov. 14, 45

J. Edgar Hoover  
F. B. I.

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

106238

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Wasn't this Gerald L. K. Smith who is stirring up so much trouble here, del. in a sedition trial ~~area~~ while back? If so how come he's allowed the use of the schools and police protection? What good did doctrials do anyway, if all the suspects are running loose to cause untold damage and trouble to the peace of this country.

Sincerely yours,  
[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8/SP-6

Robert Lee  
ack 11-29-45

RECORDED & INDEXED  
EX-100

ALL  
b7c, b7D

162-43818-81  
NOV 16 1945

101

RECORDED  
EX-1

62-43818-811

November 29, 1945

106237

[Redacted]

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/18/82 BY SP-200/mh

Dear [Redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated November 16, 1945.

I wish to advise that the information contained in the files of this Bureau is confidential in nature, and by a long standing rule of the Attorney General can not be made available except upon the express direction of the Attorney General. I am sure you will appreciate my position in this matter and understand the fact that no inferences should be drawn from the failure to make such information available.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED 14  
 NOV 29 1945 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ACH:GMM 62-43818-811

ACH C.F. [Signature]

52 DEC 4 1945 367



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *DL*

FROM : Mr. E. G. Fitch *EF*

SUBJECT:

DATE: 11/20/45

SWR:MGC

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

[REDACTED]

106235

This letter was furnished to Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Liaison Section by [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended this be forwarded to the Internal Security Section for their information.

Attachment

HANDLED BY [REDACTED]

SEARCHED & INDEXED

62-4321742

NOV 20 1945

FILED BY SP 853/mh

DATE OF REVIEW CASH 10/19/82

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OTHERWISE

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52 DEC 6 1945

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62-43818-813

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Gaudle  
Criminal Division

November 21, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

①  
GERALD L. K. SMITH;  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY;  
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with the above-captioned matter, there are enclosed copies of the following investigative reports

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 5, 1945,  
at Kansas City, Missouri

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 7, 1945, b7c  
at St. Louis, Missouri

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 8, 1945, at  
Denver, Colorado.

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DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8 BTJ/MS/LS

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Attachments

ESP/rol

MAILED 1/85

NOV 23 1945 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEC 6 1945

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-3557

REPORT MADE AT <b>DENVER, COLORADO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11/8/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/2,18,26/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c</span>
TITLE <b>GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases, America First Party</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject spoke at Woman's Club, Denver, 10/9/45, being introduced by KENNETH GOFF of Christian Youth for America. SMITH talk chiefly anti-Communist. Communist Party, Denver actively opposed subject's appearance Denver and endeavored to cause cancellation of his appearance at Woman's Club. Subject spoke at Prayer Meeting Service, Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, Englewood, Colorado, 10/10/45 attacking the Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai, B'Rith, Communism and Peoples Institute of Applied Religion.

CLASS. BY SP-8 BTJ/mhw

- RUC -

DATE OF REVIEW 02/28 10/13/82

**REFERENCE:** Bureau file No. 62-43818.  
Letter from Detroit Field Division dated September 26, 1945.

**DETAILS:** On the evening of October 9, 1945 subject addressed a public meeting in the auditorium of the Women's Club, 1437 Glenarm Street, Denver, Colorado. [REDACTED] furnished a report on this meeting which is being furnished to the Bureau. According to [REDACTED] there was approximately 700 people present at this meeting. Following is a summary of the proceedings at this meeting as furnished by [REDACTED].

"SMITH called for the election of Christians only to every office in Federal and State Governments and asked for an amendment to our Constitution acknowledging the power and the supremacy of Christ in America.

"SMITH's speech followed his usual pattern, although he did not seem to hit his normal fiery stride until the last ten

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⑤ - Bureau (Encs.) 3 - Detroit 2 - Denver	INDEXED IN INVESTIGATION NOV 27 1945 RECORDED & INDEXED CONFIDENTIAL EX

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minutes of his talk. About three hundred and fifty of his audience of seven hundred were quietly hostile and unresponsive to him; he seemed to sense this fact and soft-pedalled his emotional appeals. There were several spontaneous outbursts of applause from the Smith opposition, but he passed over these very rapidly and made no attempt to assess the strength of those for him as opposed to those against him.

"The meeting was opened by Kenneth Goff, of Christian Youth for America. He introduced Dewey McKinley Taft, Englewood printer, who spoke briefly and rather ineffectually concerning his Colorado Committee for Constitutional Rights. As he described it, the Committee has no dues and few duties except to unite those who oppose "alienism" in America. Taft's new paper, "The American Digest" was distributed to all those who attended the meeting.

"Goff then introduced Wesley Swift, introducing him as the leader of the group of one-thousand California pastors supporting Smith. Swift gave a vigorous rapid-fire, vicious talk assailing communism and threatened that his group represented a majority in this country and intended to maintain control and obliterate any opposing minorities.

"Goff, after sketching his background in the usual terms (as a former Communist who used to travel around with "Eleanor" — a crack which fell unusually flat), introduced Smith. Smith opened his talk with sops of praise for the police who were present (about twenty) and for the Woman's Club, who refused to be intimidated into cancelling his rental of their auditorium. He offered to send the Woman's Club a photostat of a letter to him from J. Edgar Hoover, stating that the F.B.I. would support his right to free speech in any city in the country. He complained that Denver and Minneapolis were the only two cities in the country where he was denied use of city auditoriums supported by the taxes of his followers. He described a series of imaginary threats against the Woman's Club and displayed a sheet of paper which he claimed was insurance covering the building and its occupants for that evening. He stated that the company holding a regular policy for the auditorium had that afternoon cancelled its coverage and he had been obliged to pay \$100.00 cash for coverage for that evening. He first mentioned coverage of \$25,500, then later referred to it as \$10,500. (I am informed that five days written notice is required to cancel such a standing policy, that the rate he quoted is five times the normal rate, and that the paper he displayed in no way resembles any insurance document).

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"Ignoring a leaflet opposing him and signed by the Denver Unity Council that had been distributed outside the hall, Smith described all his opposition as stemming from the Communists. He referred to the forces that opposed him in California as "communists financed by the hysterical Jews who control Hollywood".

"Smith claimed that the Nationalists won a victory against Stalin at San Francisco, but did not elaborate. He rapidly passed over a few references to a "super-state" and concentrated against proposed loans to Russia and England. He then hinted at sensational news about Pearl Harbor and offered to send a 30-page expose of the truth about that attack to anyone who sent him a dollar.

"Noticing several negroes in the audience, Smith welcomed them as "friends and fellow-Christians", but several sentences later he was elaborating on how his followers must fight to maintain "a white Christian America".

"Shifting to the theme of 'international bankers', which all good Smith followers recognize as a term synonymous with 'Jews', Smith screamed that America must regain its money from the hands of these 'money changers' and return to 'constitutional money'.

"When this theme drew less than normal enthusiasm, he told the story of his attempted meeting in the lobby of a hotel in San Francisco. He said a sailor came up and shook his hand and told Smith he and all his friends were for him. At this point, a sailor in the balcony arose and yelled 'you G\_\_\_ D\_\_\_ Fascist, I'm not for you' and stomped out. There was applause from the Smith opposition and Smith told his followers that this 'misguided Jewish sailor' had been sent there by the Communists to make a fool out of himself and try to break up the meeting.

"From this time on, many of those unfriendly to Smith continued to leave the balcony. The noise of descending footsteps distracted many of the Smith faithful, so that often more people were looking toward the rear of the auditorium than toward Smith. He told 'all the Communists' they could go home now and let others who wanted to get in have their seats, but the seats remained empty.

"Smith announced he was going to take up a collection, but first asked how many would agree to give one dollar more than they would have given in order to help him pay the extra cost of \$100.00 for insurance. Only about fifteen people held up their hands so he quickly passed on and began to instruct the audience on how to fill out their contribution envelopes. Probably not more than \$200.00 was collected. People continued to leave, until only about four to five hundred remained in the hall.

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"At this point Smith decided to vote his opposition. **CONFIDENTIAL**  
all those who believed the truth had been spoken there to raise  
their hands. Then he asked for a show of hands from those who did  
not think he was telling the truth. He ignored about one-hundred hands  
raised in the balcony and quickly announced "There are seventeen  
who disagree with me, they could like a lot more, don't they?"

