



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New York 100-56680

New York, New York
November 16, 1959

Re: Eslanda Cordozo Robeson
Security Matter - C

All informants utilized in the report of
Special Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned ^{b7C}
as above at New York, have furnished reliable informa-
tion in the past with the following exceptions:

There has been insufficient contact with
[REDACTED] to judge his reliability. [REDACTED] ^{b7D}

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

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FBI Headquarters file 100-12304-590

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127
FBI/DOJ



~~SECRET~~

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

out

Date: December 4, 1959
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legal Attache, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Re Paris let 10/14/59. (u)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

P

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 Rds/H
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-3
DATE OF REVIEW 1-19-81

2 - Bureau
1 - Paris
NWP:AM
(3)

Classified by 2650 Yea
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
MAY 27 1977

DEC 10 10 25 AM '59
RECEIVED - FBI

100-12304-59

REC- 58 DEC 11 1959

*Let to Leg, Paris
12/23/59
[Signature]*

~~SECRET~~

SUBV. CONTROL
[Signature]

121

1 - Mr. Rachner
1 - Mr. Haack
December 23, 1959

Legal Attache, Paris

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI (100-12304)-591

REC-48

PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

EX 109

Reurlet 12-4-59. (u)

[REDACTED] (c)

Robeson was born April 9, 1898, at Princeton, New Jersey, and has been self-employed as a concert singer and actor since approximately 1923. He maintains a residence at 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City; however, subsequent to the issuance of his United States passport, Number 1145187, he traveled to Europe in July, 1958, and has since maintained a residence and headquarters for his activities in London, England. (u)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 R/LH/W
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-19-81

[REDACTED] (c)

Robeson has also been reported by several sources who have furnished reliable information in the past and by various publications to have been active throughout the years as an officer, sponsor or member of numerous organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. Some of these

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

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through)
NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE 2.
BCR:lmk
(6)

Classified by 2680 JK
Exempt from GDS, Category 1, 2, 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

62 DEC 31 1959 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

DEC 5 1959

BY W

**Letter to Legal Attache, Paris
Re: Paul Leroy Robeson
100-12304**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

organizations are the Council on African Affairs; American Peace Crusade; American Youth for Democracy; China Welfare Appeal, Incorporated; Civil Rights Congress; National Negro Council; and National Committee to Win Amnesty for Smith Act Victims. In addition, Robeson has been reported to have been active as an officer, sponsor or member of numerous other Communist Party front organizations including such organizations as the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, Second World Peace Congress, and National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. (u)

In addition, Robeson, who is often quoted in publications throughout the world, has frequently made public statements wherein he has been consistent in his praise of the Soviet Union and communist and related parties throughout the world. (u)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

[REDACTED]

(c) b1
(A)

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: January 7, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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ReBulet 12/23/59. (u)

[REDACTED]

RUC

2 - Bureau
1 - Paris
NWP:CM
(3)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5R1/dw
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-19-91

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Exempt from GDS, Category
Date of Declassification Indefinite

MAY 27 1977

REC-48

100-12304-59

EX-137

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SEC ID

SUBV. CONTROL
CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Rach

13

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

LT TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 1/27/60

R FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-25857)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

(OO: New York)

Re Legat, London letters to Bureau, 9/18/59 and 11/23/59.

b7D



Two additional copies of this letter are being forwarded to the Bureau for transmittal to Legat, London.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 R-19/HW

cc London
DATE: 2-2-60
Request

- ① - Bureau (100-12304) (RM)
 - (2 - Legat, London) (100-1182)
 - 1 - New York (100-25857) LEC 1
- JJE:jje
(5)

62 FEB 5 1960

REC-68

100-12304-593

FEB 2 1960

SUBV CONTROL

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date 3-18-60

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 3/8/60	Investigative Period 9/1/59 - 2/29/60
TITLE OF CASE PAUL LEROY ROBESON aka		Report made by [REDACTED]	Typed By eah
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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REFERENCE

Report of SA **[REDACTED]** dated 9/9/59, at NY.

-P*-

CLASS. & EXT. BY **SP-5 RLG/dw**
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 **1-2-3**
DATE OF REVIEW **3-8-90**

1-29-81
dated 11/1/81
CP/Pres 3/14

ADMINISTRATIVE

The subject, PAUL LEROY ROBESON, is a key figure of the NYO. (u)

Subject's wife, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, NY file 100-56680, Bufile 100-12304, is carried on the SI of the NYO. (u)

Per State
CIF

0-7 to [REDACTED] to advise whether report should be classified Top Secret

Approved [Signature]	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-12304) (RM) 3 - New York (100-25857)		100-12304-594	
52 APR 8 1960		25 MAR 9 1960	
Classified by 2150 JER		SUBV CONTROL	
Exempt from GDS, Category		APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) DATE	
Date of Declassification Indefinite		MAY 26 1977	

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NY 100-25857

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D)

On 1/22/60, the NYO requested the INS, Washington, D. C. to notify the nearest FBI Office in the event of PAUL LEROY ROBESON's arrival in the US, and to have that office notify the NYO of the arrival. (u)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c) b

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

B
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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NY 100-25857

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (a) (c)

In the case entitled [REDACTED] aka; IS-R", NY file 100-103300, Bufile 100-401216, the Bureau by letter to New York, dated 6/11/59, advised the following: (u)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

D
COVER PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D)

[REDACTED]

b1

(c)

[REDACTED]

b7c

(u)

Inasmuch as the Bureau has instructed that the above information, obtained from [REDACTED] should not be disseminated outside the Bureau or set forth in any investigative report, it is not being incorporated in the details of this report. (u)

b1

In the case entitled, [REDACTED] ET AL; ESP-R; ISA of 1950". NY file 100-65568, Bufile 100-57453,

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7D

The "Paul R.", mentioned [REDACTED] may have been PAUL LEROY ROBESON, however, since this is conjecture, it is not being included in the details of this report. (u)

(u)

E
COVER PAGE

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D.)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

The 8/23/59 edition of the "London Sunday Times" carried a report over a statement made by ROBESON published in Budapest to the effect that ROBESON would ignore United States passport restrictions and visit China and Hungary in the coming months. The article was entitled "Robeson Defies Ban." (u)

[REDACTED] (c)

E-1

COVER PAGE

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NY 100-25857

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONT'D.)

[REDACTED] information was classified "Top Secret", it is not being included in the details of this report. (u) b7D

It is to be noted that the aforementioned information furnished [REDACTED] under a "Top Secret" classification, has been included in the Cover Pages of this report and not in the details, so that the classification of the report may be kept "Confidential", which will make for greater dissemination. (u) b1

E-2

COVER PAGE

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NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

File Where Located

NY T-1

[REDACTED] (c)

100-25857-4168, 4198 ✓
100-52572-556 ✓ ✓ ✓

NY T-2

[REDACTED] (c)

100-25857-4180 ✓

NY T-3

[REDACTED] (c)
(By request, furnished information concerning concealed Communists)

[REDACTED]

NY T-4

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-5

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-6

[REDACTED] (c)

NY 100-25857-4204 ✓

NY T-7

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c) ✓

NY T-8

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

NY T-9

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

F
COVER PAGE

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b1
b2D

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

Identity of Source

File Where Located

NY T-10
[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-11
[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-12
[REDACTED]

NY 100-25857-4179 ✓

NY T-13
Legat, Bonn

NY 100-25857-4179 ✓

NY T-14
Legat, Paris

NY 100-25857-4171, 4178 ✓

NY T-15
[REDACTED] (c)

NY 100-25857-4188 ✓

NY T-16
[REDACTED] (c)

NY 100-25857-4190 ✓ ✓ ✓

NY T-17
[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

NY T-18
[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

NY T-19
[REDACTED] (c)

NY 100-86516-1A17 ✓

G
COVER PAGE

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NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

Identity of Source

File Where Located

NY T-20

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

NY T-21

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

NY T-22

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-23

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-24

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

NY T-25

[REDACTED]

NY 100-93137-352 ✓

(c)

(e)

b1
b7C
b7D

The sources used in the characterization of the Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship (CCASF) in the order of their appearance are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (c) (u)

The sources used in the characterization of the "China Daily News" in the order of their appearance are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (c) (u)

The source used to characterize the Provisional Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist CP (POC) is [REDACTED] (c) (u)

H
COVER PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

The sources used in the characterization of the United States Festival Committee in the order of their appearance are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (c)(u) b1

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will remain alert for information concerning the return of ROBESON to the US. (u)

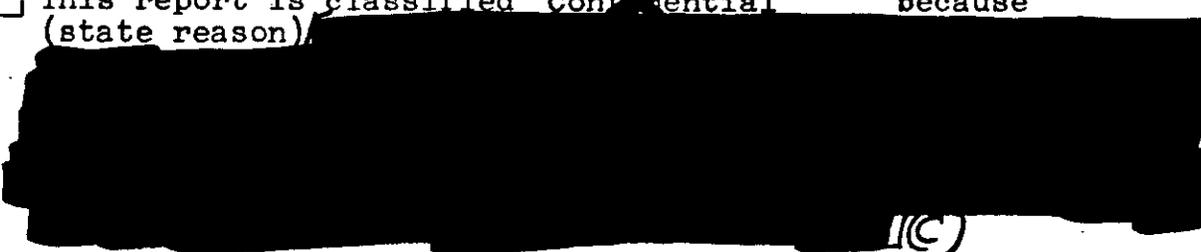
Will continue to follow and report his activities while abroad and in the US upon his return. (u)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

1. Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. A suitable photograph is is not available.
5. Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
7. This report is classified Confidential because (state reason) _____
b 1  (C)
8. Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) he is not residing in the United States.
9. This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) ROBESON was National Chairman of the Council on African Affairs until its dissolution in June, 1955. He has had close contacts with national leaders of the CP, USA. He has publicly praised the Soviet Union while abroad. He was elected Vice-President of the British-Soviet Friendship Society in May, 1959.
11. Subject's SI card is is not tabbed Detcom.
 Subject's activities do do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

J*
COVER PAGE~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 47

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED]
Date: 3/8/60

b7c

Office: NEW YORK

File Number: New York 100-25857

Bureau 100-12304

Title: PAUL LEROY ROBESON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis:

ROBESON and wife continue to reside in United Kingdom, and in September, 1959, ROBESON was still under contract for appearances in stage production of "Othello". [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] information concerning ROBESON's appearance at Seventh World Youth Festival, Vienna, Austria, set forth. ROBESON appeared at festival sponsored by "L'Humanite", French Communist Party newspaper, in Meudon, France. Information concerning promotion of ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand" set forth. Information concerning ROBESON's visit to Budapest, Hungary, and to Rumania set forth. ROBESON was quoted in a Hungarian newspaper as saying that "by March I will visit China". In early February, 1960, ROBESON ended a 2½ week stay in Moscow, Russia.

