

went on to explain, "But the F.B.I. has not been given authority by the Congress to 'clear' the name of any citizen who has been falsely accused of association with subversive organizations."

Sadly I reported my failure to my friend. Chance revealed a few days later how desperate his financial position had become. We at the NAACP had asked him to speak in the Westchester County Center in White Plains at a memorial meeting for two peaceful Negroes who had been killed in cold blood by an ex-policeman because the latter objected to the men drinking a glass of beer in a public tavern. Canada Lee had promised to meet us promptly at seven o'clock to drive to White Plains but failed to show up on time--most unusual for him. Later we found that he did not have taxi fare. In a torrential rainstorm he had to walk. He had only forty cents in his pocket. But what disturbed him most was the fact that he had been forced that afternoon to refuse a loan to an aging actor. "I'll get that \$10 for him tomorrow," Canada Lee said.

It is possible that his great and gallant heart might have stopped even though privation and prejudice had not made his last few years a Golgotha. It is even more possible that Canada Lee's great fame and ability might have been used by a kinder and wiser America to furnish the answer to the Paul Robesons who, unlike Mr. Lee, appear to have lost faith in democracy.

Two days before his tragic death I received a long and impassioned letter from  
the executive staff to inform the world of the progress which has been made through

84-M'ELHAM

~~100-397497~~  
100-328241-7X

December 23, 1952

RECORDED

Mr. Walter White  
Secretary  
National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People  
20 West 40th Street  
New York 18, New York

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw~~

Dear Mr. White:

Your letter of December 17, 1952, reporting  
activity of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan  
is indeed appreciated.

In view of the contents of your communication,  
I am arranging to have Special Agents of this Bureau  
contact your representatives in Florida.

In the event you have additional information  
in this matter please do not hesitate to communicate  
with this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

2cc - Mobile (w/enclosure)

2cc - Miami (w/enclosure)

ATTENTION SAC, MIAMI:

Miami should arrange to immediately contact the  
individuals listed by Walter White for any information  
of value in connection with your investigation of the Klan.  
The results of this work should be furnished to the  
Bureau at once.

cc - Bufile 100-781

RET:rwk:rnw

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DEC 23 1952

RECEIVED  
JAN 1 1953

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DEC 22 6 46 PM '52

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

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- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
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- Mr. Laughlin
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- Mr. Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holloman
- Miss Gandy

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DATE 4/8/01 BY SP4 LGS/okm

December 17, 1952

63578

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Last week in Florida the enclosed card was given me reading:

b6  
b7C

"FIGHT COMMUNISM

Keep Negroes out of White  
Schools  
JOIN NOW

Southern Knights

K.K.K.

P. O. Box 1132

Station A

St. Petersburg, Florida."

We would greatly appreciate your ordering an investigation by the FBI. Should the U. S. Supreme Court, in the cases argued before it December 9-11, declare segregation in public schools unconstitutional, there may be several outfits which capitalize on racial and religious bigotry which may attempt to stir up trouble. Action by the FBI to nip this would be of great value in preventing others from creating disorder which we as a nation can ill afford at this critical juncture of world history.

and [redacted] of our Florida State Conference of Branches will be glad to cooperate with you in your investigation.

b6  
b7C

Ever sincerely,

*Waterhouse*

Secretary.

100-328241-7X

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

INDEXED  
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897799

10 DEC 19 1952  
31

ww  
Enc:

[redacted]

can be reached at

b6  
b7C

1 ENCL  
130  
ack.  
cc memo +  
Mobile  
12-22-52  
RET

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Handwritten signature/initials

# EIGHT COMMUNISM

Keep Negroes Out of White  
Schools

JOIN NOW!