"Returning to his attack against Russia, Smith stated that all  
the women in the area now occupied by Russia had been repeatedly  
raped by Red soldiers. The fantastic charge drew laughs from the  
opposition. Still in the hall and he regained a little of his old  
fire by asking his followers to yell 'shame' at this ungodly in-  
decency. They did so, but the enthusiasm was short lived. He  
began to describe his post-war recovery plan but it sounded con-  
fused even to his followers.

"Announcing that he was never afraid to face his enemies,  
Smith offered to speak at Denver City Auditorium and share the  
platform with ten of his meanest enemies providing he could have  
half the tickets for the meeting and half their time in which to  
answer their charges. He described a similar meeting in Los  
Angeles where he confounded his opposition by asking how many of  
them believed in the divinity of Jesus Christ and all confessed  
to being atheists.

"Harvey Springer did not attend the meeting last night, Smith  
announced that Springer was attending his father-in-law's funeral  
and that he, Smith, would speak at the prayer meeting of the  
Englewood Baptist Tabernacle tonight.

"Smith seemed 'off-balance' during most of last night's meet-  
ing. It was the weakest and least successful meeting, from his  
point of view, that he has ever held in Denver."

Copies of various material distributed at the meeting are being  
furnished to the Bureau.



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[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] also furnished a report of the proceedings at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle Prayer Meeting on October 10, 1945, at Englewood, Colorado, a suburb of Denver, which meeting was addressed by subject. This is the church of which Rev. HARVEY HOWARD SPRINGER, a close friend of subject, is the pastor. This report is being transmitted to the Bureau.

According to the report furnished by [REDACTED] subject was introduced at this prayer meeting by FORREST S. SCHICKEDANZ, music director of the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle. Subject's theme for the evening as announced by him in his talk was "the peril of the church, the enemy of the church, what some of the paralyzing forces are doing in order to undermine the church of the living Christ." During the course of his talk he dealt considerably on the efforts which had been made by various forces in Denver to cause a cancellation of his appearance the night before at the Woman's Club in Denver and during these remarks he attacked the Anti-Defamation League in this regard, stating that it was probably the one that worked with the insurance company to get the insurance on the Woman's Club Auditorium cancelled on the preceding night.

He also delivered a short attack upon the Communists along his usual lines during the course of which he stated as follows concerning President ROOSEVELT:

"Just a little while before Mr. ROOSEVELT died Mr. ROOSEVELT ordered them to commission Communists in the Army as officers. They are in the political life, in the Bureaucracy, in the school systems. They are in Denver University. They are in our state tax supported institutions."

The major portion of his talk was an attack upon the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion and the Rev. CLAUDE WILLIAMS, who subject claimed is

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an ordained Presbyterian minister on the payroll of the Home Missionary Board of the Presbyterian Church and the head of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion. He claimed that this organization which he stated has headquarters in the Transportation Building in Chicago under the leadership of WILLIAMS is organizing young people, both white and colored all over the United States at great expense. He further claimed that witnesses have been produced who stated that they had seen WILLIAMS' membership card in the Communist Party.

Following subject's talk Rev. WESLEY SWIFT, apparently of California, made a few brief remarks, some of which were allegedly anti-Communist and anti-Semitic. In the course of his remarks he stated:

"I will tell you what will happen in America. Christians are going to meet and have our elections in every ballot box. We are not going to vote for Jews. You can put that down! -- you can tell your Jewish friends we will definitely occupy until Jesus comes."

The meeting was closed with a brief prayer by KENNETH GOFF. Rev. HARVEY HOWARD SPRINGER was not in attendance at the meeting in view of a death in his family.

## ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU:

Copy of a report of the address of subject at the Woman's Club Auditorium, Denver on October 9, 1945.

Copy of a small newspaper entitled "American Digest combined with the Colorado Republican," DEWEY M. TAFT, sole owner, issue of October, 1945.

Copy of a pamphlet entitled "The Plan" prepared by the Post-war Recovery Commission.

Copy of a flyer distributed by the Emergency Division, Denver Unity Council heading "Is Gerald L. K. Smith a Native Fascist?"

Copy of a report of the proceedings at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, October 10, 1945.

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DVR 100-3557

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STATE OF INFORMATION  
SOURCE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT**

FILE NO. **105-134 228**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN DIEGO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/7/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/18; 11/2, 20 28/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

SMITH made no public appearances or speeches in San Diego Field Division. San Diego Board of Education denied him use of Roosevelt School Auditorium. AL WIRIN, Attorney for AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, in behalf of PAYROLL GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION, filed petition to force San Diego Board of Education to permit SMITH to speak, with negative results. At Court Hearing audience made up of Communist Party members and "Ham and Eggers".

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:**

Detroit Letter to Bureau dated October 16, 1945.

**DETAILS:**

**AT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**

Reference letter indicated that GERALD L. K. SMITH was scheduled to speak October 17, 1945, at Riverside, California, October 21, 1945, at San Diego, October 31, 1945, at Riverside, and November 4, 1945, at San Diego, California.

Special Agent [REDACTED] advised that opposition in Riverside County was strong against GERALD L. K. SMITH and further that through his coverage and contact with the Riverside Police Department and

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau 3-Detroit 1-C-2, Los Angeles 1-DIO, San Diego 2-San Diego		<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">62-54738-815</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>12/1/82</u> BY <u>30-803/mc</u></p>
<p>COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 13 1964</p> <p>DEC 18 1945</p>		<p>RECORDED 20 &amp; INDEXED</p>

and Riverside Sheriff's Office it was ascertained that subject SMITH made no appearances or speeches in Riverside.

It was ascertained through [REDACTED] and through surveillance conducted by the writer that GERALD L. K. SMITH made no speeches at Roosevelt Junior High School as scheduled. b7D

8 On November 2, 1945, Attorney A. L. WIRIN of Los Angeles, California, who represented the PAYROLL GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION, appeared before the Honorable Judge TURRENTINE, Department 6, Superior Court, San Diego, California, and filed a petition to force the San Diego Board of Education to permit GERALD L. K. SMITH to speak in Roosevelt Junior High School. Attorneys for the Board of Education filed demurrer, and before same could be answered, the last possible date SMITH could speak in San Diego, namely November 4, 1945, had passed and thus far no further proceedings have been had concerning this matter.

Local newspapers, particularly the SAN DIEGO DAILY JOURNAL, starting in the early part of October 1945, published numerous articles against GERALD L. K. SMITH and brought out that originally SMITH had been granted permission to speak in Roosevelt Junior High School but the permission was rescinded after complaints had been registered by the American Legion, the Communist Party, and local labor unions.

On November 2, 1945, the writer was in Department 6, San Diego Superior Court, where the petition filed by WIRIN of the AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION was heard before Judge TURRENTINE, and the audience was made up primarily of members of the Communist Party and members of "Ham and Eggers". The members of the Communist Party identified by the writer included [REDACTED] member of the Executive Committee, [REDACTED] member of Executive Committee and People's World correspondent. Also present was [REDACTED] representing AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY and MERCER KAY, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. b7C

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

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DETROIT FILE NO. **62-1126**

REPORT MADE AT <b>DETROIT, MICHIGAN</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/10/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/26-28; 10/1, 4, 15, 19, 24; 11/5-7/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c</span>
TITLE <b>GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt, Gerald L. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

On September 27, 1945, SMITH held a meeting in Detroit which was picketed by various labor groups. After this meeting SMITH left for the West Coast and was reported to be establishing his headquarters at Los Angeles, California, under the sponsorship of the Guarantee Payroll Association (Ham'n Eggs). SMITH is expected to return to Detroit the latter part of November, 1945, after a series of scheduled speeches while on the Coast. According to informants, SMITH's appearance in Los Angeles and other cities was met with opposition, resulting in the picketing of his meetings. SMITH's publications continue along the anti-Communist line. At the present time SMITH has organized a "Post-War Recovery Commission" which he alleges is to fight Communism and to help the United States during their reconversion period.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF DATE

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau file 62-43818.