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R1s/lw
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-2
DATE OF REVIEW 3-8-90

1-23-81

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETAILS

I. BACKGROUND DATA

A. Residence and Employment

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

Regarding the subject's wife, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, the following is noted:

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that ESLANDA ROBESON was a Communist Party (CP) member in 1945, but that she does not hold herself out as a Communist and denies membership in the CP. b7D

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST
MOVEMENT

A. Evidence of CP Sympathies

On [REDACTED] advised that PAUL ROBESON, 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, would be recontacted for the purpose of renewing his subscription for "The Worker".

b7D

"The Worker" is an east coast Communist weekly newspaper.

It is to be noted that ROBESON resided at 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, prior to his departure for Europe.

The column "New York Confidential" by LEE MORTIMER, which appeared in the New York "Daily Mirror" newspaper, dated August 27, 1959, contained the following:

"WHAT A WORLD (but where else can I go?):
Paul Robeson cheering for the 15th
Anniversary of Communist rule in Rumania."

B. Evidence of Membership in or Sympathy
with CP Front Organizations

On [REDACTED] advised that on April 29, 1959, a memorial meeting was held under the sponsorship of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (NCASF) at New York Center, 227 West 46th Street, New York City, to honor the memory of the late THEODORE BAYER, who was an officer of the NCASF. [REDACTED] further advised that at this meeting a record, which had been made by PAUL ROBESON and his wife, ESLANDA ROBESON, in England, was then played for the audience. [REDACTED] stated that in this record they both expressed their sympathy for the BAYER family and praised THEODORE BAYER for his work in the field

←

b7D

←

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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150

NY 100-25857

of American-Soviet relations. [REDACTED] further stated that also included on the record were several memorial songs which were sung by PAUL ROBESON. b7D

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

In connection with THEODORE BAYER, the following is noted:

[REDACTED]

←
b7C
b7E
←

The "New York Times" Sunday edition, dated March 8, 1959, on page 87, reflected that THEODORE BAYER of 200 West 15th Street, New York City, Administrative Secretary for the last fifteen years of the NCASF, died on March 7, 1959, at the Memorial Center Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York City.

←
b1
←

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

←
b1
←

C. Miscellaneous

On November 7, 1959, [REDACTED] made information available which reflected that on that date WILLIAM WEINSTONE addressing a meeting of the New York State CP Committee, which was being held in Room 11-B, Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Avenue, New York City, made the following comments:

SI b7D

WILLIAM WEINSTONE stated he had just returned from a trip to the Soviet Union and added that PAUL ROBESON was a great cultural and political ambassador from the United States to the world. WEINSTONE had occasion to exchange greetings with ROBESON over the telephone during his, WEINSTONE's, recent European trip. While speaking to ROBESON over the telephone, ROBESON informed WEINSTONE that he was going to visit the Czechoslovak Army. WEINSTONE further advised that PAUL ROBESON was stirring Europe, and English comrades spoke with such love and affection of the role that he played in the big peace march where he spoke and sang in Trafalgar Square. English comrades told WEINSTONE of the British Broadcasting Company broadcast of the leading artists and cultural figures of England in a testimonial to PAUL ROBESON. WEINSTONE stated that ROBESON was an immense figure in Czechoslovakia and he brings the best of America to the peoples of Europe and in him they see the greatness of our country. WEINSTONE further stated that ROBESON is regarded not only as an anti-fascist, but as a militant fighter for Socialism. WEINSTONE added that from the standpoint of culture, what is important is the way people say not "give us an American song" but "give us a Paul Robeson song". WEINSTONE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 150

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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concluded by stating that the words he spoke in ROBESON's behalf is hardly justice to this great figure, our people's ambassador to Europe and the world.

In connection with WILLIAM WEINSTONE, the following is noted:

"The Worker", issue of January 17, 1960, on page 14, identified WILLIAM WEINSTONE as a member of the New York State CP Committee. *U.S. State*

[REDACTED] (c)

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In connection with [REDACTED] the following is noted:

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[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

A characterization of the CCASF is set forth in the appendix of this report.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

(c) b1
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D

In [REDACTED] advised that on August 1, 1959, at the Seventh World Youth Festival, which was held in Vienna, Austria, from July 26, 1959 to August 4, 1959, PAUL ROBESON, SR. appeared at a meeting of the delegates, spoke a few words complaining of a sore throat, and sang approximately five songs. [REDACTED] further advised that PAUL ROBESON, SR. was enthusiastically received and acclaimed.

The United States Festival Committee sent delegates to the above-mentioned Seventh World Youth Festival.

A characterization of the United States Festival Committee appears in the appendix of this report.

On [REDACTED] advised that he learned that United States youth at the Seventh World Youth Festival, mentioned above, were most impressed by the Paul Robeson Peace Rally held at the festival.

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D

On [REDACTED] advised that he learned that PAUL ROBESON sang several songs at a rally at the Seventh World Youth Festival, mentioned above, one of which was a Chinese lullaby, which aroused cheers from the Chinese delegation.

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[REDACTED]

(c)

NY T-13, a confidential source abroad, advised in August, 1959, that an Associated Press dispatch from Vienna, Austria, under the date August 4, 1959, reported that the subject had addressed a meeting for youths from Asia and Africa at the Seventh World Youth Festival. This dispatch reported that ROBESON spoke on "Restriction of Negro Rights in the United States" and that several American youths in the audience reported that they had been denied an opportunity to question ROBESON regarding his statements as they were shouted down by others in attendance.

NY T-14, a confidential source abroad, advised on August 13, 1959, that the August 11, 1959 issue of "L'Humanite", a French CP newspaper, contained an article which indicated that PAUL ROBESON was scheduled to appear at the festival of "L'Humanite" at Meudon, France, in the near future. This article also indicated that PAUL ROBESON, who is one of the greatest living singers, had not visited France in ten years. This article further indicated that PAUL ROBESON's acceptance of "L'Humanite's" invitation to appear at this festival indicated his desire to work for the cause of peace and justice.

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NY T-14, a confidential source abroad, also advised on September 11, 1959, that the September 5, 1959, issue of "L'Humanite" contained an article which described ROBESON's arrival at Orly Airport, Paris, France, on September 4, 1959. This article stated that ROGER ROUCAUTE and ANDRE STIL, members of the Central Committee of the CP of France, were present among others at the airport to welcome ROBESON to Paris. This article in part concerns an interview with ROBESON in which he mentions his early childhood and to some extent discusses his musical impressions. In concluding this interview, ROBESON states that he has always been proud to be a colored American and has always been conscious of the struggle which the workers and the colored people have in common.

[REDACTED]

(c)
The September 21, 1959, issue of the "National Guardian" on page 12, carried an article in the "Spectator" column, entitled "Great Day for Meudon". This article

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related to PAUL ROBESON's attendance at the festival sponsored by the Communist newspaper "L'Humanite" at Meudon, France, on September 5, 1959. This article stated that some 50,000 people were in attendance at this festival to see and hear ROBESON. According to this article, ROBESON sang "Waterboy", "Cuatros Generales", "Old Man River", "John Brown's Body" and the Soviet "Song of the Partisans". The article reflected that ROBESON talked to the spectators "about music and wine and peace, about China and France and America, about Shakespeare and Racine, about history and the future. He said a few words in French, switched over to English, sang Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy' in German, sang a little Chinese song, explained the humor of a delightful Yiddish song on his program, and just before the end, recited a poem in beautiful sonorous Russian."

A characterization of the "National Guardian" appears in the appendix of this report.

[REDACTED]

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In connection with [REDACTED] the following is noted:

[REDACTED]

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

An additional characterization of the CPA is set forth in the appendix of this report.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (c)

In connection with [REDACTED] the following is noted:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that at the 17th National Convention of the CP, United States of America (CP, USA), held December 10, 1959 through December 13, 1959, in New York City, PAUL ROBESON, JR. was elected to the National Committee of the CP, USA.

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On [redacted] made information available which reflected that PAUL ROBERSON, 66 Jumel Terr., telephone number WA 7-7754, was known to [redacted]

[redacted]

In connection with [redacted] the following is noted:

On April 17, 1959, [redacted] advised that on April 17, 1959, KENNETH BRUTON was elected Chairman of the New York Steering Committee of the Provisional Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist CP (POC).

A characterization of the POC appears in the appendix of this report.

[redacted] (C)

Regarding [redacted] the following is noted:

[redacted]

The September 9, 1949 edition of the "China Daily News" contained an article datelined Shanghai,

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September 8, Associated Press, entitled "Paul Robeson Invited to Visit Communist China". This article reflected that after the concert, given by PAUL ROBESON, was "raided by the mobs" on August 27, the Red Chinese Literary Workers' Association and the Musical Workers' Association telegraphed ROBESON their sympathy and consolation and asked him to visit Communist China.

A characterization of the "China Daily News" appears in the appendix of this report.

The above referred to incident occurred at Peekskill, New York, on August 27, 1949, and is described as follows:

On August 27, 1949, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that a riot had occurred in the evening of that date at a benefit show put on by PAUL ROBESON for the Harlem Chapter of the Civil Rights Congress (CRC), and under the auspices of People's Artists, Inc. This concert was held at Lakeland Acres near Peekskill, New York. According to [REDACTED] ROBESON started to speak and a brick was thrown by an individual in a veteran's group which was picketing the meeting. Violence then broke out and resulted in injuries to several supporters of ROBESON. ←

[REDACTED] advised in [REDACTED] that the Peekskill disorder on August 27, 1949, was the outgrowth of a concert given by singer PAUL ROBESON. [REDACTED] further advised that this concert was held under the auspices of the Harlem Chapter of the CRC. b7
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The CRC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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A characterization of People's Artists, Inc. is set forth in the appendix of this report.

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c) b1

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

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[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

A characterization of the World Peace Council appears in the appendix of this report.

III. PROMOTION OF THE SALE OF PAUL LEROY ROBESON'S BOOK "HERE I STAND"

On [REDACTED] furnished information which reflected that at a mass rally of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), which was held on Sunday, July 19, 1959, at the Polo Grounds, 155th Street and Eighth Avenue, New York City, copies of ROBESON's book "Here I Stand" were being sold.

On [REDACTED] furnished information which reflected that the CP distributed literature at a mass rally of the NAACP, which was held on Sunday, July 19, 1959, at the Polo Grounds, New York City, and attempts were also made by the CP to sell the subject's book "Here I Stand".

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On [REDACTED] advised that the New England District CP, USA had worked on selling PAUL ROBESON's book "Here I Stand".

[REDACTED]

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It is to be noted that "Here I Stand" was published by Othello Associates, Incorporated.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES ABROAD

On August 21, 1959, the United States Department of State, American Legation, Budapest, Hungary, advised that the Hungarian newspaper "Esti Hirlap" on August 21, 1959, carried an interview with PAUL ROBESON, in which ROBESON stated that "by March I will visit China".