1

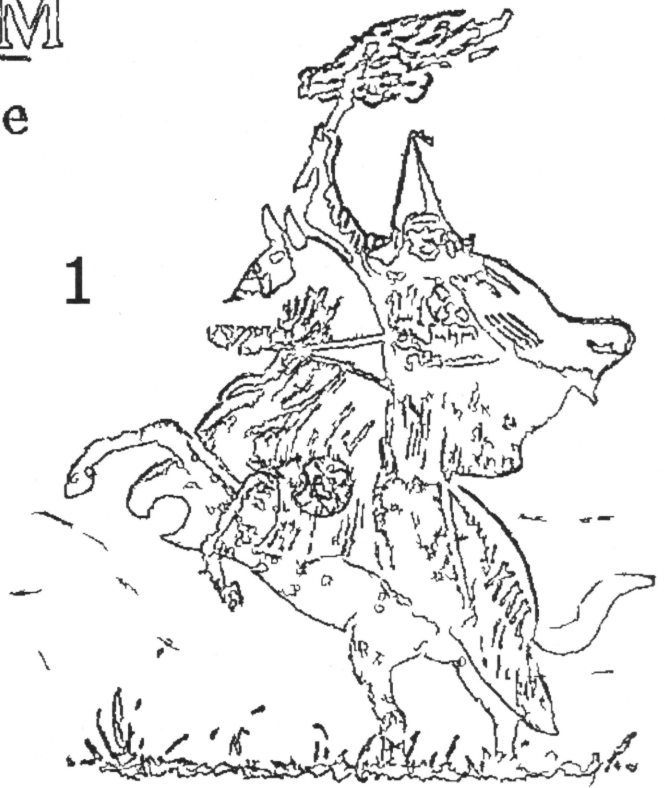
SOUTHERN KNIGHTS

K. K. K.

P. O. Box 1132

Station A

St. Petersburg, Florida



~~148-397799-1~~

100-326241-775

2

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 01-04-2007 BY 60324 AUC BAW/CPB/RYS

10:08

April 28, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON  
MR. LADD  
MR. NICHOLS  
MR. ROSEN

During the course of my conversation with the Attorney General on another matter he mentioned that Mr. Walter White and his group from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are coming in to see him Friday at 4:30. He wondered if we had anything in the field of Civil Rights which he ought to know about. I told him I did not but that it might be well for us to prepare a memorandum for him on the things that have been done; that we have had a pretty good record in that field and Mr. White has been rather commendatory of us in letters as well as some of his articles. I stated I did not know what trail he was on now; that he very ardently supported our position in the Civil Rights cases in New York and also in the cases initiated in Miami. I stated it might be well for us to have a memorandum along this line so that if he has any criticisms or complaints at least he, the Attorney General, can point out the good things the Department has done. The Attorney General stated this would be very helpful and I told him I would have a memorandum to him within the next day.

Very truly yours,

J E H

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mgr

SENT FROM J.  
TIME 11:35 AM  
DATE 4-28-53  
BY jh

RECORDED - 112

INDEXED - 112 100-328241-8

56 APR 4 1953

December 28, 1953

RECORDED-2100 - 3282 41-9

58570

Mr. Walter White  
Executive Secretary  
National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People  
20 West Fortyeth Street  
New York 18, New York

SP8 BGS/ate 2-13-91 #293,974  
~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

Dear Mr. White:

It was a pleasure to receive your fine letter of December 21, 1953, with enclosures, and I was particularly interested in seeing the copy of your cablegram to the three negro POW's who have refused repatriation. It was extremely well prepared.

In line with our conversation, you may feel free to utilize the following statement of mine relative to your radio program:

"It is my belief that Mr. Walter White's radio program makes a valuable contribution to intelligent enlightenment in a crucial sector of this democracy's struggle against the forces of bigotry, prejudice and subversion. The aims of his program are straightforward and simple. He emphasizes the truism that freedom belongs to everyone, that equal rights have been bestowed by our Creator and by our laws without regard to race, creed or religion. He rightly contends that justice does not exist where there is partiality in administering the law. He urges unceasing vigilance against the Communists whose determination to sow disunity we fully appreciate.

"Mr. White's efforts to create public opinion based on intelligent understanding and appreciation of the need for unity of purpose among all Americans are most commendable."

It is a privilege to have this opportunity to be of service to you.

Sincerely yours,

New York, with copy of incoming.

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME  
DATE 12-29-53  
BY

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Tracy
- Quinn
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

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WAS



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Mr. Tolson  
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Mr. Ladd  
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Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

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DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mg

December 21, 1953

63572

SP 8 Bg/rtc 2/13/91 #295,974

Dear Mr. Hoover:

When you told me the other evening in Harvey's Restaurant that my radio program was no longer heard in Washington I was quite surprised. But as I said the other night, the public seems to prefer Milton Berle to Walter White.

I am glad to say, however, that the program is still heard over WLIB in New York and in Boston, St. Louis, Los Angeles and one or two other cities.

I was particularly pleased at your comments about the program. I have tried to do as intelligent and honest a program as I was capable of doing. It means considerable extra work in a very crowded schedule, but I have been glad to do it because I believe I was bringing guests and information to the American public which was somewhat different from that on any other program. But because the program is carried in most places as a sustaining one, there just isn't money to do the kind of promotion which is required in these times. Enclosed is a listing of guests who have appeared during the past year, to which someday I will be honored to add your name.