Classified by SP-8BJH/ml  
Declassify on: OADR 5/3/83

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Memorandum from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated September 26, 1945.

**JUL 20 1964**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <i>R. A. [Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>62-43818-816</b>
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DE 62-1126

Memorandum from the Bureau to the Detroit Office dated October 11, 1945.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated October 12, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

b7c

Memorandum from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated October 16, 1945.

Memorandum from the Bureau to the Detroit Field Division dated November 7, 1945.

DETAILS:

At Detroit, Michigan:

[REDACTED]

b7D

HARRY FAINARU, Daily Worker correspondent from District 7 of the COMMUNIST PARTY, wrote several articles prior to this meeting at which time he berated SMITH as a Fascist. These articles which appeared in the Daily Worker and the Worker, Communist organs, described SMITH as the most menacing Fascist character ever to have any following in the United States. These articles also criticized the Board of Education of Detroit for permitting SMITH to speak in a public school.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED]

It was reported in the "Los Angeles Examiner" for November 3, 1945, that as a result of the picketing at one of SMITH's meetings 55 boys and girls were arrested for picketing which was other than peaceful. The article further went on to point out that according to the California law the Board of Education was compelled to allow the schools to be used by any organization whatsoever. The Board of Education further pointed out that unless the law was changed there would be no way to prohibit men like SMITH from speaking at their public schools.

[REDACTED] b7D

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[REDACTED] b7D

Copies of the August, September, and October issues of "The Cross and the Flag" as well as the September issue of the "Monthly Letter" and the September 6, 1945 issue of the "Weekly Letter" are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures to this report.

At the present time SMITH is forming or has formed a "Post-War Recovery Commission" which, according to him, is to fight Communism in the United States and to help the United States in its reconversion period. To promote this Commission, SMITH has edited a small pamphlet entitled "The Plan" wherein he has set forth his various ideas towards helping the returning soldier and the unemployed. He advocates a minimum income of \$2,500 a year for each American family and points out that there is available an average income of \$8,000 and that the remainder over and above the \$2,500 would be thrown into the hopper of the American competitive system where initiative, honest competition, and private enterprise would "do its stuff." He also advocates a strong Navy and Army but states that this should not be accomplished by peace-time conscription. He states that it should be done by making the pay of the soldier and other members of the armed forces high enough to induce them to enlist for several years.

SMITH also advocates what he terms constitutional money which, according to his definition, is money issued directly by Congress and not through the Federal Reserve System. He states that constitutional money is guaranteed and underwritten by the productive capacity of the nation and believes that by this method the unemployment problem would be solved. In turn, SMITH advocates from \$30 to \$50 a week for every unemployed person and every person over sixty years of age.

SMITH claims that his plan can only be worked out by following the Nationalist movement and by refraining from participating in international deals.

Pursuant to referenced letter dated November 7, 1945, this case is being placed in a closed status and no further active investigation will be conducted by the Detroit Field Division.

Also pursuant to this letter, all outstanding leads to other offices are being discontinued.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DE 62-1126

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE BUREAU

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Copies of "The Cross and the Flag" for August, September, and October, 1945.

September, 1945, issue of the Monthly Letter captioned "The Curtain Rises."

A copy of the Weekly Letter for September 6, 1945.

- CLOSED -

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Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle

December 20, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
SEDITION

For your further information regarding the above-captioned individual, there is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on December 10, 1945.

Enclosure *f*

*b7c*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/19/86 BY SP-8 BT/jmh

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 7

DEC 20 1945 P.M.

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
ESB:MMJ  
62-43818-816

INDEXED IN  
PUBLICATION  
FILES

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Coffey
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Carson
- Egan
- Gurnea
- Harbo
- Quinn
- Nease
- Belmont

156 JAN - 2 1946

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first

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/28/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mk

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

I am a teacher at  
the Jefferson High School, one of  
the Los Angeles City High Schools.

As principal, [REDACTED] says  
that the Los Angeles Board of  
Education has received a letter from you  
stating that there is no proof  
[REDACTED]

ack 12-5-4  
RDP  
19

Los Angeles Board of Education

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

letter from you  
stating that there is no proof  
[REDACTED]

inst. Gerald L. K. Smith. [REDACTED]

says the letter may be forged but  
that, according to your files, nothing  
can be proved against G. L. K. Smith.

Would you please give us the  
facts regarding such a letter? Thank  
you very much for any trouble you  
may take in this matter.

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]

ALC b7c

RECORDED

42-43818-817

December 5, 1945

*Handwritten:* 0 EV-47  
M/S 20

[Redacted]

*b7c*

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 20, 1945, has been received and I must advise that this Bureau has no information on the subject of your discussion available for general distribution.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-881/ma

RDD rumsink *RD*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
DEC 6 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

57 JAN 4 1946 *21*

*Handwritten:* ✓  
J. Edgar Hoover  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
DEC 5 7 24 PM '45

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

LBN:aml

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : Mr. Nichols

SUBJECT:

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED**

**HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

**DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc**

DATE: December 18, 1945

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

[redacted] of the Anti-Defamation League called and stated that he had been told that Gerald L. K. Smith was making the statement that the Director had written him to the effect that there was nothing subversive about his activities. He also stated that Smith exhibited a letter dated April 26th that the Director wrote to Smith. [redacted] wanted to know if we had ever made the statement that Smith was no subversive. I told him I felt certain that the Director had written no such letter.

I checked the files carefully and find no such letter. I do find the letter of April 26th, which was written as a result of the Detroit matter. Following are the last two paragraphs of this letter:

"You may be assured that the assumptions you set forth in your letter of April 18 are correct; i.e., no representative of this Bureau has at any time attempted to coerce the management of any building to prevent your speaking in Philadelphia or engage in any activities designed to deny an American citizen his civil liberties."

"I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention so that you will have no question concerning the policies of the FBI."

We have a transcript of a speech that Smith made in Salt Lake City wherein he refers to the letter. After referring to the letter, he called upon the audience to give the Director a big hand.

[redacted] told me incidentally that Adamson of the Committee on un-American Activities is getting ready to subpoena the records of the "League of Democracy," the Leon Birkhead organization which sponsored John Roy Carlson. He stated they were very much fearful that this was an attempt to get to the ADL, which has been referred to as the Jewish gestapo.

50 JAN 2 1946

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43812-818

EX-47 31 DEC 20 1945

ALL  
b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, Houston  
SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
① AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
SEDITION

DATE: December 27, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

The above-captioned individual arrived in Houston, Texas on December 13, 1945 accompanied by his wife, RENATA LEGANT and [REDACTED]

SMITH conducted a press conference at the Rice Hotel on the afternoon of December 13, 1945 and from press reports of this conference SMITH stated that he was in Houston to contact key figures who would help spread his gospel of nationalism in Texas. He declined, however, to say who the key figures are he expected to contact in Houston.

Other statements attributed to SMITH during this press conference include the following. In connection with isolationism, he stated; "Isolationists think a nation can live alone and unto itself. Nationalists believe in keeping a nation's sovereignty. Let no nation control the blood or money of the United States - that is what we nationalists fight for."

Soviet Russia was branded as a "nation of savages" and should be dealt with as such. "You can make a deal with savage head hunters, but you don't have to give them a key to your front door", SMITH stated. SMITH said that the United States and Russia already are at war, and it will be out in the open in eighteen months to five years.

He spent considerable time in discussing the Communists in this country and stated that he always finds out how many Communists are in a community when he applies for a permit to hold a mass meeting. In this connection, he stated, "That will bring the Communists into the open, and they will deluge the building superintendent and city authorities with protests, threats and use every other method to harass me or keep me out of the city."

The SMITH party left Houston on Friday, December 14, 1945, stating that he intended to visit Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for the purpose of laying a wreath on the grave of HUEY LONG. He indicated, however, that he intended to return to Houston sometime in the spring for the purpose of holding a series of mass meetings.