On September 1, 1959, the United States Department of State, American Legation, Budapest, Hungary, furnished a translation of an article which appeared in the August 22, 1959, issue of the Hungarian newspaper "Nepszabadsag", which related to the visit of the subject to Budapest, Hungary, on August 20, 1959. This article was captioned, "'Those Are in Majority Who Want Peace' - An Interview with Paul Robeson Passing Through Budapest", and it read as follows:

"Paul Robeson, the world-famous singer who has been decorated with the International Lenin Peace Medal, spent a few hours in Budapest on Thursday on his way to the Rumanian People's Republic. In the company of Leb DENES, Vice-President

Hungary

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Hungary Rumania

of the Institute for Cultural Relations, he drove along the capital. Vasile POGAGEANU, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Rumanian People's Republic, was present too. Paul Robeson sang a few songs on the stage of the open-air theater on the Margaret Island at the request of the crowd that surrounded him spontaneously. He then gave the following interview to a correspondent of the Hungarian Telegraphic Bureau: 'For ten years I was a captive in my own country. I was not allowed to go abroad, I was impeded from meeting the European fighters of the world's peace movement. In the course of the ten years I received a number of letters and messages also from Hungarians and the affection and sympathy emanating from their writings fortified me. I was especially touched when I received the present of the Hungarian Radio, the records of a radio play performed by Hungarian children about my childhood. I very well know that the honest people of the world, and among them the Hungarian workers, helped me immensely to get back my passport and thus to accept the thousands of invitations reaching me from all parts of the world. Now when I am spending a very short time in Budapest, I feel the same affection and friendship present in the letters and messages sent to me in the course of my isolation. Next week I am coming back for a few hours and in autumn for a few days. Next spring I shall spend four or five weeks in the country giving recitals. I come back though it has been stamped in my passport: "Not Valid for Hungary". Nor is my passport valid for the Chinese People's Republic. Still, I am here and I shall come back many more times and shall visit China too. I intend to spend six months of every twelve in the socialist countries, in the Soviet Union and the people's democratic countries. Only six months, because the rest of the time I want to meet the peace fighters of the capitalist countries. Recently 25,000 people gathered in Trafalgar Square to attend a peace meeting where I spoke. Its reverberations have been considerable not only in Britain, but also in the United States. The argument used by the State Department of the United States throughout the past ten years was that I was not an artist, so I had no reason to travel abroad. Now they have been given a telling answer. I was the first American in London to play Shakesperean roles. I had success there as an artist.'

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"Paul Robeson then spoke about his programs in Rumania, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, the Soviet Union, etc. In Bucharest he is going to attend a conference on folk-music. The West is now much propagating a new type of individualistic music, discarding traditions and classical music. The apostles of this new music forget that music is rooted in the people and speaks to the people. The greatest composers, like Enescu, Mussorgsky, Bartok, fully realized that. Robeson wishes to sing Bartok in the course of his performances in Hungary. Finally he said: 'I am very optimistic about the future because those are in majority - Americans, English, Russians, the peace-loving people of the world - who are against war and who want peace'".

The United States Department of State, American Legation, Bucharest, Rumania, made information available on September 3, 1959, which reflected that prior to leaving Rumania, on August 24, 1959, PAUL ROBESON was quoted in the press in an interview as stating that, starting this year he hoped to "live six months in each of the people's democracies". He said he would first return to Great Britain to play in "Othello" on September 1, 1959, and would attend a festival honoring "L'Humanite" in Paris, France, on September 4, 1959, and would come to Rumania in November, 1959, where he would remain, at least in the beginning, for about two months. He said he would then travel to the Soviet Union and to Hungary.

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The February 8, 1960, edition of the "New York Post" on page 51, carried an article datelined February 8, 1960, Moscow, entitled "Robeson Ends Moscow Visit". This article reflected that singer PAUL ROBESON bid farewell to Moscow yesterday after a two and a half week stay in the Soviet capital. According to this article, before leaving for London, ROBESON stated he has always hoped to return to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and is proud of Soviet achievements.

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AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

According to records of the New York County Clerk, Amtorg Trading Corporation is a New York corporation formed in 1924. It has acted since then as a buying and selling agency in the United States for the Soviet Government. Since 1949, it has been registered with the Department of Justice under the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

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CHICAGO COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP (CCASF)

[REDACTED] made available in [REDACTED] the
"First Annual Report CCASF", an undated publication which
stated that the CCASF was incorporated in July, 1943.
This document stated "the council's affiliation with the
National Council of American-Soviet Friendship was validated
August 11, (1943). The present name was adopted to conform
to standard national practice. It should be noted, however,
that the Chicago Council is entirely autonomous; the govern-
ment of its affairs rests exclusively in the hands of the
Chicago Executive Board".

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A source advised on June 20, 1956, that at an
Executive Committee meeting of the CCASF an officer of the
organization stated that the aim of the council was peaceful
coexistence and friendship with the USSR.

A second source advised on May 1, 1958, that the
CCASF continues to use its facilities for the purpose of
propagandizing for international peace and cultural exchange
with the USSR. This source advised that even though the
CCASF claims to be autonomous, leaders of this group are
frequently in contact with and its program follows that of the
National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (NCASF).

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CHINA DAILY NEWS

A confidential source advised on May 8, 1959, that the "China Daily News" (CDN) was founded in 1940 by a group of Chinese Communists and that the persons who controlled its policies from then to the present time have all been known to him as Chinese Communist leaders within the Chinese Communist movement in the New York area. This source advised that to his knowledge, the CDN has followed the official Communist Party line in its editorial policies from its founding to the present time.

Another confidential source advised on May 5, 1959, that the CDN follows the communist line in its editorial policies and that most of its news items are derived from communist news sources. This individual also stated that the CDN selects and writes up news in a manner favorable to Communist China and other communist countries. The source stated that this publication is the propaganda organ for the Chinese Communists in the United States.

On February 16, 1955, the CDN paid a fine of \$25,000.00, and EUGENE MOY, its former managing editor, who died on December 14, 1958, began serving a one-year prison sentence after their conviction in the U. S. District Court, Southern District of New York, for a violation of the Trading with the Enemy Act, in connection with the paper's printing of advertisements for Chinese Communist banks which sought to induce Chinese in the United States to send money to Communist China.

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NY 100-25857

COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION (CPA)
(May 1944 to July 1945)

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., contains the following concerning the Communist Political Association (May 1944 to July 1945):

1. Cited as a "subversive", "Communist" organization which sought "to alter the form of government of the United States by unconstitutional means."

(Attorney General Tom Clark, letter to Loyalty Review Board, released September 21, 1948.)

2. "* * * after assuming the name of the Communist Political Association on May 20-23, 1944, for strategic reasons, the party resumed the name of the Communist Party of the United States on July 26-28, 1945."

(Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 209 on "The Communist Party of the United States as an Agent of a Foreign Power," April 1, 1947, p.29; also cited in House Report 1694 on "Organized Communism in the United States," May 28, 1954, originally released August 19, 1953, pp. 114 and 120, and House Report 2244 on "The Communist Conspiracy," Part I, Section E, May 29, 1956, p. 3.)

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NATIONAL GUARDIAN

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

"National Guardian

- "1. 'Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p. 12)"

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APPENDIX

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PEOPLES ARTISTS, INC.

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," dated May 14, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning Peoples Artists, Inc.:

"Peoples Artists, Inc.

- "1. Cited as a Communist front.
(California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, p. 392)."

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PROVISIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR A
MARXIST-LENINIST COMMUNIST PARTY (POC);
also known as Provisional Organizing Committee
for the Reconstitution of a Marxist-Leninist
Party; Provisional Committee for the
Reconstitution of the Marxist-Leninist
Communist Party; Provisional Committee to
Reconstitute the Communist Party, USA

The September, 1958, issue of "The Marxist-Leninist Vanguard," which is self identified as being published by the "Provisional Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party," contains an article on page 1 entitled "Communist Conference" which reflects that a conference was held in New York City, August 16 and 17, 1958, "to guarantee the survival of Marxism-Leninism in the USA." At this conference a call was issued for the formation of a "Provisional Organizing Committee for the Reconstitution of a Marxist-Leninist Party."

In the same issue of "The Marxist-Leninist Vanguard" there is contained "A Declaration" which reads in part:

"Therefore, we of the Marxist-Leninist caucus of the old Party, having met in a national conference on August 16th - 17th, 1958, have constituted ourselves as a Provisional Committee for the Reconstitution of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party."

The October, 1958, issue of "The Marxist-Leninist Vanguard" on page 1 contains an article entitled, "5 Questions" which stated, "our aim is to forge ahead in our movement, and later, join in a constitutional convention with any other movement which is fighting for the creation of a genuine Communist vanguard party."

A source advised on January 5, 1959, that the organization known as the Provisional Committee to Reconstitute the Communist Party, USA, is also known as the Provisional Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party.

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U. S. FESTIVAL COMMITTEE
(SEVENTH WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL)

On August 4, 1958, a confidential source made available a background statement on the 7th World Youth Festival, distributed by a U. S. Festival Committee then in the process of organization in New York City. This statement sets forth that the Festival idea is supported by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (cited as a Communist organization in the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, January 2, 1957, page 94), with headquarters in Budapest, Hungary, and the International Union of Students (cited as a Communist organization in the HCUA Guide, above, on page 48) with headquarters in Prague, Czechoslovakia. It was decided to hold the 7th World Youth Festival in Vienna, Austria, during the summer of 1959.

This source advised in April, 1959, that the U. S. Festival Committee is located at 246 Fifth Avenue, New York City, and is still active.

The statement made available by the above source on August 4, 1958, sets forth that "The Festival has as its aim the desire to promote understanding and friendly cooperation between the youth of nations of the world."

Another source on October 3, 1958, made available information concerning a Regional Youth Conference of the Communist Party, USA, held in New York City on September 27, 1958. The Youth Festival to be held in Vienna was discussed and those attending were urged to get delegates to attend this Festival and to help raise money to defray delegates expenses.

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WORLD PEACE COUNCIL

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., contains the following concerning the World Peace Council:

1. Cited as having been formed at the conclusion of the Second World Peace Congress in Warsaw and which was heralded by the Moscow radio as "the expression of the determination of the peoples to take into their own hands the struggle for peace."

(Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 378 on the Communist "Peace" Offensive, April 25, 1951, originally released April 1, 1951, p. 38.)

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Date March 25, 1960

To

Director

FILE # Bureau 100-12304

Att.

Title PAUL LEROY ROBESON, aka. i.

SAC

IS-C

ASAC

Supv.

Agent

SE

CC

Steno

Clerk

ACTION DESIRED

- Acknowledge
- Assign.....Reassign.....
- Bring file
- Call me
- Correct
- Deadline.....
- Deadline passed
- Delinquent
- Discontinue
- Expedite
- File
- For information
- Initial & return
- Leads need attention
- Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

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

Re NY report 3/8/60, and your R/S 3/21/60.

Attached are amended pages E-1 and E-2 to be placed in
Cover Pages of report and amended pages 2, 7, 8, 9, 18, and 19 to
be placed in details of report.

Also:

On Cover Page C, par. 3, line 1, date is 11/16/59.

SAC H. G. FOSTER

Office New York

26
Det. 9 filed in Ser. 594
4-5-60
II *reverse side mk/com*
Registered mail

On page 4 of details, last par., line 1, the date is

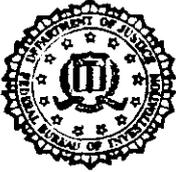
On page 11 of details, r. 1, the date is

NY Office copies of report have been changed.