I do wish you could have heard last week's program when [redacted] who was a prisoner of war in Korea for 1,014 days, told a thrilling story of how the Communists at first attempted to bribe him to turn against democracy and then tortured him horribly when he refused to do so. They made the quite erroneous approach believing that he would be a pushover because he is a Negro. Incidentally, I may do an article for LOOK Magazine on how Negro American POW's resisted Communist propoganda to a greater extent than other Americans, according to Army G-2.

b6  
b7c

And here is a copy of a cablegram I sent Thursday to the three Negro POW's among the twenty-two Americans who thus far refused repatriation. I am reliably informed that at least two of the three Negroes are eager to come home but are intimidated by some of the other Americans. I do hope that

27  
w

Pa  
12-23-53  
10/18



RECORDED-20  
INDEXED - 20  
DEC 20 1953  
BUY YOUR SEALS NOW

100-328241-9  
JAN 21 1954  
PRIME R...

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DEC 28 1955
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DEC 28 1955

Guests who have appeared on the ~~Walter White~~ Show - WLIB

Mrs. ~~Eleanor Roosevelt~~

Senator ~~Hubert H. Humphey~~

Mr. ~~Averell Harriman~~

Senator ~~Estes Kefauver~~

~~Walter Reuther~~

~~Chester Bowles~~

Senator ~~Herbert Lehman~~

Dr. ~~Channing H. Tobias~~

President of Haiti, ~~Paul Magloire~~

[Redacted]

Mrs. ~~Clare Boothe Luce~~

Rep. ~~Helèn Gahagan Douglas~~

[Redacted]

Senator ~~Wayne Morse~~

~~George Meany~~

Senator ~~Irving Lves~~

[Redacted]

Bishop ~~Henry Knox Sherrill~~

Gov. ~~Luis Munoz Marin~~

W. ~~Stuart Symington~~

[Redacted]

Franklin D. ~~Roosevelt, Jr.~~

[Redacted] (POW-Korea)

Robert F. ~~Wagner~~

Rep. ~~Jacob K. Javits~~

[Redacted]

(POW-Korea) b6  
b7C

63572

b6  
b7C

*SP8 BT/te 2/13/91 #293974*  
**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/5/81 BY SP-1GSK/mc**

b6  
b7C

100-328241-9

RECORDED-20

INDEXED-20

NO COPIES

December 21, 1953

635703

this cablegram may induce them to change their minds.

|| Returning to the radio program. I would very much appreciate the letter you agreed to send me expressing your opinion of it. I believe it and several others, including one from the War Department, may possible restore tne program to Washington and perhaps cause it to be heard in other cities.

Cordially,



Walter White

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

WW   
Enclosures

b6  
b7c

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	SERIAL
DAY LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

# WESTERN UNION

W P MARSHALL PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	LETTER TELEGRAM
VICTORY LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

NO. WDS -CL. OF SVC.	PD OR COLL	CASH NO	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
			NAACP 20 West 40th St.	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

JNE 1 - 3 BOOK MESSAGE DEFERRED CABLE DECEMBER 17, 1953

JNE 1

63575

C/O NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION  
PANMUNJOM, KOREA

b6  
b7c

JNE 2

C/O NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION  
PANMUNJOM, KOREA

*SP8 BT/ste 2/13/91 #293974*  
**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mg**

JNE 3

C/O NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION  
PANMUNJOM, KOREA

AS A FELLOW NEGRO AMERICAN MAY I URGE YOU RECONSIDER YOUR ABANDONMENT OF DEMOCRACY AND EMBRACING OF COMMUNISM. I DO NOT FOR A MOMENT ASSERT THAT FULL FREEDOM FOR THE AMERICAN NEGRO HAS BEEN WON OR THAT WE ARE YET NEAR THAT GOAL. BUT DURING THE THIRTY-FIVE YEARS I HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO WORK FOR JUSTICE AND TOTAL EQUALITY THROUGH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE I HAVE SEEN MANY CHANGES FOR THE BETTER. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS SUCH CHANGES SINCE YOU LEFT. YOU NOW SERVE IN AN UNSEGREGATED AMERICAN ARMY AND IN WASHINGTON, D. C., TODAY YOU CAN EAT IN ANY RESTAURANT, WHICH WAS NOT TRUE WHEN YOU LEFT. UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HAS JUST HEARD ARGUMENTS ON ABOLITION OF SEGREGATION IN ALL PUBLIC EDUCATION. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF WINNING. BUT IF WE DO NOT WE SHALL GO BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN TO