No investigative action will be taken in the event SMITH returns to Houston this spring unless requested by the Bureau or the Detroit Field Division.

dfh  
100-919  
cc - Detroit

57 JAN 5 New Orleans  
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RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-219  
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2 JAN 3 1946

EX-33

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[Redacted] b2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/AG

I am enclosing  
a clipping which  
explains itself. The  
activities of Gerald  
Smith should be in-  
vestigated. He is  
at the bottom of all  
this labor trouble.  
His activities in  
Detroit where he put  
special pressure  
certainly produced  
results. He has  
gotten into the Home  
and Eggs improvement

people who are  
presently Govern-  
ment checks im-  
tribute to his cam-

50 JAN 11 1946

RECORDED & INDEXED  
4381522  
32 JAN 1 1946

paigns. He advocates  
The overthrow of the  
Government and  
tells them not to  
work it is an old  
Jewish custom  
and a lot more  
villainous talk.

Certain downtown  
portions of the city  
are infested with  
the worst class of  
people who talk  
against religion.

This man should  
be apprehended  
together with his  
labor leaders. Their  
leaders determined  
would make the  
people lose con-  
fidence in them.  
A Citizen

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mk

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**Editor's Wife  
Son Kidnaped**

Police yesterday were investigating the alleged kidnaping of Mrs. James Tarantino and her 21-month-old son, Jimmy, near their home at 1925 North Vermont avenue, late Friday.

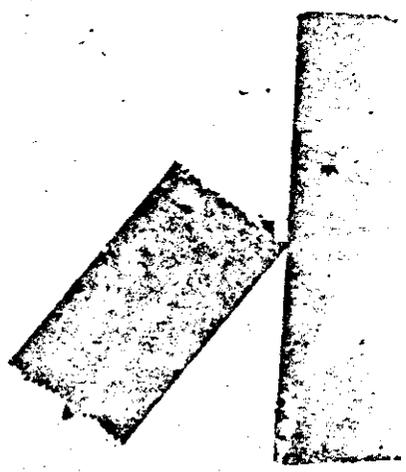
Officers said Mrs. Tarantino told them three men forced her and Jimmy into a car at pistol point, then threw them out in the 100 block on Casanova street.

She said the men told her to stop her husband, editor of a Hollywood magazine, from writing articles attacking Gerald L. Smith.

Bookkeeping machine operator,  
100 W. Vine.—Ad.

HANDLED BY  
*[Signature]*  
STOP DESK

62-43818-820  
ENCLOSURE



Members of the Board  
Lawrence L. Larrabee, President  
Mrs. Marie M. Adams  
Mrs. Eleanor B. Allen  
Roy J. Becker  
J. Paul Elliott  
Mrs. Gertrude H. Rounsaville  
Maynard J. Toll

Board of Education  
of the  
City of Los Angeles  
Chamber of Commerce Building  
Los Angeles 15, California  
December 19, 1945

Office of  
Lawrence L. Larrabee  
458 South Spring Street  
Los Angeles 15, California

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8 BJS/MLH

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am presuming to write you concerning certain circumstances that have surrounded recent action by the Los Angeles City Board of Education, in the thought that you may be able to supply this Board with information that it does not have.

Last October, an organization of Los Angeles citizens applied to our Board for a permit to hold a meeting in the auditorium of one of our high schools. It was stated in the application that Gerald L. K. Smith was to be one of the speakers at the meeting. A permit for the holding of the meeting was issued in due course. As soon as this fact was publicized in the local press the Board was deluged with written and oral protests of citizens of this community, objecting to the granting of a permit for a meeting at which Mr. Smith could appear and speak.

Here in California we have certain provisions of the State Education Code which are commonly referred to as "The Civic Center Act". In substance, this law grants to organizations of citizens the right to hold meetings in public school buildings for the purpose of discussing political, economic, or other subjects which in their judgment pertain to the interests of the citizens of the community. The only exception made by the terms of this law is that of persons or organizations who advocate the overthrow of our government by force or other unlawful means. This law has been repeatedly construed by our California courts as meaning that a board of education has no power of censorship over the character of a meeting proposed to be held by citizens in accordance with the provisions of that Act, with the exception referred to. That is, that it is mandatory upon boards to grant permits for such meetings and that a board cannot legally deny such a permit because of the alleged opinions and beliefs of the members of the organization or of the person chosen by them to be their speaker.

COPIES DESTROYED  
205 OCT 13 1964

This law makes it equally mandatory upon a board to deny such a permit if it be proved that either the organization or the person chosen by it to be its speaker, advocates the overthrow of government by force or other unlawful means.

*Let Ack 1-3-46  
ESB:hm  
Let to T.L. Candler G. Riv  
ESB:hm 1-3-46*

RECORDED  
- 1 & -  
INDEXED  
39 JAN 27 1948

162-43818-821

EX-40

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*

12-19-1945

Because of various charges that were made against Mr. Smith, our Board granted two public hearings for the purpose of affording an opportunity to citizens to appear and present any evidence they might have tending to prove that Mr. Smith advocates the overthrow of government by force or other unlawful means.

Both of these protest meetings were attended by large numbers of people appearing as representatives of a considerable number of local organizations. Their common complaint was that Mr. Smith has been charged with having made, in years past, public statements which have had a tendency to stir up racial and religious hatreds and tending to show that he believed in what is popularly referred to as a Fascistic form of government. In support of those complaints it was said, for instance, that both he and his wife have been members of Palley's Silver Shirt organization, the implication being that the Silver Shirts advocate the overthrow of our government by force or other unlawful means. Practically everything that was said against Mr. Smith boiled down to an expression of bitter dislike for the man personally, and for views that he is accused of having expressed; no evidence whatever was produced to show that he advocates, or has ever advocated, the overthrow of our government by force or violence. The members of the Board, in concurrence with members of the Los Angeles County Counsel's Office who sat with them at these hearings, so found and refused to revoke the permits for these meetings at which Mr. Smith was to speak here in Los Angeles.

Board members are still being importuned by various citizens to go further in their investigation of Mr. Smith's record, it being contended that he preaches doctrines which would have the effect of advocating the overthrow of government by force. The Board has therefore directed me to write to you to ask if you will be good enough to advise us whether or not your office has had occasion to investigate Mr. Smith's activities and, if so, whether you have found evidence that he advocates the overthrow of our government by force. It would be of value to us to know whether your office has or has not found any evidence supporting such a charge against Mr. Smith.

I may state that in connection with the holding of the three meetings last October and November here in Los Angeles, the most vociferous opposition to the holding of the meetings, which took the form of picketing of meetings by mobs estimated to comprise from five to ten thousand persons, appears to have been local Communist groups, principally those Communists who appeared to be of the Jewish race. This has been explained by some by pointing out that Mr. Smith, in his local appearances, has purported to expose certain activities of Communists which, if true, would indicate that any patriotic American citizen should fight against such activities, and certain procedures

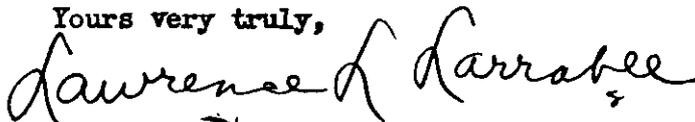
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Page 3

12-19-1945

which are charged against the Communist Party. The only utterances made by Smith in his local meetings, which could be reasonably labeled as "rabble rousing", have been those in which he has denounced the Communists and their alleged program of activity in this country.

We shall greatly appreciate any information or comments that you may feel free to give us in regard to the matters hereinabove set forth.

Yours very truly,



LAWRENCE L. LARRABEE  
President

Board of Education of the City of  
Los Angeles

LLL:LLG

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

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

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
62-43818-821

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62-43818-821

RECORDED

EX-40

January 3, 1946

Mr. Lawrence L. Larrabee  
President  
Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles  
Chamber of Commerce Building  
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Mr. Larrabee:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 19, 1945.

With regard to your inquiry, I wish to advise that inasmuch as the information you desire involves fundamentally a question of law, I have taken the liberty of referring a copy of your letter to Assistant Attorney General Theron L. Caudle in charge of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for interpretation and appropriate consideration.