Information in details of report, which was received under "Top Secret" classification has been removed from the details and included in the Cover Pages, so that the classification of the report may be kept "Confidential", which will make for greater dissemination.

REC'D. FBI
INVERSE CONTRA
MAR 28 12 22 PM '60

INCONS APR 5 - 1960
4-5



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

March 8, 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

NY 100-25857

Re: Paul Leroy Robeson
Internal Security - C

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] at New York, dated and captioned as above. b7c

[redacted] and [redacted] have furnished reliable information in the past.

[redacted] and [redacted] were in a position to furnish reliable information.

[redacted] has furnished both reliable and unreliable information in the past. b7D

The sources used to characterize the Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship, the "China Daily News", the Provisional Organizing Committee for a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party, and the United States Festival Committee, have [redacted]

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

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND DATA

A. Residence and Employment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

Regarding the subject's wife, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON,
the following is noted:

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that ESLANDA
ROBESON was a Communist Party (CP) member in
1945, but that she does not hold herself out
as a Communist and denies membership in the CP. b7D

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

1-23-81
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R/s/dw
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-2-3
DATE OF REVIEW 2-23-2011

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[REDACTED]

In [REDACTED] advised that on August 1, 1959, at the Seventh World Youth Festival, which was held in Vienna, Austria, from July 26, 1959 to August 4, 1959, PAUL ROBESON, SR. appeared at a meeting of the delegates, spoke a few words complaining of a sore throat, and sang approximately five songs. [REDACTED] further advised that PAUL ROBESON, SR. was enthusiastically received and acclaimed.

The United States Festival Committee sent delegates to the above-mentioned Seventh World Youth Festival.

A characterization of the United States Festival Committee appears in the appendix of this report.

b7D

On [REDACTED] advised that he learned that United States youth at the Seventh World Youth Festival, mentioned above, were most impressed by the Paul Robeson Peace Rally held at the festival.

On [REDACTED] advised that he learned that PAUL ROBESON sang several songs at a rally at the Seventh World Youth Festival, mentioned above, one of which was a Chinese lullaby, which aroused cheers from the Chinese delegation.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

b1

A characterization of the World Peace Council appears in the appendix of this report.

[REDACTED]

(c)

NY T-13, a confidential source abroad, advised in August, 1959, that an Associated Press dispatch from Vienna, Austria, under the date August 4, 1959, reported that the subject had addressed a meeting for youths from Asia and Africa at the Seventh World Youth Festival. This dispatch reported that ROBESON spoke on "Restriction of Negro Rights in the United States" and that several American youths in the audience reported that they had been denied an opportunity to question ROBESON regarding his statements as they were shouted down by others in attendance.

NY T-14, a confidential source abroad, advised on August 13, 1959, that the August 11, 1959 issue of "L'Humanite", a French CP newspaper, contained an article which indicated that PAUL ROBESON was scheduled to appear at the festival of "L'Humanite" at Meudon, France, in the near future. This article also indicated that PAUL ROBESON, who is one of the greatest living singers, had not visited France in ten years. This article further indicated that PAUL ROBESON's acceptance of "L'Humanite's" invitation to appear at this festival indicated his desire to work for the cause of peace and justice.

[REDACTED]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

NY T-14, a confidential source abroad, also advised on September 11, 1959, that the September 5, 1959, issue of "L'Humanite" contained an article which described ROBESON's arrival at Orly Airport, Paris, France, on September 4, 1959. This article stated that ROGER ROUCAUTE and ANDRE STIL, members of the Central Committee of the CP of France, were present among others at the airport to welcome ROBESON to Paris. This article in part concerns an interview with ROBESON in which he mentions his early childhood and to some extent discusses his musical impressions. In concluding this interview, ROBESON states that he has always been proud to be a colored American and has always been conscious of the struggle which the workers and the colored people have in common. (C)

France

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

The September 21, 1959 issue of the "National Guardian" on page 12, carried an article in the "Spectator" column, entitled "Great Day for Meudon". This article

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

182

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

"Paul Robeson then spoke about his programs in Rumania, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, the Soviet Union, etc. In Bucharest he is going to attend a conference on folk-music. The West is now much propagating a new type of individualistic music, discarding traditions and classical music. The apostles of this new music forget that music is rooted in the people and speaks to the people. The greatest composers, like Enescu, Mussorgsky, Bartok, fully realized that. Robeson wishes to sing Bartok in the course of his performances in Hungary. Finally he said: 'I am very optimistic about the future because those are in majority - Americans, English, Russians, the peace-loving people of the world - who are against war and who want peace.'"

The United States Department of State, American Legation, Bucharest, Rumania, made information available on September 3, 1959, which reflected that prior to leaving Rumania, on August 24, 1959, PAUL ROBESON was quoted in the press in an interview as stating that, starting this year he hoped to "live six months in each of the people's democracies". He said he would first return to Great Britain to play in "Othello" on September 1, 1959, and would attend a festival honoring "L'Humanite" in Paris, France, on September 4, 1959, and would come to Rumania in November, 1959, where he would remain, at least in the beginning, for about two months. He said he would then travel to the Soviet Union and to Hungary.

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

183

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
[REDACTED]

b1

(c)
The February 8, 1960 edition of the "New York Post" on page 51, carried an article datelined February 8, 1960, Moscow, entitled "Robeson Ends Moscow Visit". This article reflected that singer PAUL ROBESON bid farewell to Moscow yesterday after a two and a half week stay in the Soviet capital. According to this article, before leaving for London, ROBESON stated he has always hoped to return to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and is proud of Soviet achievements.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

184

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304) ~~TOP SECRET~~ DATE: March 8, 1960

FROM : *WWS* Legat, London (100-2182)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C

OO: New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Re New York letter to the Bureau 1-27-60. (u)

[REDACTED] (TS)

[REDACTED] (TS)

[REDACTED] (TS)

This case is being placed in an RUC status subject to being reopened upon receipt of additional information. (u)

30 RUC
6 - Bureau (Encs. - 6) ENCLOSURE
 (2 - New York - 100-2585)
1 - London (100-1182)
ACM: MAH
(7)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R-1/NA 1-19-81
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 3-8-90

100-12304-595

REC-57

Classified by 462/NA
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

MAY 26 1977

APPROV. 3-23-60
DATE FORW. 3-23-60
HOW FORW. 9507
BY CRJ/NA

13 MAR 14 1960

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

62 MAR 24 1960
34

COPIES DESTROYED
895 AUG 29 1973.

185



~~TOP SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 8, 1960

~~TOP SECRET~~

RE: PAUL LEROY ROBESON

[REDACTED]

(TS)

[REDACTED]

(TS)

b1

[REDACTED]

(TS)

[REDACTED]

(TS)

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

(u) CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RLS/HW 1-18-81
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW TS/ST/11

AGENCY Secretary
PROJECT 3-22-60
HOW FORN 1-50-7
BY CR/just

~~TOP SECRET~~

3-8-90

100-12304-595

UNCLASSIFIED

186

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: April 13, 1960

FROM : Legat, London (100-1182)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C

OO: NEW YORK

Remylet 3-8-60. (u)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

P
3 - Bureau (Encs. - 6)
(1 - New York, 100-2585)
1 - London (100-1182)
ACM: MAH
(4)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP 5 R/Lg/Hw 1-17-81
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 4-13-90

Classified by SP 5 R/Lg/Hw
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

MAY 26 1977

REC-1
MAY 25 11 25 AM '60
SEC. 1

100-12304-596

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED,
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

11 APR 18 1960

1cc each -
RAB by 0-6
AGENCY State, CIA 490-14
REC. REC'D 66.4.13.1960 7:40-7
DATE FORW. 4-20-60
HOW FORW. 7/3
BY BCR/jis

196
59 APR 21 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

187

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 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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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 5/11/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-56680)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, aka.
SECURITY MATTER - C

(OO: New York)

The following is set forth for the information of the Bureau:

On 4/21/60, [redacted] (protect by T symbol), who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that

[redacted] one PHIL ROBINSON, [redacted] stated that his wife, HALOIS MOOREHEAD ROBINSON, is currently in a hospital in Moscow, Russia, where she shares a room with ESLANDA ROBESON.

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 Rds/Hwd
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-19-91

EX 104

- ② Bureau (100-12304) (RM)
- 1- New York (100-56680)

JJE:ras
(3)

*Records: Tell cc
in Bufile 100-362941
re H. M. Robinson*

REC-59

100-12304-59

7 MAY 12 1960

52 MAY 17 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONTROL

189

FJR

100-56680

b1

b7D

b7C

b7D

1-19-81

C

MAY 13 4 33 PM '60

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For your information: _____

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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190

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

FROM : *WLB* Legat, London (100-1182)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: May 27, 1960

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP-5 Rlg/Hw* 1-19-81

REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW ~~1-19-81~~ 5-27-90

OO: NY

Remylet 4/13/60.

On 5/24/60 Mr. WALTER M. WALSH, American Consul, United States Embassy, London, advised that PAUL ROBESON appeared at the Embassy to make application for a new passport and while at the Embassy submitted an affidavit concerning his travel in August, 1959, to Hungary. It is noted that Hungary is an area prohibited to American travelers except by special permission. ROBESON's statement is contained in memorandum the original and four copies of which are enclosed. This affidavit was witnessed by Mr. WALSH on May 17, 1960. (u)

b1 [REDACTED]

Since ROBESON wished to remain in the United Kingdom until September, 1960, this also forced him to appear at the American Embassy to make application for his passport and to answer questions the State Department wished to ask him about his travel to Hungary. It should also be noted that the American Embassy, London, has tried repeatedly since late 1959 to get ROBESON to come to the Embassy to answer these questions. (u)

As subject continues to reside in the United Kingdom and his status is not yet decided by either the State Department [REDACTED] this case is maintained in a pending status and the Bureau will be further advised. (u) *b7 I*

P

5 - Bureau, Encls. **ENCLOSURE**
(CC's New York, 100-2585)

1 - London

ACM:1c
(6)

EX-105

100-12304-598

Agency *201674*

Req. Rec'd

Date Forw. *6-9-60*

How Forw. *ALSO 7*

By *WLB/press*

Classified by *2650 VLR*

Exempt from GDS, Category *1*

Date of Declassification *indefinite*

MAY 26 1978

MAY 31 1960

SUB CONTROL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

191



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 27, 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 RLG/dw

Re: PAUL LEROY ROBESON

The following is a statement given by ROBESON in the form of an affidavit, subscribed and sworn to before American Consul WALTER M. WALSH at the American Embassy, London, on May 17, 1960.

"I, PAUL ROBESON, was born at Princeton, New Jersey on April 9, 1898. I am the holder of American passport 1145187 issued to me by the Department of State, Washington on June 25, 1958.

"In August 1959, I travelled to Bucharest to fulfill engagements there. I travelled from Amsterdam on a KLM Dutch Airliner to Budapest, where I had to change planes as the plane I was travelling on was going to Turkey. I was at Budapest Airport for no more than 3 hours during which time a reporter from a newspaper or radio (I cannot remember which) interviewed me. I was asked if I would come to Hungary and sing, I said I would like to very much. I also said that I would be coming back again next week, as at that time it was my belief I would have to change planes again in Budapest. I also stated that I hoped to come back again one day for recitals. I made this statement knowing that Olympic athletes and a lawyer whom I know personally and many other people had been granted permission to travel in Hungary, and it was my intention to make application to the Department of State, for travel to Hungary at some future date, had the ban not been lifted. I would also like to add that whilst I was waiting at the Airport in Budapest, word got around that I was there, and I was taken on a tour of the City.