~~RECORDED-20~~ -more-

100-328241-9  
ENCLOSURE

## ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back, to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeatable message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeatable message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeatable-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued, nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines.
2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the actual loss, not exceeding in any event the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount the sender of each message represents that the message is valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one per cent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.
3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.
4. Except as otherwise indicated in connection with the listing of individual places in the filed tariffs of the Company, the amount paid for the transmission of a domestic telegram or an incoming cable or radio message covers its delivery within the following limits: in cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where the Company has an office which, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, is not operated through the agency of a railroad company, within two miles of any open main or branch office of the Company in cities or towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants where, as shown by the filed tariffs of the Company, the telegraph service is performed through the agency of a railroad company within one mile of the telegraph office, in cities or towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants in which an office of the Company is located, within one-half mile of the telegraph office. Beyond the limits above specified the Company does not undertake to make delivery, but will endeavor to arrange for delivery as the agent of the sender, with the understanding that the sender authorizes the collection of any additional charge from the addressee and agrees to pay such additional charge if it is not collected from the addressee. There will be no additional charge for deliveries made by telephone within the corporate limits of any city or town in which an office of the Company is located.
5. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.
6. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in the case of any message except an intrastate message in Texas where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission, and in the case of an intrastate message in Texas the Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties where the claim is not presented in writing to the Company within ninety-five days after the cause of action, if any, shall have accrued, provided, however, that neither of these conditions shall apply to claims for damages or overcharges within the purview of Section 415 of the Communications Act of 1934.
7. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.
8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.
9. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

10-42

## CLASSES OF SERVICE

### DOMESTIC SERVICES

#### FULL RATE TELEGRAMS

A full rate expedited service

#### DAY LETTERS

A deferred service at lower than the full rate

#### SERIALS

Messages sent in sections during the same day.

#### NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2 A M for delivery not earlier than the following morning at rates substantially lower than the full rate telegram or day letter rates.

### INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

#### FULL RATE (FR)

The standard fast service at full rates. May be written in any language that can be expressed in Roman letters, or in secret language. A minimum charge for 5 words applies.

#### LETTER TELEGRAM (LT)

Overnight plain language messages. Minimum charge for 22 words applies.

#### VICTORY LETTER TELEGRAM (VLT)

Overnight plain language messages to armed forces overseas. Minimum charge for 10 words applies.

#### SHIP RADIOGRAM

A service to and from ships at sea. Plain or secret language may be used. Minimum charge for 5 words applies.

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram	
FULL RATE TELEGRAM	SERIAL
DAY LETTER	NIGHT LETTER

# WESTER UNION

W P MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	LETTER TELEGRAM
VICTORY LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

63576

-2-

THE COURTS OF LAW AND OF PUBLIC OPINION UNTIL EVERY VESTIGE OF SEGREGATION OR DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, RELIGION, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN IS ELIMINATED FROM AMERICAN LIFE. WE URGE YOU TO COME HOME AND JOIN IN THAT FIGHT.

WALTER WHITE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT  
 OF COLORED PEOPLE  
 20 West 40th Street, New York, N. Y.

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10-42

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AIR-TEL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JJM:BAR (#7)  
NY 100-7629

PAGE 2

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU

WAS A MEMBER OF THE PRO COMMUNIST GROUP AND AS SUCH WAS A DISRUPTER OF NAACP AFFAIRS TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT WHITE FINALLY REPORTED HIM TO DIRECTOR HOOVER AND ADVISED THE DIRECTOR THAT IF IT WAS NECESSARY TO SEND A MAN INTO THE NAACP ONE SHOULD BE SELECTED WHO WOULD NOT DISRUPT THE ACTIVITY OF THE ORGANIZATION. SOME OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE ATTEMPTED TO QUESTION MR. WHITE FURTHER CONCERNING THIS MATTER BUT WERE UNABLE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL DETAILS. MR. WHITE ALSO ADVISED THIS GROUP THAT A SHORT TIME AGO HE MET MR. HOOVER IN HARVEYS RESTAURANT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WHERE MR. HOOVER WAS IN THE COMPANY OF ONE OF HIS ASSISTANTS. AS A RESULT OF THIS TALK, THE DIRECTOR SENT WHITE A LETTER OF COMMENDATION. MR. WHITE DESCRIBED THE LETTER AS "THE LIKE OF WHICH NOT MANY PEOPLE IN THE US EVER RECEIVED." WHITE ADDED "I WOULD LOVE TO HAVE MC CARTHY CALL ME TO TESTIFY SO THAT I COULD PRODUCE THIS LETTER AS AN INDICATION OF THE TYPE OF CITIZEN I AM". [REDACTED] ADVISED THE