If at any time in the future you have any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate with me or with Special Agent R. B. Hood in charge of our Los Angeles Field Division located at 900 Security Building, Los Angeles 13, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8 BJS/ML

JAN 3 4 29 PM '46  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 12  
★ JAN 3 1946 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ESB:EM:EW

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
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- Tracy
- Carson
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- Gurnea
- Hendon
- Pennington
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Gandy

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

RECORDED 2-43818-827

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Gault  
Criminal Division

January 3, 1946

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

INQUIRY BY LOS ANGELES BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CONCERNING GERALD L. K. SMITH

106233

There is submitted herewith a copy of a letter dated December 19, 1945, directed to me by Mr. Lawrence L. Larrabee, President, Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, Chamber of Commerce Building, Los Angeles 15, California.

Inasmuch as Mr. Larrabee's inquiry involves fundamentally a question of law, I am referring this letter to you for your interpretation and appropriate consideration. This letter has been acknowledged and Mr. Larrabee has been advised of this reference to you.

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BTM/uc

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 12  
★ JAN 3 1946 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
JAN 4 2 28 PM '46  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Handwritten initials and date: 3 27 PM

59 JAN 23 1946/66

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NO. [redacted]  
 CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT**

FILE NO. **100-7945**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/19/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/18, 19, 26; 11/7, 9, 16, 21, 27, 29/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY [redacted]
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; ERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C SEDITION</b>

**166241**

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

GERALD L. K. SMITH returned to Los Angeles about October 15, 1945, and had planned to have meetings in a number of cities in the Los Angeles area. Mobilization for Democracy, a new Communist front, is to consolidate all Communist activity. Communists and CIO leaders try unsuccessfully to prevent Board of Education granting use of school building to SMITH. Communist and CIO members and others picket SMITH meeting at Polytechnic High School. PHILIP M. CONNELLY is leader of the pickets. ROBERT W. KENNY, State Attorney General, is director of Mobilization for Democracy activities. Mobilization for Democracy organizes Long Beach to prevent SMITH holding meetings there. Representatives of Communists and CIO succeed in having Masonic Temple cancel engagement of SMITH for use of hall. Many arrests made at Polytechnic High School meeting. Fifty-seven persons face court charges, many of whom are high school students. **U**

~~RECEIVED~~  
~~LABOR~~  
~~STOP~~

-RUC-

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 62-43818.  
 Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, October 12, 1945;  
 Bureau letter dated October 11, 1945;  
 Report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, dated August 30, 1945;  
 Detroit letter dated November 15, 1945.

**DE-INDEXED**  
 DATE: **10/28/57**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 2-5-81 BY SP198/16**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

*R. M. [redacted]*

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT
- (5) - Bureau
  - 3 - Detroit
  - 1 - San Diego (inf.)
  - 1 - San Francisco (inf.)
  - 1 - SID Los Angeles
  - 4 - Los Angeles (1 LA 100-23490)
- cc - DR 11/4/46*  
*11/4/46*  
*CB*

**62-43818-822**

**JAN 16 1946**

**COPIES DESTROYED  
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**58 JAN 24 1946**

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*622*

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

GERALD L. K. SMITH was in Los Angeles in June and July, 1945, and held a series of meetings at which a great amount of disturbance was created by his attacks on Communists and he singled out to a great extent the activities of Communists and Jews in Hollywood. When he left, he stated that he would return in the fall for a series of meetings. He arrived in Southern California on or about October 15, 1945, and was scheduled to speak in the following cities in Los Angeles:

- Pomona
- Riverside
- Pasadena
- San Bernardino
- Long Beach
- San Diego
- Modesto
- Sacramento
- San Jose
- San Francisco
- Oakland
- Fresno
- Los Angeles
- Pomona
- Riverside
- Pasadena
- San Bernardino
- Long Beach
- San Diego
- Modesto
- Sacramento
- San Jose
- San Francisco
- Oakland
- Fresno.

When SMITH was in Los Angeles in July, 1945, he made a speech at the Shrine Auditorium on July 20 in which he made the following statements in substance, according to [REDACTED]

b7D

"You can make up your minds when you come to call down the imps of Hollywood, the devils of Hell, and they will spend \$50,000 in ten days under the leadership of pro-Communists and Stalinite agents like ORSON WELLES and his trained seals to fight you because

you stand for Christ first in America, that you are doing some good."

"You know, you hear all sorts of talk about GERALD L. K. SMITH and his storm troopers -- The Communists use a circular with a drawing of a Nazi on the cover with a wicked cat-of-nine-tails, titled, 'Must this happen in Los Angeles?' You turn to the inside and it says, 'GERALD L. K. SMITH comes to Los Angeles with his storm troopers.' Yes, I came to this meeting tonight with what they call my 'storm troopers'. The men who escorted me to this meeting tonight were all young ministers of the gospel. We stopped in the dressing room, used by the actresses when they use this auditorium for a theatre, and we knelt down and prayed, that is the kind of storm troopers I had and in case any of my cynical enemies who insist that the Pastors' Committee is a fake and non-existent, I want you to know that practically every gentleman on this platform or at least 60% of them are ministers of the gospel."

"I realize that the Communists have used the strategy of racism, which we do not introduce, racism is no part of our campaign, but they have introduced the question of racism in order to alarm the hysterical Jews, in order to arouse the Negroes; but they haven't succeeded in arousing the Negroes thus far; so if you went to the Olympic tonight -- in fact a member of my committee said that without a doubt at least 85% to 90% of the people at the Olympic tonight are Jews; may I say this to the Jewish community, if you are represented here tonight, be you an agent or to listen in: study the practical strategy of your people in the public relations problem. ... your people will not make the friends you need in this critical hour if you allow your fears to be exploited in this critical hour by the Communist Party."

"All right, ladies and gentlemen, I am willing to wager a hat, shoes and undershirt, there will be no resolution at the Olympic Auditorium tonight against Red Communism. I am willing to wager my shirt the Attorney General of the State of California will make no attack at the Olympic Auditorium tonight against Communism. Why? Because he and others, operating this Communistic program are playing the Communist Party line. Why are they so afraid? Why do they spend these thousands and bring in movie stars and left wing politicians, the Attorney General of the State of California? They had 60 men at the Ambassador and the food cost \$10.00 a plate; they paid \$600.00 just to set up a press conference to publicize this meeting they are holding; they say for the purpose of stopping GERALD L. K. SMITH. Why that fear? Why so apprehensive concerning

our activities on the coast? It is because when this war is over there will be a million unemployed on the West Coast. . . don't let anyone deceive you, you have have all kinds of interviews with Mr. Kaiser on operating new factories, . . . but a confidential report to the Federal Reserve Bank in this zone reveals these factories now manufacturing war materials are going to be closed and not be reconverted to peace time factories and there will be millions unemployed on the West Coast and the Communists are planning to exploit the hunger, unemployment and chaos in behalf of a revolution under the Red flag. And don't you be deceived, they are getting ready for the explosion. They kicked Earl Browder out of leadership and put at the head WILLIAM Z. FOSTER; they repudiate EARL BROWDER because he was getting along with the Administration and now they are going to restore their plan of class warfare, which means overthrow of the government of the United States by force, and they have moved their strategic headquarters to Hollywood, California, to take over when this war is over, and they know GERALD L. K. SMITH has got their number."

"When the press came out and interviewed me at the hotel, they said to me: 'Mr. SMITH, what about these people being out to destroy GERALD L. K. SMITH and everything he stands for?' I said if you get HOMER CHAILLAUX of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion and get Senator TENNEY, Chairman of the Committee to Investigate un-American Activities in this state to endorse the meeting at the Olympic Auditorium, I will cancel my meeting at the Shrine and invite my people to join you, but may I say this: I am willing to wager that Senator Tenney and Homer Chaillaux are just as conscious of the mechanizations behind this fake outfit as I am or anyone here in this audience tonight."

[REDACTED] informed that on August 26, 1945, about 1,200 people met at the Los Angeles City College and formed the "Mobilization for Democracy", a new Communist front which, according to the announcement, was to be a committee with power to act as a committee for all the organizations composing it, "but not as a membership organization" but that it was "to screen all suggestions and resolutions, and pass those they approve and reject those they do not approve". b7D

Source further informed that the following parties are to control and direct the activities of the MFD.