"With regard to the statement supposed to have been made by me that I would visit China in March. I have never said that. I may have said that I would like to visit China at some future date, and would probably make application to the Department of State for permission to do so. I could not have travelled to China in March even if I had wanted too as I had commitments in Great Britain. I would like to state that the reporter who interviewed me could not speak English and the interpreter did not speak English at all well."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 RLG/dw

Agency 211274-CIA
Req. Rec'd
Date Forw. 6-9-60
How Forw. SP-5
By PRJ

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-598

198

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)
SAC, NEW YORK (100-56680)

DATE: 6/16/60

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

7/2

FROM :

ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON
SM - C
(OO:NY)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5R-JS/dw-1-19-81
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2-3
DATE OF REVIEW 1-19-91

SUBJECT:

Re report of SA [redacted] dated 11/16/59,
at New York and WFO letter to New York, dated 5/24/60. (u)

AR

[redacted] (X)(C)

3 copies of instant letter are designated
for the Bureau for dissemination to the Legat London,
their file 100-1666. (u)

b1

[redacted] (C)

Confidential sources utilized in the characterization
of the United States Festival Committee are set forth as
follows in the order of their use:

[redacted] (C)
(X)

AGENCY Phil. L...
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 7-1-60
HOW FORW. ...
BY ...

[redacted] (C)

3-Bureau (100-12304) (Encls. 5) (RM)

2-New York (100-56680)

(1-100-258578 (PAUL ROBESON) (#412)

100-12304-599

JUN 24 1960

VJA: rpf

Classified by ...
Exempt from GDS, Category ...
Date of Declassification Indefinite

MAY 26 1977

10 JUN 20 1960

EX 101

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBV. CONTROL

193

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-56680

[REDACTED]

b1

(c)
This letterhead memo is classified confidential since unauthorized disclosure of this information would reveal a confidential technique of continuing value and affect its future effectiveness. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

194

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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For your information: _____

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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195
FBI/DOJ

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Es. F. da Cordozo Robeson

U.S. FESTIVAL COMMITTEE
(SEVENTH WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL)

On August 4, 1958, a confidential source made available a background statement on the 7th World Youth Festival, distributed by a U.S. Festival Committee then in the process of organization in New York City. This statement sets forth that the Festival idea is supported by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (cited as a Communist organization in the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, January 2, 1957, page 94), with headquarters in Budapest, Hungary and the International Union of Students (cited as a Communist organization in the HCUA Guide, above, on page 48) with headquarters in Prague, Czechoslovakia. It was decided to hold the 7th World Youth Festival in Vienna, Austria during the summer of 1959.

This source advised in April 1959, that the U.S. Festival Committee is located at 246 Fifth Avenue, New York City, and is still active.

The statement made available by the above source on August 4, 1958, sets forth that "The Festival has as its aim the desire to promote understanding and friendly cooperation between the youth of nations of the world."

Another source on October 3, 1958, made available information concerning a Regional Youth Conference of the Communist Party, USA, held in New York City on September 27, 1958. The Youth Festival to be held in Vienna was discussed and those attending were urged to get delegates to attend this Festival and to help raise money to defray delegates expenses.

The confidential sources used to characterize the United States Festival Committee have furnished reliable information in the past.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

196

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 6/16/60

FROM : SAC, SAN JUAN (100-6246)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
SECURITY MATTER - C
(OO: NEW YORK)

Case to Section

9 -

The June 10, 1960 issue of the San Juan Dairy, **[redacted]**, related that subject was scheduled to "Open" at the Flamboyant Club, in San Juan on July 1, 1960. *b7c*

In view of **[redacted]** background he will not be interviewed at this time to determine the source of his information concerning the subject. *↓*

San Juan is alerting informants and will follow the activities of the subject should he actually appear in San Juan.

New York is requested to furnish background information which would be of assistance to San Juan's investigation, and to advise of subject's departure from New York.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-12-81 BY SP-3 R-19/PLW

cc to London by

- 2 - Bureau
 - 2 - New York (100-82557)
 - 2 - San Juan
- EDR:am
(6)

REC-31 100-12301-600

16 JUN 20 1960

*Let Me SS, cc NY, [unclear]
6/27/60
CDC:llc*

[unclear]
SUBJ. CONTROL
[unclear]

197

Sac, San Juan (100-6246)

June 27, 1960

REC-12 Director, FBI (100-12304) - 6cc

EX 109

PAUL LEROY ROBESON
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 RLS/MLW

mk

Re San Juan letter 6/16/60, copies of which were forwarded to New York.

For San Juan's information, Robeson, who is a Security Index subject, was still residing in London, England, as of late May. He recently attempted to obtain an extension of stay in the United Kingdom and to get his United States passport extended. No decision has been made by [redacted] the State Department regarding Robeson's attempts in this respect. Neither London nor New York has forwarded any information regarding a possible appearance on the part of Robeson in Puerto Rico. From available facts, it does not appear that subject anticipates appearing in Puerto Rico in the near future.

b7I

London and New York continue to furnish any pertinent information regarding subject's activities or future plans.

For the information of London and New York, [redacted] has an unsavory background and is reputed to be somewhat of a "con man." Thus, San Juan does not anticipate contact with him in order to corroborate his story regarding Robeson's appearance in San Juan.

b7C

- 2 - London (100-1182) (Enclosure)
- 2 - New York (100-82557)

MAILED 19
JUN 24 1960
COMM-FBI

1 - Foreign Liaison (route through for review)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

By relet San Juan advised that according to "San Juan Diary" Robeson is scheduled to appear at a night club in San Juan as of 7/1/60. Facts available do not support this story. San Juan requested New York to forward pertinent information and verify departure from New York. Subject residing in England. Copy of relet enclosed for London.

GDC:llc (9)

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

WCB/PA

53 JUN 30 1960

TELETYPE UNIT

7/1/60

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 6/24/60

7/9/60

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-6346)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS-C
(OO: New York)

✓

Re San Juan letter to Director, 6/16/60.

Relet advised that information was received at San Juan that PAUL ROBESON was scheduled to "open" at the Flamboyan, in San Juan, on 7/1/60.

NYO has no information re the above announcement. PAUL ROBESON is currently residing at 45 Connaught Square, London, England, and was recently employed as an actor, playing the role of OTHELLO at Stratford - Upon - Avon, England. In addition he has traveled in Austria, Rumania, Hungary and Russia. He was born on 4/9/98, at Princeton, NJ, and holds American Passport 1145187 issued by the Department of State on 6/25/58.

San Juan is requested to advise the NYO of any additional information received re subject's visit to San Juan.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5R/g/lw

✓

K

- 2-Bureau (100-12304) (RM)
- 2-San Juan (100-6246)
- 1-New York (100-25857)

REC-3

100-12304-601

15 JUN 28 1960

JHS:kbf
(5)

EX-112

SUBV. CONTROL

53 JUL 1 1960

199

FBI

Date: 6/30/60

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304) Ame

FROM: SAC, SAN JUAN (100-6246)

PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C
OO: New York

Re San Juan letter 6/16/60.

[REDACTED] Flamboyant Club, San Juan, Puerto Rico, advised 6/29/60 that subject is not identical with ROBESON who will open at Flamboyant Night Club from 7/1/60. b7c/b7D

Discontinue.

RUC:

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-6346)
- 1 - San Juan

EDR:aro
(6)

REC-64

100-12304-602

EX - 139

15 JUL 2 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5RJS/HW

SUB CONTROL

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

62 JUL 8 1960

200

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For your information: _____

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FBI Headquarters file 100-12304 - Not Recorded Black Stamp dated 6-29-60.

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

gol
FBI/DOJ



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

amp

Date: July 18, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legal Attache, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The July 4, 1960, issue of l'Humanite, the French daily Communist Party newspaper, indicated that the Communist festival held each year sponsored by Humanite is presently being planned. It indicated that considerable trouble is being experienced in finding a suitable place since the government has failed to approve four sites thus far proposed. The article indicated that PAUL ROBESON who was the chief performer at the last rally held in September 1959, has promised to participate in this year's activities. (u)

[REDACTED] (C)

[REDACTED] (C)

We will continue to follow this. (u)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RLS/HW 1-19-81
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 1-19-91

- P
- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - London (100-1182) sent direct
- 1 - Paris

NWP:AM
(4)

Classified by 2658 YLR
Exempt from GDS, Category 3
Date of Declassification: Indefinite
JUL 25 1977

REC-39

100-12304-603

JUL 22 1960

51 JUL 27 1960

AGENCY ccf my
REC REC'D
DATE FORW. 7-27-60
HOW FORW. 175-7
BY [Signature]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBV. CONTROL
RAC [Signature]

202

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 7/27/60

JNA
gso

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-19021)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS-C
(OO:NY)

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies and for New York 2 copies of a letterhead memo concerning subject's application for a renewal of passport.

This information was furnished SA [redacted] on 7/22/60, by [redacted] Legal Division, Passport Office.

[redacted] advised that the American Embassy was authorized to renew this passport and was requested to advise the Department of State when the passport is renewed and of the subject's travel plans.

When this information is made available Bureau and New York will be advised.

RUC
2-Bureau (Enc. 5)
2-New York (100-25857) (Enc. 2) (RM)
1-WFO

RCP:olp
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 R1/jr

ENCLOSURE

EX-105

REC-83

100-12304-604

JUL 27 1960

SUBV. CONTROL

53 AUG 1 1960

203



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 27, 1960

PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY-C

On July 22, 1960, the file maintained by the Passport Office, United States Department of State, for Paul Leroy Robeson disclosed that on May 17, 1960, Robeson applied for a renewal of his passport, number 1145187, which was issued on June 25, 1958.

He gave his legal residence as 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, and his current address as 45 Connaught Square, London, England.

On July 14, 1960, the Passport Office authorized the American Embassy in London, England, to renew Robeson's passport.

No additional information is contained in this file.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP5Rly/jw

with 0-7 0-3
AGENCY *IA London Paris*
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. *7-29-60*
HOW FORW. *AS*
BY *[Signature]*

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
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distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-60 504

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ DATE: July 26, 1960

FROM : Legat, London (100-1182)(100-1666)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C

ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON
SM - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 R/g/d/w
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 7-26-90

1-19-81

Re New York letter to the Bureau 6-16-60 captioned
"ESLANDA CORDOZO ROBESON, SM - C" and mylet to the Bureau captioned
"PAUL LEROY ROBESON, IS - C," 5-27-60. (u)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

Mr. WALTER WALSH, American Consul, Passport Section, American Embassy, London, advised on July 25, 1960, that authority has just been received from the State Department, Washington, to issue him a new passport. The British Home Office has been reluctant to grant PAUL and his wife a further stay in the United Kingdom until such time as PAUL obtained a valid travel document. It appears the new passport will be issued shortly, therefore the British Home Office will voice no opposition to have PAUL and ESLANDA ROBESON remain in the United Kingdom.