FOLLOWING WERE IN ATTENDANCE DURING THE POST BANQUET GATHERING: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NEGRO NAACP STATE [REDACTED] NEGRO, AND [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ALSO ADVISED THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME [REDACTED]

NEGRO, IS [REDACTED] FOR NAACP. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT, [REDACTED] UNDER THE NAME

[REDACTED] ATTENDED THE LENIN SCHOOL AT MOSCOW. THE ABOVE IS BEING

SUBMITTED FOR THE INFO/OF THE BUREAU AND NO FURTHER INQUIRY WILL BE MADE IN THIS

MATTER UACB.

*Memo  
3-4-56  
LMM*

*This report...*

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

KELLY  
Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
CC: MR. BELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL DIVISION

b6  
b7C  
b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED FEB 25 1954  
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw TELETYPE  
10/17/89 30-7 mae/100 #2541617  
Walter White

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Mr. Whitely	✓
Mr. Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Holloman	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

WASH 5 FROM PHILA 2-25-54 6-25 PM EST

DIRECTOR,.....ATTENTION ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR NICHOLS.....URGENT .....

FOLLOWING APPEARS IN COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE, HEADED "IS NOBODY SAFE - SMEAR OF WARREN RAISES QUESTION" IN ISSUES FEB. TWENTYFIFTH, THE EVENING BULLETIN, PHILA - "HOW WIDESPREAD AND IMMEDIATE THE DANGER IS TO THE REPUTATION OF EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD IN THE UNITED STATES WAS REVEALED TO THIS COMMENTATOR RECENTLY BY ONE OF THE ABLEST AND MOST CONSERVATIVE LAWYERS IN THE UNITED STATES. HE TOLD ME IN DAZED UNBELIEF HOW A GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATOR HAD COME TO HIS OFFICE TO MAKE ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE LOYALTY AND MORAL CHARACTER OF ONE OF THE NATION-S TOP BANKERS WHO HAD MADE GREAT FINANCIAL SACRIFICES DURING AND AFTER THE WAR TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY BRILLIANTLY. THE LAWYER WAS SO INDIGNANT THAT SO ABLE AND UNSELFISH A CITIZEN SHOULD BE SUBJECT ED TO THE HUMILIATION OF ENQUIRY AMONG HIS FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES, THE FBI INVESTIGATOR EXPLAINED APOLOGETICALLY THAT AN ANONYMOUS LETTER FORCED HIM TO MAKE THE INVESTIGATION, AND THAT HE WAS MERELY DOING THE TASK ASSIGNED TO HIM." PRESS INQUIRY IF ANY RECEIVED, WILL BE NO COMMENT UACB 106

100-32824-10  
COPY FILED IN

RECORDED - 9

100-32824-10

APR 22 1954

ABBATICCHIO

PERS. FILES

CRIME RECORDS

UNRECORDED

WB 70W  
WA PH R 5 WA IS

Can we identify the case?

52 MAY 7 1954

HIS IS PH

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *herts*  
FROM : L. B. Nichols

DATE: Feb. 26, 1954

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: *g*  
Limited Classification  
Review Conducted  
See Top Serial  
Form 4-774

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mw

With reference to the teletype from the Philadelphia Field Office reporting the item in Walter White's column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin for February 25th, referring to an Agent apologizing for making an investigation of one of the nations top bankers on the ground an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation, I desire to advise I talked to White about this today and asked White if he could identify the case for me, although I was not interested in inquiring into his sources of information. White stated his source of information was a very reputable, conservative lawyer; that he would vouch for this lawyer on a stack of Bibles. He stated the lawyer had told him the story two or three weeks ago and also related that other persons interviewed had commented on the waste of time in investigating the banker; that the lawyer would be in New York on Monday and White would prefer to talk to the lawyer and get his approval to furnish me the full story which the lawyer had told him, along with the identification of the case.

White stated his item in his column was not intended to be critical; that the lawyer was not critical of the FBI but was critical of the system and of placing unnecessary burdens on the FBI. I told White I, of course, did not want to dispute him but if this were the case, then I thought he could have made this point clear in his column; that any person reading the column would construe this as a disclosure of some impropriety on the part of the FBI; that we, of course, were not protesting that at the moment because we did not know the facts; that we wanted to get the facts and if the facts supported what White said, we wanted to look into them; if they did not, we would want, of course, to have the correct facts used.

White stated he thoroughly agreed and would call me on Monday. If he does not call me on Monday, I will get after him on Monday afternoon.