ROBERT W. KENNY, Attorney General of California, chairman;  
GEORGE STILLER, secretary;  
CAREY McWILLIAMS, treasurer, writer and professional sponsor;  
PHILIP M. CONNELLY, CIO member and secretary of the LAIUC.

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This source further advised that this MFD was first set up as an emergency committee at the Royal Palms Hotel on July 17, 1945. He also informed that the MFD called the great mass meeting at the Olympic Auditorium at which its officers claimed 12,000 citizens were in attendance and that \$10,000 in cash was raised to finance its activity, the principal one of which at that particular moment was the activity of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Later, the MFD issued a list of eighteen things which they must fight to obtain or fight to prevent someone else from obtaining, all of which were in conformity with the present Communist Party line.

About the time that GERALD L. K. SMITH returned to Los Angeles in October, 1945, an announcement appeared in the papers giving his schedule of appointments.

The Los Angeles Daily News for October 12, 1945, stated that GERALD L. K. SMITH yesterday received the O.K. from the Los Angeles School Board to address a mass meeting on school property after a similar request had been denied by the San Diego School Board. The approval was given by the board in reply to a request for the use of the Polytechnic High School Auditorium next Wednesday night for a free public meeting sponsored by the Pay Roll Guarantee Association.

It stated that City School Superintendent VIERLING KERSEY advised the Los Angeles School Board against approving the request, fearing "a bad situation might arise in connection with that person's speaking in the school building".

"There are sharp feelings in the city about SMITH", said KERSEY, "we must be careful of arousing sentiment".

LAWRENCE L. LARRABEE, president of the board, stated: "But we can't deny SMITH if we don't deny Communists, we have no right to anticipate a riot or a disturbance."

"Permission was granted for the use of the auditorium at a charge of \$37.00 for a period not to exceed 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. A sign disclaiming the School Board's sponsorship of the meeting will be placed in the auditorium", board members stated.

The Los Angeles Daily News for October 16, 1945, stated that an estimated 100 southland organizations will appear before the Los Angeles City Board of Education today to protest SMITH's scheduled appearance next Wednesday. They want the permit to SMITH cancelled.

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The article further stated that if the School Board does not, cancel the permit and if the speech comes off as scheduled in spite of the protest, the spokesman added, plans were underway to have 10,000 pickets at the meeting.

The article stated that the "Mobilization for Democracy" leaders said, "The groups objecting to 'rabble rouser SMITH's appearance had passed the 100 mark and was expected to approximate 200 before the Board of Education meets".

It may be stated that ROBERT W. KENNY, Attorney General of the State of California, CAREY McWILLIAMS, and GEORGE STILLER are the leaders of "Mobilization for Democracy" which is leading the opposition to SMITH.

The Los Angeles Examiner for October 16, 1945, stated: "Despite vociferous protests from a capacity audience that included several Hollywood celebrities, the Board of Education refused to rescind its permit for SMITH to speak at Polytechnic High School".

LAWRENCE L. LARRABEE, President of the Board, explained to more than 300 protestants that under the State Civic Center Act, the Board was powerless to deny a permit to the organization sponsoring SMITH's appearance. He stated: "Among the speakers who asked the board to revoke the permit were Hollywoodites EDDIE CANTOR and DOROTHY PARKER; PHILIP M. CONNELLY, secretary-treasurer of the LAIUC, CAREY McWILLIAMS, and ISAAC X PACHT, former judge of the State Superior Court".

A dodger was issued advertising a mass meeting at the new Masonic Temple at Long Beach, California, on October 20, 1945. It was designated as an American City in Action". The principal speakers were the following:

ORSON WELLES, writer, ROBERT W. KENNY, State Attorney General, Long Beach Mobilization for Democracy, and "more than 100 other community organizations and leaders". It listed JOE MADDEN as chairman and master of ceremonies.

On the back of this dodger was the heading, "It can't Happen Here".

The Daily Peoples World for October 12, 1945, under the heading "Hollywood will picket If Smith Speaks", stated that if GERALD L. K. SMITH, America's No. 1 Fascist, successfully completes his speaking date at Polytechnic High School next Wednesday night, he will be confronted by a giant picket line - Hollywood style.

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It stated that this was issued today after 700 citizens enthusiastically cheered the suggestion of PHILIP M. CONNELLY, secretary-treasurer of the LAIUC, at the Olympic auditorium last night.

It stated that indignant citizens will appear at a Board of Education hearing at 5:00 P.M. Monday at the Chamber of Commerce to protest rental of the school to SMITH. It stated that if the board insists on permitting SMITH use of the school then "the picket line will be organized". It stated that CONNELLY spoke at the mass meeting of the Citizens Committee for the motion picture strikers which was called to protest police and goon terror against Hollywood picketers. He noted that SMITH appeared in town when workers are being assaulted in a Fascist manner and questioned whether it is merely coincidental. SMITH and anti labor violence "go hand in hand", CONNELLY pointed out, and they cannot be separated.

The Daily Peoples World for October 17, 1945, under the heading, "300 L.A. Groups to 'Greet' Smith with Picket Line", stated: "Mass indignation of Los Angeles citizens at the American Fascism of GERALD L. K. SMITH will be expressed in a huge picketing demonstration tonight in front of the Polytechnic High School".

"300 organizations which will be represented at the mass picketing include the following: Mobilization for Democracy, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, H.I.C.C. of ASP, National Citizens PAC, Hollywood Democratic Committee, CIO Council, American Federation of Teachers-Parents Council, American-Jewish Council, Thirteenth Councilmanic Citizens Committee, Musicians Union No. 47, American Veterans Council, International Workers Order, All Jewish War Veterans posts, B'nai B'rith, Council of Jewish Women!"

It stated that the Hollywood Strike Strategy Committee has been invited to participate.

[REDACTED] informed that on October 15, 1945, a hearing was had before the Los Angeles School Board which was called by the Mobilization for Democracy, a recently formed Communist front, to protest the action of the Board of Education in granting the use of Polytechnic High School to GERALD L. K. SMITH. Invitations to this meeting were sent out over the signatures of the following:

ROBERT W. KENNY, State Attorney General;  
CAREY McWILLIAMS, writer and professional sponsor;  
GEORGE CAMPBELL, secretary, AFL Musicians No. 47;  
PAULINE LAUBER, secretary of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization;  
FRANK PELLETT, Legislative Chairman of Standard Rule Unions;

PHILIP M. CONNELLY, Secretary-Treasurer, LAIUC;  
ELEANORE ~~ABOWITZ~~, CIO-PAC Secretary;  
Mrs. FRED ~~POLLOCK~~, Chairman, Women's Division, American  
Jewish Congress;  
LEO ~~GALLIN~~, Executive Director;  
Jewish County Council.

Source informed that PHILIP M. CONNELLY spoke at length and stated that the racial tension and bigotry have reached a danger point all over the United States. He cited instances of race-hate riots among students in the schools, how in Los Angeles recently, the white children came to school armed with chains and other weapons, determined to drive the colored children from the school, how white parents drove through the district threatening the Negro parents if they continued sending their children to that school. CONNELLY said that the situation was such that the people in Los Angeles were so aroused over the appearance of SMITH that their group "would be unable to handle them". He further stated, "The people were going to picket the meeting and the CIO could not be responsible for what might happen".

CONNELLY stated that at the time SMITH appeared in Los Angeles previously, the CIO had been able to keep "law and order" but this time, it would be "utterly impossible for them to do so if the board insisted upon allowing the use of public school property by SMITH". He stated that it is well known that SMITH travels with a "bunch of goons and thugs to protect him" and if the board does not rescind their actions, there was "danger of the reoccurrence of the Detroit incident".

The result of the hearing was that the Board of Education ruled that SMITH had a right to speak in the school buildings.

This same source advised that after the hearing was over, the crowd designating themselves as "Mobilization for Democracy" numbering between 300 and 350, went directly from the Board of Education in the Chamber of Commerce Building to the Royal Palms Hotel. Source stated that there was a meeting already in progress at the Palms Hotel when the CONNELLY crowd arrived; that CONNELLY and a few of his friends gathered in the rear of the room and evidently were making plans to put over the program they wanted.

CONNELLY was overheard to say: "If that dodo tries to run in a sub committee here tonight, we'll have to do something".