As there are no further leads outstanding at this time these cases are being placed in an RUC status subject to being reopened on receipt of additional information. (u)

RUC

- 7 - Bureau (2 - New York, 100-25857)(100-56680)
- 2 - London (100-1182)(100-1666)

ACM:MAH

(B) 2 AUG 5 1960

REC-56

100-12304-605

5 JUL 29 1960

AGENCY 4111 277
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 8-5-60
HOW FORW. 8-5-60
BY ch. [unclear]

SUBV. CONTROL

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by 2650 K. MAY 26 1971
Exempt from GDS, Category 7
Date Declassified Indefinite

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

205



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

~~SECRET~~

6

Date: August 16, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legal Attache, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Re Paris let 7/18/60. (u)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 R-Jg/dw 1-17-81 (S)
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 3-16-90

Classified by 1650 YER
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
MAY 27 1977

- P
- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - London (100-1182) sent direct
- 1 - Paris
- LPK:AM
- (4)

EX 109

100-12304-606

AUG 19 1960

SUBV. CONTROL

~~SECRET~~

AGENCY 1604
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 1-25-60
HOW FORW. 1-25-60
BY RPJ

2 AUG 25 1960

206

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3

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) _____ 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.
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FBI Headquarters file 100-12304-607

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

SECRET

X

Date: September 1, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

NWP
WTD

NR 9/
1-17-81

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RLS/jw
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW ~~1-17-81~~
9-1-90

Re Paris letter 8/16/60. (u)

Enclosed herewith for the completion of Bureau files is a photograph of the subject which appeared in "L'Humanite," the French daily Communist Party newspaper, on 9/1/60. (u)

The subject, according to this paper, will take part in the annual Communist Party festival, which is sponsored by "L'Humanite," on 9/4-5/60 at La Courneuve, a suburb of Paris. (u)

[REDACTED SECTION]

Additional data developed in this matter will be furnished to the Bureau and Legat, London. (u)

- P
- 2 - Bureau (Encl.)
- 1 - London (100-1182) (sent direct)
- 1 - Paris

LPK:mas
(4)

Classified by 2450 A-9
Exempt from GDS, Category 1 REG 11
Date of Declassification Indefinite
MAY 28 1977

100-12304-608

18 SEP 6 1960

AGENCY
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW.
HOW FORW.
BY

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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ENCLOSURE

57 SEP 9 1960

SECRET

208

Paul **ROBESON**



L(HUMANITE Issue September 1, 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP5R/g/dw

100 - 12304 - 608

ENCLOSURE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 9/7/60	Investigative Period 3/9/60 - 8/30/60
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-----------------------	---

TITLE OF CASE PAUL LEROY ROBESON aka	Report made by [REDACTED] b7c	Typed By: bca
	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

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

MEMPHIS

REFERENCE:

Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 3/8/60, at New York.

*0-176 NY report
mark as 10/60
on p. 3, 2nd column
last sentence
9/19/60 MET*

*Rated 10/1/60
9/2 b7c*

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OTHERWISE

ADMINISTRATIVE

The subject, PAUL LEROY ROBESON, is a key figure of the NYO. (u)

Subject's wife, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, NY file 100-56680, Bufile 100-12304, is carried on the SI of the NYO. (u)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJS/dw
REASON-FORM II, 1-2.4.2 1-2-3
DATE OF REVIEW 9-7-90

Approved: *[Signature]* Special Agent in Charge

Copies made:
4 - Bureau (100-12304)(RM)
3 - New York (100-25857)

Do not write in spaces below

100-12304-609	REC-79
SEP 8 1960	EX 109

52 SEP 20 1960

AGENCY 100-12304 (RM)
REQ. REC'D DATE 9/19/60
DATE FORW. 9/19/60
HOW FORW. 1/5
BY 1/5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SUBV CONTROL~~

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Date of Declassification Indefinite

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210

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
FBI Headquarters file 100-12304-609 (page B)

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

ADMINISTRATIVE (CONTINUED)

Mr. PAUL HOYLEN, Consul, American Embassy, London, advised that ROBESON's passport expires in June, 1960, and that the Embassy upon instructions from the Department of State, Washington, have sent numerous communications to subject requesting that he answer certain questions about his travel to Hungary in order that they can further decide whether to renew his passport. Mr. HOYLEN stated as of April 8, 1960, no answer has been received from subject regarding this matter. (u)

[REDACTED]

(c)

Mr. WALTER WALSH, American Consul, Passport Section, American Embassy, London, advised on July 25, 1960, that authority has just been received from the State Department, Washington, to issue him a new passport.

[REDACTED]

It appears the new passport will be issued shortly.

[REDACTED]

(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1
b7
D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

LEAD (CONTINUED)

NEW YORK (Continued)

Will continue to follow and report his activities while abroad and in the US upon his return. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- # -
COVER PAGE
CONFIDENTIAL

213

NY 100-25857

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

 _____ (C)
8. Subject previously interviewed (dates) _____
 Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____ he is not residing in the US.
9. This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) ROBESON was National Chairman of the Council on African Affairs until its dissolution in June, 1955. He has had close contacts with national leaders of the CP, USA. He has publicly praised the Soviet Union while abroad. He was elected Vice-President of the British-Soviet Friendship Society in May, 1959, and has been active in functions sympathetic to Communism abroad during 1960.
11. Subject's SI card is is not tabbed Detcom.
 Subject's activities do do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

COVER PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

214

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

NY T-1

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-4255 ✓ ✓

NY T-2

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-4220 ✓

NY T-3

[REDACTED] (C)
(by request, [REDACTED])

NY T-4

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-4256 ✓

NY T-5

[REDACTED] (C)

100-25857-4225 ✓ (C)

LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will remain alert for information concerning the return of ROBESON to the US. (u)

b1
b7C
b7D

215

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED]
Date: 9/7/60

b7c

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File No.: NY 100-25857

Bureau File No.: 100-12304

Title: PAUL LEROY ROBESON

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OTHERWISE.

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis:

[REDACTED]

b1

Subject celebrated May Day - 1960, in Edinburgh, Scotland and spoke to a group of Scottish miners; participated in the "third annual press festival" in East Berlin on June 18, 1960, sponsored by the East German CP. An article written by PAUL ROBESON about his trip to Russia appeared in "Narodna Volya" edition of February 26, 1960. Subject scheduled to appear at the L'Humanite festival in France on September 4, 1960, sponsored by the French Communist Party newspaper L'Humanite and also scheduled to appear in Brest, France on September 6, 1960, at another Communist festival.

[REDACTED]

b1

Worker article of February 7, 1960, describes visit of ROBESON to Moscow. Information indicates ROBESON plans tour to Australia and New Zealand. ROBESON's passport renewed July 14, 1960.

(C)

- P* - 1-24-81

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RLS/dw
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 1-0-3
DATE OF REVIEW 9-7-90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence and Employment

On July 22, 1960, the files of the Passport Office, United States Department of State, reflected that PAUL ROBESON when applying for a renewal of his passport gave his legal residence as 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, and current address as 45 Connaught Square, London, England.

[REDACTED]

(c)

←
b1

[REDACTED]

(c)

←

Regarding the subject's wife, ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, the following is noted:

[REDACTED] advised on [REDACTED] that ESLANDA ROBESON was a Communist Party (CP) member in 1945, but that she does not hold herself out as a Communist and denies membership in the CP.

b7D

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE
CP MOVEMENT

A. Evidence of CP Sympathies

The United States Department of State, American Legation, Edinburgh, Scotland, made information available on May 3, 1960, which reflected that PAUL ROBESON was at the annual "Gala Day" assembly of the Scottish Miners N.U.M.

This information reflected that the Scottish Miners of the N.U.M. celebrated May Day with their annual "Gala Day" parade and picnic held in the grounds of Holyrood Park. An estimated 20,000 people attended, including a delegation of thirty Russian miners.

PAUL ROBESON was in the front rank of the parade sharing honors with the MOFFATT brothers (well known Communist leaders of the Scottish miners) and with WILLIAM PAYNTER, General Secretary of the N.U.M. Following the parade at the large open air assembly area ROBESON sang and addressed the gathering.

The main theme of the parade, as evidenced by banners and floats was racial discrimination in Africa and there was some moderate display of protest banners on the nuclear bomb. As always the parade and assembly were orderly and after the speech making was finished the crowd settled down to picnicking on the grounds.

ROBESON was not separately interviewed by the press and received about the same attention from it as would any featured speaker at such a gathering.

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NY 100-25857

The "Scotsman" the Edinburgh daily newspaper gave the above occasion little coverage. However, the "Evening News" of Edinburgh gave some prominence to ROBESON's attendance at the miners' Gala and states that he received a great ovation from thousands of miners and their families when he reaffirmed his friendship for the Soviet Union. After quoting ABE MOFFAT's tribute to ROBESON "this great man, this great artist, and this great fighter for freedom" the following excerpts from ROBESON's speech are featured:-

"You have made, and are making, such a fine contribution to the struggles of this land. You will need all the strength you have got to see that you who create the wealth of the country have a chance to enjoy it.

"I have been very close to the miners and the workers of the Soviet Union. On this historic day and at this historic time we must find peace and friendship in the world, and how wonderful it is to find here these representatives of the arts and the people of the U.S.S.R. joining in this gala. I am intensely proud. I have been and always will be a firm and unswerving friend of the Soviet people and people from Soviet lands.

"My people, my father, my relatives were hewers of wood and drawers of water all over the Western world. To-day again, we are seeing it is time for us to live a new life, a time to free the land again."

The "Evening Dispatch" gave the most prominent coverage with a feature picture on the front page, showing ROBESON surrounded by miners. The same excerpts from his speech are quoted in this paper.

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NY 100-25857

On June 23, 1960, the United States Department of State, Washington, D.C., furnished information concerning the subject in connection with his "Support of Soviet Zone Regime". This information reflected that

"After having previously indicated, over a period of several years, an intention to visit East Germany, American singer Paul Robeson arrived in East Berlin June 18 to participate in the "third annual press festival," sponsored by Neues Deutschland, official organ of the East German communist party (Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands, or SED). He appeared the same evening as featured artist during the ceremonies officially opening the festival, held a press conference the next day, appeared on a large public platform and mingled with the crowd (closely accompanied by East German photographers and TV cameramen) and left later (June 19) by air for London.