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont *Rosen*

LBN:MP

*Try to get this mailed down.*

*100-328241-11*

EX - 107  
RECORDED - 9 13 APR 21 1954

PERS. FILES

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-328241-11

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE REGARDING ALLEGED FBI INVESTIGATION OF [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

6/29/95 SP-9 w/hcy 315548-001

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

b6  
b7C

### SYNOPSIS:

By memo to Mr. Tolson dated February 26, 1954, you advised of item appearing in Walter White's column in Philadelphia Evening Bulletin on February 25, 1954, referring to SA apologizing for conducting investigation of one of Nation's top bankers on the grounds that an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation. You further advised you had talked to Walter White concerning this, and White said his information had come from very reputable lawyer who was reliable. White indicated neither he nor lawyer intended to be critical of FBI. White said he would check with lawyer, to get his approval to furnish the full story. White called you on March 1, 1954, to advise that Bethuel Webster, President of New York City Bar, was the person who had been interviewed. The banker who was being investigated was [REDACTED] (true name, [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] Bureau conducted Atomic Energy applicant investigation of [REDACTED] in June-July, 1953. Webster was interviewed by New York Office in connection with this investigation, and he commented favorably regarding [REDACTED] New York investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]. In regard to anonymous letter concerning [REDACTED] referred to in Walter White's column, it is noted Bufiles reflect an anonymous letter dated September 28, 1945, was sent to the President concerning [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of Military Intelligence. Anonymous letter alleged [REDACTED] of pro-Communist group within G-2 and that [REDACTED] would not have been retained by G-2 if it were not for [REDACTED]. Memo containing information regarding anonymous letter sent to Deputy Attorney General in December, 1950, and Deputy Attorney General advised he referred [REDACTED] case to Donald Dawson, administrative assistant to President who in turn brought it to attention of Secretary of State. AEA applicant reports in summer 1953 referred to Sherman Adams at White House, as well as to ONI. Last efficiency report of SA [REDACTED] of New York reflects favorably upon his maturity, judgment and discretion, as well as attitude toward work.

cc - Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Rosen

GWG:jbg

MAY 7 1954

RECORDED - 5  
 INDEXED - 9  
 Limited Classification  
 Review Conducted  
 See Top Serial  
 Form 4-774

APR 23 1954

100-328241-12  
 ORINT. PROC.  
 PERS. FILES

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

[Handwritten notes and signatures on the left margin, including a large 'S' and 'J' and the phrase 'The attorney's...']

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) That SAC Kelly of the New York Office be telephonically instructed to immediately question SA [redacted] concerning his interview with Webster in June, 1953, during the investigation of [redacted] and that SAC Kelly be instructed to obtain a detailed memorandum from [redacted] concerning this matter. b6 b7C

yes  
yes.

(2) In the event that SA [redacted] denies having mentioned an anonymous letter regarding [redacted] to Webster, it is felt that SAC Kelly should be instructed to personally contact Webster and inquire when the interview was conducted in which mention was made of the anonymous letter. In this regard, it is noted that the interview with Webster by the New York Office was in June, 1953, whereas the item concerning the interview did not appear in Walter White's column until February 25, 1954--eight months later. It has further been noted that other governmental agencies have, in the past, expressed interest in [redacted] he should explain Basis for Inv. by Act of Congress. b6 b7C

yes  
yes.

SAC Kelly advised  
10:05 AM. 3-8-54

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

DETAILS:

By memorandum to Mr. Tolson dated February 26, 1954, you advised that the Philadelphia Office had reported an item had appeared in Walter White's column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin on February 25, 1954, referring to an Agent apologizing for conducting an investigation of one of the Nation's top bankers on the ground that an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation.

In your memorandum of February 26, 1954, you advised that you had talked to Walter White concerning this matter and had asked White if he could identify the case. White said his source of information was a very reputable, conservative lawyer and that he would vouch for the lawyer "on a stack of Bibles." According to White, the lawyer related that other persons interviewed had commented on the waste of time in investigating the banker. White said he would talk to the lawyer and get his approval to furnish you the full story. Additionally, White stated his column was not intended to be critical and that the lawyer was not critical of the FBI but was critical of the system and of placing unnecessary burdens on the Bureau. You told White that anyone reading the column would construe it as a disclosure of some impropriety on the part of the FBI; that the Bureau wanted to get the facts and if the facts support what White said, we wanted to look into them. If the facts did not bear out the allegation, however, the Bureau would want to have the correct facts used.

In connection with this memorandum of February 26, 1954, the Director noted, "Try and get this nailed down. H."