At this meeting, the chairman said that ~~C. O.~~ HALLORAN, West Coast Director of the UAW, would establish the picket line. He said that seventeen organizations will be ready with picket captains. He also stated that fifteen thousand pamphlets would be issued by the regional staff and

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that sound trucks would be furnished and all unions and organizations should attend.

Source further stated that a dark complexioned young man with a slight impediment of speech, whose first name was MAURICE, took the floor as a representative of the Joint Anti Fascist Refugee Committee for Local 26 of the ILWU and stated in part that "transportation would be furnished by caravans, shop stewards would be captains, chief stewards would be Lieutenant Generals of the pickets and the committee staff to run the set up with the CIO Council and any other groups wishing to participate".

He added that most of the brothers he worked with were Mexicans and Negroes and they knew what GERALD L. K. SMITH means to do with them, and he would guarantee that they would see to it that when SMITH was run out of Los Angeles, he would be in no shape to return.

Source informed that another man, one who had been talking to CONNELLY in the rear of the room, stood and asked that they make an amendment to a motion making PHILIP M. CONNELLY marshal, which was acted upon at once.

Smith Meeting at Polytechnic High School  
October 17, 1945

[REDACTED] has informed that this meeting was highly publicized by various groups, such as labor unions, the Daily Peoples World, the MFD, the CIO, the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, the American Jewish Council, the International Workers Order, and others, including the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyite), Workers Party (Trotskyite), Pacific Sound Equipment Company, the Towne Avenue Forum operated by WHITEY McLEAN, a well known Communist Party member, and many other organizations. .

Source informed that radio stations announced the picketing of the SMITH meeting on the evening of October 17, 1945, at the Polytechnic High School and called for the picketing of the meeting; branding SMITH as a "native Fascist", a "hate breeder", and an "anti labor agitator".

Source further stated that the pickets brought two sound trucks to the meeting and parked them immediately in front of the entrance to the high school. They were furnished by the UAW-CIO and the UMM and SW-CIO.

This source further informed that SYLVAN PASTERNAK, a known Communist, brought a carload of placards to the meeting. The placards bore such slogans such as "stamp out Fascism in America", "No beachhead for Fascism in Los Angeles", "UAW-CIO will fight GERALD L. K. SMITH",

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"Our Boys Died for the Democracy Smith would Destroy".

Source further informed that PHILIP M. CONNELLY, secretary of the LAIUC, announced over the loud speaker that "all longshoremen were to be the picket captains and asked them to go to the opposite side of the street and meet a BILL LAURENCE and get their instructions and keep the picket line moving and keep it peaceful".

Source informed that approximately thirty-five Negroes, members of the Ship Scalers Union, arrived and took their place in the picket line. The crowd was shouting, "Down with Smith", "Down with Fascism", "we will run him out of town", and other similar statements.

One of the speakers read over the loud speaker an excerpt from the United States War Department instruction sheet issued to Army orientation officers dated March 24, 1945, reading as follows: "How to Recognize an American Fascist".

Source further informed that PHILIP M. CONNELLY appeared to be in full charge of the picket line. He gave instructions over the loud speaker. Also, he walked along the picket line shouting instructions to the pickets.

This source further stated that ABRAHAM MINKUS, a well known member of the Communist Party and a member of the Federation of Teachers, AFL, made a talk over the loud speaker in which he stated that there were numerous school teachers in the picket line. When MINKUS had finished, the announcer stated, "this is the man who is fighting Fascism in the schools. He is teaching your children and mine the real dangers of Fascism."

Source further stated that CHARLOTTA GASS, editor of the California Eagle, made a fiery speech in which she denounced the Los Angeles Police Department, stating: "These are the same men who are gassing and clubbing the strikers in the Hollywood motion picture strike".

This source further informed that by about 7:45 P.M., the lower floor of the auditorium was filled to capacity. In the balcony, there was a group of about "twenty-five juvenile hoodlums" who undoubtedly were sent into the auditorium by someone to cause trouble. These juveniles were members of the Young Socialist Club. They made loud noises with their shoes, spoke loudly, and one member was seen to stamp his feet on the floor and was heard to say, "These are the same shoes I made so much noise with at the 'YOUTH FOR CHRIST' meeting".

Source further informed that at about 7:40 P.M., SMITH entered the auditorium through the rear entrance and was met by several of his followers who were shaking his hand and asking questions.

Source stated that SMITH took the rostrum and immediately received a tremendous ovation from his followers and boos, cat-calls, and hissing from his opponents who were in the audience. He quoted SMITH as saying, "If you people here this evening have observed the type of people who are outside the auditorium attempting to prevent this meeting from being held, I want to tell you that these groups are encouraged by Hollywood motion picture magnates and EDDIE CANTOR and the 'red rats' of Hollywood".

Source informed that there was loud applause by the audience and SMITH then said: "If you believe that, let's give it a hand", at which time loud applause was given to SMITH.

Informant stated that SMITH at that time stated that his son had fought to uphold the constitution of the United States, freedom of speech, and assemblage and that he, SMITH, felt that he would be a poor father if he didn't do his part in defending the rights of freedom of speech and assemblage in the United States and "God willing, I am going to do that".

Informant stated that SMITH at this time explained that MEADE McCLANAHAN was not present for the reason that he had on that date buried his two year old grandson. This statement was loudly booed by the opposition. SMITH then stated that if these "red rats" thought they could prevent anyone from attending this meeting, he said, "they have not stopped us and I will hold another meeting in this city within two or three weeks". SMITH further stated that "they had also taken credit for running him out of town the last time I was here" but he stated that "he had not been run out of town by 'your Communist State Attorney General Robert W. Kenny' or by anyone of these 'red rats'". SMITH stated he had travelled several thousand miles and had held meetings in numerous large cities in which he had addressed large crowds. At this time, a private in the United States Army stepped to the aisle and asked those in the audience to go with him and take SMITH off the platform. He was applauded by a small group of people scattered in the audience and he was immediately escorted from the hall.

This informant stated that at another point during Mr. SMITH's speech, a colored soldier in uniform stood up and openly denounced the speaker and immediately left the auditorium.

Source informed that SMITH later in his speech stated that the Soviet Union is now trying to float a loan of six billion dollars and that this amount "would be enough to pay each returned soldier a good bonus".

Source stated that SMITH then stated, "what's wrong with doing something for the Americans?"

Source informed that ALBERT SLADE, representative of Attorney General Robert W. Kenny's Office, was observed talking to PHILIP M. CONNELLY

outside the auditorium and again he observed him in the auditorium where he remained until approximately 9:40 P.M. This source estimated that there were approximately 5,000 people present at the height of the demonstration outside the Polytechnic High School.

[redacted] advised that the Mobilization for Democracy met at the YWCA at Long Beach on October 13, 1945, and held a meeting and set up an executive committee, selected temporary officers and raised \$300 for the purpose of organizing and planning to keep GERALD L. K. SMITH from speaking in Long Beach on October 20, 1945, as the same action had been taken with respect to SMITH by the MFD at Los Angeles. b7D

This source further advised that it was learned that SMITH's organization had rented a hall in the Masonic Temple for October 20, 1945, and also that the MFD was wanting to rent a hall in the same building on the same date and hour, that is, in the evening. Source stated that they sensed at once that there was trouble brewing. Source stated that contact was made with [redacted] of the Masonic Temple, and it was learned that the SMITH organization had made a twenty dollar deposit on the hall for October 20 and November 3, 1945. It was also learned that the MFD group had made arrangements to rent the hall from the manager of the building, but the MFD group had not made a deposit. The hall for SMITH had been rented in the name of the Pay Roll Guarantee Association. b7C

Source stated that many phone calls were received by [redacted] demanding that she return the deposit made by the SMITH group and refuse SMITH the use of the hall. [redacted] became alarmed and returned the deposit made by the SMITH group and apprised them that the hall would not be available for them.

The twenty dollars was returned to [redacted] with a letter stating that they would sue her for damages. Soon thereafter, [redacted] received a letter signed by attorneys and businessmen of Long Beach. Among the signatures on the letter were those of [redacted] an attorney, [redacted] and [redacted]. This letter advised [redacted] that she was within her rights in refusing the use of the hall to SMITH and upon their recommendation, she again returned the check to the SMITH organization.