"Although the formal opening of the 'press festival' June 18 included a number of entertainers from various countries, Robeson was clearly the honored guest-performer. Master of ceremonies was Hermann Axen, chief editor of Neues Deutschland and a member of the SED Politburo; other top level SED officials included representatives of the Central Committee, and notably Paul Verner (SED official well known for his close association with the current communist pressure on West Berlin). Robeson, introduced as 'comrade' and as 'our great friend and model', told the audience that, since his father had been an American slave, he (Paul) was proud to have the opportunity to meet the 'socialist press of the whole world' and to be a member of the World Peace Council. His musical contribution to the occasion ended with a rendition, in the Russian language, of 'Fatherland, no enemy shall threaten you.'"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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NY 100-25857

" The following day, June 19, ROBESON was escorted on a highly publicized tour of the street "festival" area and was particularly associated with children who, according to the East press, were deeply impressed by his "countenance on which were deeply etched goodness and the love of humanity." He then held a press conference in which he revealed that his visit fulfilled a promise he had made to East German representatives at the Vienna Youth Festival in 1959. ROBESON gave the reporters some biographic notes, with particular reference to

- A. His close association with "the British workers movement" 1928-1940;
- B. Participation in the Spanish Civil War;
- C. His first visit to Berlin in 1934 while enroute to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR);
- D. An "eight year period of perscution by American officials" during which he was unable to obtain a passport.

" When questioned about future plans, ROBESON said he will make a series of records for the British Broadcasting Company soon and, in the autumn, will leave the United Kingdom for a lengthy visit to "several socialist countries", including another visit to "the German Democratic Republic" in August or October. However, he also plans to return to the United States where he will make appearances "principally before Negroes and workers, using halls located in workers " residential areas."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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NY 100-25857

"ROBESON's appearance in East Berlin during the recent 'press festival' probably had little influence on the East German population which has ample reason to recognize that a man who shares a public platform with Politburo members of the SED in a propaganda extravaganza is hardly a typical American citizen. On the other hand, East German exploitation of ROBESON's appearance, particularly through GDR contacts in Asia and Africa, may well be more successful. With reference to ROBESON's statement that he may visit the GDR again in August or October, it will be recalled that East Germany's 'national day' is October 7."

The following article, which has been translated from the Russian, appeared in the February 26, 1960 edition of the "Narodna Volya", a Bulgarian language weekly newspaper published at Detroit, Michigan. The House Committee on Un-American Activities (HUCA) cited "Narodna Volya" as a publication which may be safely considered as the organ, in the Bulgarian language, of the CP.

In this article, ROBESON describes "his great happiness upon returning to the Soviet Union. The diligence and the progress made by the Soviet people has earned them the esteem of the entire world."

Then, ROBESON compares "the waste and the unproductive use of the energy of the people in the West to the Soviet Union where everything is utilized and where everybody works to the best of his ability. The only hope there is for the West is a basic change. This change might come soon. The call of the Soviet Government to decrease armed forces to destroy the means to wage war and to exclude war from the life of the society cannot be treated with indifference."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

" The peaceful Soviet call for economic competition must lead, and I am convinced that it will, to a considerable transformation in the economy of the other countries. The West will have to take decisive steps in this direction. Peaceful competition has already started, it is real fact. Millions of people in many countries recognize the fact that they owe extremely much to the Soviet People. They have a feeling of gratitude toward them and wish them the best of success in the cause of building communism."

The July 4, 1960 issue of "L'Humanite," the French daily CP newspaper, indicated that the Communist festival held each year sponsored by Humanite is presently being planned. It indicated that considerable trouble is being experienced in finding a suitable place since the government has failed to approve four sites thus far proposed. The article indicated that PAUL ROBESON, who was the chief performer at the last rally held in September, 1959, has promised to participate in this year's activities.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

[REDACTED]

b1

B. Miscellaneous

[REDACTED] furnished information on March 30, 1960, which indicated that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., has access to the apartment of PAUL ROBESON at 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, and occasionally utilizes this apartment for his work.

b7D

It is to be noted that PAUL ROBESON resided at 16 Jumel Terrace, New York City, prior to his departure for Europe, and still considers it as his legal residence.

"The Worker", an east coast Communist, weekly newspaper, in its editorial of May 1, 1960, page 12, identified BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. as National Secretary of the CP, USA.

Foreign Travel

[REDACTED]

b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~X~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

"The Worker" in its edition of February 7, 1960, page 5, column 1, contained a photograph of PAUL and ESLANDE ROBESON on the occasion of their arrival in Moscow, Russia. The article stated that the "news spread like wildfire through this city of five million. Paul has wound up his appearances in 'Othello', and is looking forward to resuming his half-hour lecture-concerts for BBC, which are enormously popular and brought thousands of fan letters".

[REDACTED]

(c)

Mr. PAUL HOYLEN, Consul, American Embassy, London, advised that ROBESON's passport expires in June, 1960, and that the Embassy upon instructions from the Department of State, Washington, have sent numerous communications to subject requesting that he answer certain questions about his travel to Hungary in order that they can further decide whether to renew his passport. Mr. HOYLEN stated as of April 8, 1960, no answer has been received from subject regarding this matter.

[REDACTED]

~~X~~

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←

225

NY 100-25857

CONFIDENTIAL



b1

Mr. Walter M. Walsh, American Consul,
On May 24, 1960, ~~the United States Department of State, American Legat,~~ London, England, advised that PAUL ROBESON appeared at the embassy to make application for a new passport and while at the embassy, submitted an affidavit concerning his travel in August, 1959, to Hungary. The following is the statement given by ROBESON in the form of an affidavit subscribed and sworn to before American Consul, WALTER M. WALSH.

"I. PAUL ROBESON, was born at Princeton, New Jersey on April 9, 1898. I am the holder of American passport 1145187 issued to me by the Department of State, Washington on June 25, 1958.

"In August 1959, I travelled to Bucharest to fulfill engagements there. I travelled from Amsterdam on a KLM Dutch Airliner to Budapest, where I had to change planes as the plane I was travelling on was going to Turkey. I was at Budapest Airport for no more than 3 hours during which time a reporter from a newspaper or radio (I cannot remember which) interviewed me. I was asked if I would come to Hungary and sing, I said I would like to very much. I also said that I would be coming back again next week, as at that time it was my belief I would have to change planes again in Budapest. I also stated that I hoped to come back again one day for recitals. I made this statement knowing that Olympic athletes and a lawyer whom I know personally and many other people had been granted permission to travel in Hungary, and it was my intention to make application to the Department of State, for travel to Hungary at some future date, had the ban not been lifted. I would also like to add that whilst I was waiting at the Airport in Budapest, word got around that I was there, and I was taken on a tour of the City.

X

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

"With regard to the statement supposed to have been made by me that I would visit China in March. I have never said that. I may have said that I would like to visit China at some future date, and would probably make application to the Department of State for permission to do so. I could not have travelled to China in March, even if I had wanted too as I had commitments in Great Britain. I would like to state that the reporter who interviewed me could not speak English and the interpreter did not speak English at all well."

The Passport Office, United States Department of State, advised on July 22, 1960, that PAUL LEROY ROBESON on May 17, 1960, applied for a renewal of his passport number 1145187, which was issued on June 25, 1958.

On July 14, 1960, the Passport Office authorized the American Embassy in London, England, to renew ROBESON's passport.

~~X~~
- 12* -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

237



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

September 7, 1960

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.
NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Title Paul Leroy Robeson

Character Internal Security - C

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent John H. Sheahan, dated and captioned as above, at New York.

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has furnished reliable information in the past.

[REDACTED] is in a position to furnished reliable information.

←
b7D
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

13X

22

XXX Legal Attache, Paris (100-715)
SAC,

September 23, 1960

Director, FBI (100-12304)

PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 RJA/llw

XXXXXXXXXXXXX
REGISTERED MAIL

*cc 19-
enc.
9-27-60*

Attached is the translation which you requested to London.
dated 9/8/60. Copy of translation is enclosed to London.

The contents thereof, where pertinent, must be reported
under appropriate captions and afforded whatever investigative
attention is necessary.

Disposition of the foreign language material submitted in
this connection is set forth below:

Returned herewith.

Foreign Liaison Unit without enclosure (route through for review)
Mr. Bland (sent direct with enclosure) 100-12304

EPA: dsw *dsw gnd*

London - Enclosure (100-1182)

Enclosures

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

51 SEP 30 1960 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

NOT RECORDED
15 SEP 29 1960

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FBI
LONDON

del 10/20/60
4/18 photo. 6/11/60
9-28-60
REC'D
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BY

MAILED 3
SEP 26 1960
COMM-FBI

TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH

PAUL L. ROBESON

L'Humanité (GEORGES LEON) September 2, 1960

"So glad to see you" PAUL ROBESON (in English and in French).

PAUL ROBESON is coming today. He will sing tomorrow. We are going to welcome him presently, glad and proud to find him faithful to the rendezvous he had made with us a year ago, when he left Paris after his triumph in Meudon.

When he boarded the airplane which was to take him away, PAUL ROBESON said goodbye in these words:

"Friends, please know ^{what} this unforgettable day has moved me deeply. My meeting with the people of Paris, with the representatives of all the French provinces, takes on a great importance in my eyes. I have just had a fraternal contact with France. I am glad of it as an artist, but also and especially as a man, as a militant. Friends, I am convinced that never again now, when I shall come back, will I feel ~~like~~ as a stranger in this country. So long. Thank you. Will be seeing you soon again."

PAUL ROBESON is coming back and a fine day will rise when we, all of us, shall be before him to hear him and to thank him for being what he is, for being here, just so!

For a year, living in England, going around Europe, PAUL ROBESON has been fighting the good fight for justice and brotherhood, with music as his weapon and his eloquence as his strategy. He has kept on the way on which earlier he made up his mind to engage, without changing anything in his habits and without denying any of his convictions or of his certitudes. We will find him again as we left him last year in Meudon. With new songs.

PAUL ROBESON's art is so intimately bound up with his way of life that one cannot speak of him without recalling at once the great problems of our time.

TRANSLATED BY:
EDWARD P. ARBEZ: dsw
September 15, 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-18-81 BY SP-5R/S/HW

ENCLOSURE
100-12304

230

He is always there where witnessing is necessary, ready for the struggle, open to friendship. When he sings, he is a tribune, and when he addresses those come to hear him, he is now, fully, an artist.

An Exemplary Life

Remember the words he said as a greeting. Have you forgotten the 'bronze' "good day" which he threw at us last year when the welcoming band became silent before him?

So it is always, in Stockholm, in London, or in Moscow. Sometime ago in Peekskill, at a famous meeting which turned loose against him the stupid fury of racism. He says and sings aloud what he thinks and he grants nothing.

The life of this artist and of this man is exemplary in every respect, as far back as it can be followed. He is like what *Li* is today. Always the same courage, the same determination, the same care and the same passion. Never does he relax his effort, and everything down to the least detail reveals in him the unshakable will to take part in the history of his time. Deprived for a long time of his most elementary right, he found the necessary means so that we might hear him. Present wherever it was necessary, in Peekskill first before an immense audience or simply before a telephone to answer, in spite of everything, to the entreaties which came to him from everywhere.

Obliged then not to leave the American territory, PAUL ROBESON pursued the object of his mission.

Sometimes people wondered, in his own country, at his "obstinacy" in remaining faithful to his past. He was even asked why he had not, long before this, chosen to settle abroad.

Then PAUL ROBESON replied: "Because my father was a slave and my ancestors died building this country. I remain here because it is my right, just the same as you have. No fascist pressure shall be able to make me go. Is this clear?"