On March 1, 1954, Walter White called you to advise that he had seen the lawyer who had been the source for the item which had appeared in his column in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin on February 25, 1954. White identified the source as Bethuel Webster, President of the New York City Bar Association. According to White, Webster felt without any criticism whatever toward the Bureau that it was highly improper to investigate a man of the standing of the banker on the basis of some crazy letter. He identified the banker as [redacted] (true name [redacted])

b6  
b7c

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

RE BUREAU INVESTIGATION OF [redacted]

*Summary of NY*

Bufiles reflect that [redacted] has been investigated only on one occasion by the Bureau. In June and July, 1953, the Bureau investigated [redacted] as an Atomic Energy Act applicant. The investigation was requested by the Atomic Energy Commission and was conducted by the Bureau in accordance with its responsibilities under Public Law #298 of the 82nd Congress, passed on April 5, 1952. Following receipt of an Atomic Energy Commission personnel security questionnaire, the Bureau's AEA applicant investigation was opened on June 5, 1953. Copies of the letter opening the investigation were sent to New York, Washington Field Office, Boston and Baltimore.

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On June 22, 1953, Sherman Adams, Assistant to the President, wrote the Director requesting name checks and investigations on individuals who were being considered for Presidential appointments. Included in the list of individuals under the "name checks" category was [redacted]. By letter dated June 26, 1953, the Director advised Mr. Adams that the Bureau was conducting an Atomic Energy Act applicant investigation relative to [redacted] and that Mr. Adams would be promptly advised of the results upon the completion of the inquiry. [redacted]

By letter dated July 17, 1953, the Director furnished Mr. Adams eleven investigative reports concerning [redacted] as well as Photostatic copies of hearings held before the Special Committee of the Committee on Military Affairs, House of Representatives, on February 27, 1945, pertaining to [redacted]. Copies of the investigative reports were, of course, also furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission, and copies of reports concerning [redacted] also were furnished to ONI. [redacted]

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By report dated July 1, 1953, SA [redacted] reported the results of investigation conducted by the New York Office in connection with the AEA applicant investigation of [redacted]. On page 8 and 9 of this report an interview with Bethuel Webster, President of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, is set forth. Webster is reflected in the report as commenting favorably concerning [redacted] ([redacted])

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

RE ANONYMOUS LETTER PERTAINING TO [REDACTED] BELIEVED POSSIBLY IDENTICAL TO ANONYMOUS LETTER REFERRED TO IN WHITE'S COLUMN:

A "Request for Report on Loyalty Data" form concerning [REDACTED] dated October 6, 1950, was forwarded to the Bureau by the State Department in 1950. A review of Bufiles at that time revealed considerable information on [REDACTED]. By memorandum dated December 27, 1950, the Director advised Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford of the receipt of [REDACTED] loyalty form and of information in Bufiles concerning [REDACTED]. Included in the information furnished Peyton Ford was the following:

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b7C

"In an anonymous letter to the President dated September 28, 1945, information was set out concerning [REDACTED]. In this letter the individual who wrote the letter stated that he had served with [REDACTED] in Military Intelligence. A State Department contact advised that the author of this letter was a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who was at one time attached to the [REDACTED]. The letter stated that when [REDACTED] came into Military Intelligence, he brought with him numerous young lawyers who were personally loyal to him from his own law firm and similar law firms and included in this group was [REDACTED]. Regarding [REDACTED] pro-Communist beliefs, the writer of this communication stated 'he has been the vigorous leader of a pro-Communist group within G-2 to a point where he attempted to have the truth presented not from the simple American point of view but in the light most favorable to the Russians. A study of the personnel in G-2 will reveal that he permitted officials with known Communist leanings to sit in positions where they could influence the presentation of intelligence.' The letter continued 'There is a saying in G-2 that [REDACTED] would not have lasted one week if his former law partner, [REDACTED] were not in a position of importance.'"

b6  
b7C



Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

At the conclusion of the memorandum to Peyton Ford dated December 27, 1950, the Director stated, "Your opinion is requested as to the advisability of conducting a loyalty investigation of [redacted] based on the foregoing information. If no investigation is desired, please advise whether the information set out above should be referred to the Civil Service Commission and the employing agency or whether the loyalty form should be returned marked 'no disloyal data, FBI files.'" [redacted]

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b7C

The Bureau periodically followed this matter with Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford. By memorandum dated August 20, 1951, Peyton Ford advised the Director, "The file in this case, including a copy of your confidential memorandum of December 27, 1950, has been brought to the attention of Honorable Donald S. Dawson, Administrative Assistant to the President, who has in turn brought it to the attention of the Secretary of State. This action was taken in order that the top officials who are concerned with the important matters in which [redacted] is engaged might be made aware of the allegations.