[redacted] informed that on October 18, the MFD, being successful in having [redacted] of the Masonic Temple at Long Beach, cancel the reservation made by the SMITH group, then made arrangements to secure the Masonic Hall for Saturday, October 20, 1945. Source informed that invitations were sent to many substantial citizens of Long Beach, including the Chief of Police ALVIN F. SLAUGHT, and Inspector R. M. ANDERSON of the police department to attend this meeting. b7C b7D

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This source further reported that the main speakers at this meeting were the following:

✓ ALBEE SLADE, representing Attorney General Robert T. Kenny;  
✓ ALBERT WALTZ, author and writer for Warner Brothers Studios;  
R. C. ✓ PARKER, who was the chairman of the meeting.

Source informed that during the evening, there were other speakers who expressed their views regarding SMITH and the Pay Roll Guarantee Association, known as "HAM 'N EGGS", which had sponsored the SMITH meeting.

[REDACTED] that a motion was made from the floor which provided that the group which was present at this meeting should be considered as charter members of the MFD in Long Beach. The motion carried and the chairman instructed the group to do their utmost to get as many in attendance at the October 20, 1945, meeting as possible. b7D

GEORGE SHIBLEY, an attorney at Long Beach, announced that he had tentatively engaged ORSON WELLES as the main speaker for that meeting, which was to be made the main talking point for attendance.

[REDACTED] that SMITH and his sponsors had made arrangements to hold a meeting at the Masonic Temple in Long Beach on October 20, 1945, and had paid the rental in advance, but source informed that some of the gang from the MFD in Los Angeles came to Long Beach and held a meeting, several of whom source recognized as Communists.

Source stated that it was announced at this meeting that ORSON WELLES could not be present and explained that HERBERT BIBERMAN had come to fill his place on the program.

Source stated that BIBERMAN devoted much time to World War III and stated that SMITH and the Fascists were planning to bring it on. He explained that "some of us woke up" and tried to tell them what was coming before we got into World War II but he stated that there were thousands of young men who were too young to understand. BIBERMAN further stated, "Because more people did not wake up, we lost those fine young men." BIBERMAN charged that SMITH and his like were trying to start it all over again.

Source further stated that BIBERMAN stated, "nothing is going to stop this committee from keeping SMITH from spoiling a world so many have died to save".

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Source further informed that several others spoke, each one depicting "what a calamity it would be to permit SMITH to speak in Long Beach". By way of explanation here, it may be stated that HERBERT BIBERMAN is the party who was picketing the White House on June 22, 1941, when HITLER launched his campaign against Russia. It may also be stated that BIBERMAN was the West Coast director of the American Peace Mobilization, afterwards the American Peoples Mobilization.

[REDACTED] that a meeting of the MFD was held at the Masonic Temple, Long Beach, California, on October 20, 1945. This source stated that the plans for this organization were carried out according to plans laid down by the organization leaders at the meeting at the Los Angeles City College August 26, 1945. b7D

This source stated that a small number of persons who are promoting the formation of a Mobilization for Democracy local at Long Beach announced a dinner meeting to be held at a prominent hotel, and invited prominent businessmen, city officials, and others of good standing to meet with them to discuss matters of mutual interest. The promoters have one or more prominent speakers to outline their program which is made to appear very attractive. The real purpose of the meeting is not revealed but they endeavor to get the persons present to commit themselves to support the program and join with them in their undertaking. The result is that no one demands to know what they propose to do and there is a sort of "silence gives consent" to support their program. The promoters then put notices in the newspapers about the meeting and give the names of the officials and other prominent persons who attended the first meeting and make the bold statement that the persons named "are members of the Mobilization For Democracy". In the same announcement in the newspaper, the promoters always announce a mass meeting within two or three days after the dinner meeting. Everything is rushed through and no one is given opportunity to withdraw from the commitment.

At the dinner, the promoters announce that some prominent Hollywood star has been engaged to appear at the mass meeting and this fact is used in their leaflets, which are distributed all over the city and outlying districts in order to draw a large crowd. When the crowd is gathered at the mass meeting, they call out the names of prominent men and city officials, whether they are there or not, and request them to come to the platform. Enough will come forward to make a large group on the platform, who appear to be in favor of the program.

Source stated that a motion is then made to the mass meeting to form a permanent organization with a special action committee and a plan to appeal to the City Council and County Supervisors to make this committee a part of the local government. The proposal is that the committee

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is to be "composed of appointees" but not elected. Said committee is to be furnished "with city funds to use as they see fit".

This source further reported that it will be noted that the same people who are leaders of the Mobilization for Democracy are also in such organizations as the JOINT ANTI FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE, THE CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL ACTION, THE HOLLYWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE, and other organizations of this nature.

The Los Angeles News for November 5, 1945, carried a picture of a picket line, picketing the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting at the Polytechnic High School. The article states that fifty-seven demonstrators face court for picketing the SMITH rally; that fifty-seven men, women and minor-age boys and girls were scheduled to appear in Lincoln Heights Municipal Court on charges of disturbing a rally staged by GERALD L. K. SMITH. It further stated that the law "hauled them away from the meeting". Adults were booked on "charges of interrupting a public meeting in a public school"; juveniles were charged with violating a state law having to do with "parental supervision".

The article stated that an estimated 8,000 persons picketed the meeting outside the school.

The article further stated that "several hundred in the audience had come not to cheer SMITH", however, "police, spaced a few feet apart in every aisle in the auditorium, pounced on all disruptors and promptly led them away. Some objectors stood up, shouted their dissent to utterances of SMITH, and then walked out voluntarily. There was no trouble outside where the thousands of pickets marched, carrying placards, denouncing SMITH and Fascism".

"Helmeted police roped off traffic and stood side by side to form a lane along which SMITH's sympathizers could walk through the picket line and enter the school. The police carried clubs and gas masks."

"Inside the auditorium three rows of the audience, which were filled mostly with soldiers, ostentatiously read newspapers to show their disregard for SMITH when he went through his platform routines."

"There were a number of scuffles with police. One boy received a minor leg injury. At one point, SMITH paused in his speech and said to police, 'Take 'em out horizontally as far as I am concerned'".

"The picketing was sponsored by the Mobilization for Democracy recently begun by State Attorney General Robert W. Kenny, labor union leaders, and various citizens groups. After the SMITH meeting, the pickets adjourned for a meeting of their own in the Olympic Auditorium."

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The Los Angeles News for November 6, 1945, stated in part: "picketing and a rally meeting at Olympic Auditorium were sponsored by the Mobilization for Democracy organization headed by Attorney General Robert W. Kenny and by labor union leaders and other groups. Among the pickets arrested were several youths who were arrested last Friday in students' picketing of the Board of Education protesting SMITH's use of the school for his meeting".

The Daily Peoples World for November 5, 1945, under the heading, "Rankin Red Painters Called Fascist Threat", stated that "immediate dissolution of the house committee on un-American activities was asked today in a petition to President Truman from the HOLLYWOOD INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF THE ARTS SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS. The statement declared that the house committee headed by representative JOHN RANKIN through its drive against the freedom of the radio and film industry and its threat against newspaper columnists is aiming to establish Fascism in America".

The Peoples World for November 6, 1945, under the heading, "L.A. Cops Act as Smith's Goons" stated in part, "Some fifty citizens arrested at GERALD L. K. SMITH's harangue Saturday night for allegedly disturbing a meeting in a public school. All defendants appeared in court today, ready to plea not guilty through their attorney, JOHN T. McTERNAN, but Judge BEN ROSENTHAL delayed the proceedings because no written complaints were ready". It further stated, "Veteran of World War II and the Spanish War was jailed when he protested the clubbing of another citizen".

A copy of this report is being furnished to the San Francisco Field Division and San Diego Field Division as it is believed this report contains information which will be of interest to those offices.

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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These sources are being maintained confidential for security reasons.

~~DECLASSIFIED~~ 6855  
ON 1/12/78 DMK/DLC

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF Declassification DATE 2/17/88 SP/mlg

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/6/81 BY SP1 gsk/ky