As his passport was taken from him, for eight years the great artist fought in America: giving lectures, singing as soon as he was able, receiving many visitors, writing his memoirs which he was to publish later as a beautiful book, each

page of it an act of faith in mankind, a lesson of integrity, an appeal to freedom and brotherhood.

A Book, A Man

This book - his autobiography - explains ROBESON completely, whether he writes about his art or his researches or his convictions.

As a musician he reveals an unbounded curiosity and pays particular attention to showing the value of his discoveries by constant parallels. If he studies the work of Bartok and Hungarian folklore, he knows how to compare them with African folklore, he can point to echoes and analogies more than resemblances. And everything, in his view, goes to show the universality of music. On this subject he is inexhaustible and ardent.

I remember a long talk with him, in London, two years ago. Holding the scores, he was talking to me of DEBUSSY; he quoted "Pelleas and Melisande", stopped awhile and to confirm what he had just said, he sang in an undertone a melody from MUSORGSKI's "Boris and Godunov".

Then he took up a Hebrew melody, a prayer and added immediately without any comment, an African incantation.

This anxiety to convince, PAUL ROBESON has it also, when he is pleading for justice or protesting against cruelty. In everything he is just and generous.

In this same book, when he addresses the colored children of Little Rock, he wants his racial brethren to feel the anxiety and the action of men of all lands.

"You are our children, he says to them, but the peoples of the whole world claim you also. They have seen your faces and the faces of all those who hate you. They are on your side. They see in you the qualities which parents everywhere wish to see in their children. Their best wishes - the love of all good people for children - they give to you."

This is only one detail among many others which reveal equally his kindness. Would not one think after these lines that PAUL ROBESON is going to sing? And indeed he almost does so in this place when he quotes a poem of PABLO NERUDA.

This is PAUL ROBESON who cannot - and does not wish to - dissociate art from life, certain as he is that true artists always have been able, in their way, to sing, fight and combat in the only way he knows to be possible, the way of a realism which has always manifested itself in the great periods of artistic history, whether the creators were poets or musicians, whether we are dealing with Beethoven or the popular story teller of the African forest.

In a short ~~while~~, PAUL ROBESON will be among us. Sunday he will bring us all the love of the world to share. We are awaiting him.

GEORGES LEON

PAUL L. ROBESON

L'Humanité (GEORGES LEON) September 3, 1960

Good day to you, PAUL ROBESON!

PAUL ROBESON landed on French soil yesterday afternoon, at the Bourget airport where a delegation of "L'Humanité" led by our comrade ROGER ROUCHAUTE, the paper's manager, was waiting for him.

He met us at once with a smile on his lips and drew near to embrace us. Then after the greetings, he expressed at once his joy at being here, at finding "all of you again on Sunday at La Courneuve, at singing before you" and showing thus by his presence that our Festival has in his eyes a great importance.

The travelers, who came from London with him, had been watching him for a while, as he was waiting for his bags at the customs. A young woman came up to him with an envelope. PAUL ROBESON took it and thus signed his first autograph. In the hall of the airport, people recognized him and we heard frequently the words: "at La Courneuve".

The car which took us to the hotel followed a road which ran along the festival grounds. P. ROBESON saw the flags which were being raised up the poles, had a glimpse of the colors hoisted on the thousand and one stands and said smiling: "This will be for tomorrow, a fine day."

Hardly had our friend reached his room, when he confided to us how glad he was to see us again, and he added that he had another reason for feeling happy: his brother was in Paris and they were going to meet.

In the restaurant a few minutes later, the head waiter soon managed to make us understand that he also knew the reason for the trip of our guest and that, like us, he was glad of it. He came back at the end of the meal and asked for an autograph "so that he might frame the menu adorned by the signature."

Several times during the meal, ^{he} received marks of sympathy from people who, recognizing him, greeted him

simply, without saying anything or asking for anything.

"My friends, how good it is to be here without being treated as an unapproachable personage. This is the way I like to find again my Parisian friends. Indeed I am very glad to be here again. Every sojourn in your city reminds me of the unforgettable welcome which the French workers gave me as I was coming back from Spain in 1937. And how could I forget that Saturday of last September, when I sang on the Meudon terraces?"

JEAN WIENER, whom we shall applaud tomorrow by the side of PAUL ROBESON, came for the dessert. And soon, their conversation took a musical turn. PAUL ROBESON spoke of BACH, BEETHOVEN and BARTOK, of his researches, of his studies and of a work which he has just completed. He became fiery trying to convince us. He was happy. We left him then, to find him again a few hours later at "L'Humanite", where he was anxious to greet in person all the comrades of the paper.

He was received by our comrades ETIENNE FAJON, the Editor of "L'Humanite" and WALDECK ROCHET, members of the Political Bureau, ROGER ROUCHAUTE, the Manager, GASTON PLISSONNIER of the Central Committee, RENE ANDRIEU, the Editor of the paper, and ANDRE CARREL the Editor of the Sunday edition (L'Humanite - Dimanche). As he came into the room, PAUL ROBESON was greeted by his brother who was waiting for him and by all those who everyday get up "L'Humana" and who, last night, expressed by their applause the admiration and the respect which they all feel for him.

ETIENNE FAJON began: "Dear PAUL ROBESON, I remember that, last year, when the time came to part after your unforgettable Meudon recital, I had thought I could say: 'Until we meet again!'. I say (now): we are happy to have you among us."

"If PAUL ROBESON had not come, our Festival would have lost a part of its beauty. I welcome him in this house where the collaborators claimed the privilege of being the first to applaud him, as they know well that, with him, art cannot be dissociated from the struggle."

The acclamations which followed our editor's words, showed to PAUL ROBESON our delight in thanking him for coming. He rose to say:

"Is it necessary for me to dwell on my pleasure in being in this house again? As, a little while ago, I was passing by in the street, I recognized the front of your house and I felt deeply stirred. Indeed, I am especially happy today...."

Suddenly PAUL ROBESON's voice rose stronger:

"Indeed, my friends, I am happy. I am with you and I am now thinking of what JOLIOT - CURIE used to say again and again: 'It is the peoples who will impose and make a lasting peace.' So long, until tomorrow."

While he was raising his glass to our common friendship and success, PAUL ROBESON met the very great Soviet singer, ZARIA DOLUKHANOVA and the baritone IGOR SOROKIN, whom you will hear in a little while. Near them, a tall youth gave vent to his joy. He was the pianist IEROKIN, who had accompanied PAUL ROBESON in Moscow. Then began among the artists the friendly talk, but soon it had to be interrupted, as ZANIA (sic) DOLUKHANOVA was going to rehearse. However, she confided to us her pleasure to appear before you, to find again Paris which acclaimed her, seven years ago, after an extraordinary recital. You are going to acclaim her. Here is one of the golden voices of our time.

GEORGES LEON.

Above the article, a picture of the Soviet singer Z. DOLUKHANOVA and PAUL ROBESON. Center, the arrival of P. ROBESON at L^o Bourget.

Notice accompanying the pictures:

The reception of P. ROBESON and of the Soviet artists, Z. DOLUKHANOVA, IGOR SOROKIN, ALEXANDER IEROKIN took place, last night, in the large hall of "L'Humanite", then in the office of our comrade, ETIENNE FAJON, in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

There was talk of music. They recalled the success of our past Festivals. Our friend, RATIANI, the correspondent

of "PRAVDA" in Paris, acted as interpreter. P. ROBESON was conversing with the pianist IEROKIN, Z. DOLUKHANOVA recalled her first visit to France. ETIENNE FAJON wished to all, the deserved applause. Our photographers took the pictures of our meeting, as you can see, with Z. DOLUKHANOVA and P. ROBESON above; and, beneath, P. ROBESON accompanied by E. FAJON and WALDECK ROCHET.

A few hours earlier, at Le Bourget, a delegation of "L'Humanite" had welcomed the great singer; near by him, you can recognize our manager, R. ROUCHAUTE and our collaborator, G. LEON.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

Date: September 8, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5R/g/d

Re Paris letter 9/1/60.

Enclosed herewith are two newspaper articles with photographs of the subject which appeared in "L'Humanite", French daily Communist Party newspaper, on 9/2-3/60 in connection with his appearance at the annual Communist Party festival held at La Courneuve, France.

In view of the information contained in the enclosed clippings, which describe ROBESON's participation in a Communist-sponsored festival and which demonstrate his affection for several well known French Communists, it is suggested that the enclosures be reviewed by a French translator for pertinent information.

Any additional data obtained will be forwarded to the Bureau and Legat, London.

- P
2 - Bureau (Enclosures - 2)
1 - London (100-1182) (sent direct)
1 - Paris
LPK:CM
(4)

*let to Paris
with enc
EPA clipp
9-23-60
1 - London - enc*

ENCLOSURE

REC-78

100-12304-610

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Agency *photo*
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By *BR/...*
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9-13-60

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SEP 24
9-14-60

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239
FBI/DOJ

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

4 Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 9-27-60

FROM : Legat, Bonn (105-720)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C

B 9-1

Reference Bonn letter 11-3-59.

The "Berliner Zeitung", an East German newspaper, reported on 9-14-60 that PAUL ROBESON, among others, will take part in the East Berlin Cultural Festival October 1/16, 1960.

[Redacted] any information which is received concerning ROBESON's activities will be promptly furnished the Bureau.

b7D

- P
- 5 - Bureau
 - (2 - New York: 100-96900
 - 100-25857)
- 1 - Bonn
- HDG:MB
- (6)

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-19-81 BY SP5 RLG/dw

YMC

AGENCY 2 Oct 7 1960
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 10-14-60
HOW FORW. 105-720-7
BY [Signature]

REC-16

100-12304-611

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9-29-60

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FBI/DOJ
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date 10-12-60.

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242
FBI/DOJ

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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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243
FBI/DOJ



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

Date: October 10, 1960
To: Director, FBI (100-12304)
From: Legat, Paris (100-715)
Subject: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The 10/6/60 issue of "L'Humanite", daily organ of the French Communist Party, contained an article, dated 10/5/60 at Berlin, which is translated as follows:

"PAUL ROBESON today received the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa from Humboldt University in East Berlin. The great singer is presently in East Berlin, where he will give several concerts during the 'Cultural Week' organized in honor of the 11th anniversary of the proclamation of the 'Democratic German Republic' on October 7."

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - London (100-1182)(sent direct)
- 1 - Paris
- NWP:CM
- (4)

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DATE 1-19-81 BY SP-5 RJG/ld

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100-12304

OCT 14 1960

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DATE FORW.
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BY

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EX-108

SUBV. CONTROL

244

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (100-12304)

DATE: 10-13-60

36

FROM : Legat, Bonn (105-720)

SUBJECT: PAUL LEROY ROBESON
IS - C

Remylet 9-27-60.

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67D

Any information received [REDACTED]

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will be furnished as

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DATE 1-19-81 BY *SP-5 R/g/HW*

P

5 - Bureau

(2 - New York: 1 - 100-96900; 1 - 100-25857)

1 - Bonn

GAV:HB

(6)

REC-98 / 100-12304-613

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AGENCY *211-724*
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HOW FOR V. *10-27-60*
BY *68 OCT 27 1960*

SS

SUBV. [Signature]

445