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b7C

"It has been concluded by Mr. Dawson and the State Department that in view of the very vague and rather nebulous nature of the charges, which seem to apply to someone else rather than to [redacted] an investigation is not justified. In view of this no investigation is required." [redacted]

By memorandum dated September 6, 1951, Deputy Attorney General Peyton Ford advised the Director, "In view of the action which has been taken of furnishing the information to the Secretary of State, it would appear that it would be sufficient to note on the form [redacted] (loyalty form) that information in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been furnished to the Secretary of State with an added notation that no investigation is being conducted." [redacted]

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Regarding the anonymous letter to the President dated September 28, 1945, concerning [redacted] it is to be noted that the File Review Unit has checked all available references to [redacted] in an effort to determine whether the Bureau has a record of information pertaining to this anonymous letter being furnished to the New York Office. Several references to [redacted] were out of file and not located; however, nearly 200 were reviewed by the File Review Section, and none of these disclose that the information concerning the anonymous letter had been furnished to the New York Office.

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

March 3, 1954

In regard to Bethuel Webster, a Loyalty of Government Employees investigation concerning Webster was conducted in 1949-50. The investigation was terminated by Webster's termination of employment with the Department of the Army in January, 1950. It should be noted that in an "Application for Federal Employment Form" executed by Webster in 1949, [redacted] was listed as a reference. (121-20897-14)

RE SA [redacted] NEW YORK OFFICE:

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b7C

SA [redacted] ~~concurrently~~ is the FBI Agent who interviewed Webster in regard to [redacted]. A brief review of his personnel file reveals that [redacted] entered on duty as a Special Agent May 12, 1947, and that he has been assigned to the New York Office since May 27, 1950. [redacted] has been in GS-12 since August, 1951. In his last efficiency rating, dated March 31, 1953, [redacted] was rated as satisfactory and the notation was made that he showed capability for additional responsibility. It was observed that he had been assigned to the applicant section of the New York Office for the entire period of April 1, 1952, to March 31, 1953. He was described as being mature and as possessing good judgment and discretion. It was observed that he had been assigned to the most complicated investigations on the applicant squad and had handled these assignments in an entirely satisfactory manner. It was noted that he had been assigned to interviewing prominent persons and that his contacts all had been handled well and he had proven himself to be an able representative of the Bureau. Additionally, his attitude toward his work was described as "consistently excellent," his voluntary overtime was well above the office average and his performance was "well above average." [redacted]

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It has previously been noted in this memorandum that other government agencies have shown an interest in [redacted] and that information concerning the anonymous letter to the President pertaining to [redacted] is known to agencies other than the Bureau. [redacted] interview with Webster took place in June, 1953; whereas, the reference to Webster being interviewed did not appear in Walter White's column until February 25, 1954--eight months later. It is not unreasonable to suspect that an investigator from another government agency may have interviewed Webster sometime between July, 1953, and February, 1954, and made the statement concerning the anonymous letter.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

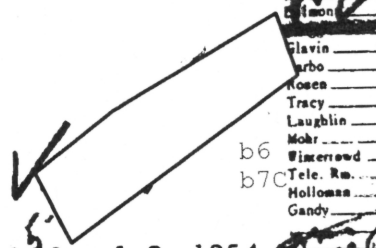
TO : MR. TOLSON *Hoover*

DATE: March 4, 1954

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: COMINFIL NAACP, IS-C

Tolson	
Ladd	
Clegg	
Glavin	
Nichols	
Tracy	
Laughlin	
Mohr	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Rm.	
Holloman	
Gandy	



b6  
b7C

Reference is made to the Air-Tel from New York, dated March 2, 1954, concerning the above-captioned matter, on page 2 of which there is a statement that Walter White told a group which met at the home of [redacted] after the NAACP banquet on January 30, 1954, that after recently meeting Mr. Hoover in Harvey's, Mr. Hoover sent White a letter of commendation. The Director noted: "Let me see this letter."

There is attached an incoming letter dated December 21, 1953, from White referring to a meeting with the Director the other evening in Harvey's at which time White's radio program was discussed. White asked the Director for a letter expressing his opinion of the program. A reply was sent to White on December 28, 1953, the yellow of which is attached. (100-328241-9)

LBN:FML  
Attachment

CC - Mr. Belmont

MAR 14 1954

*I request Mr. Belmont  
say the letter in view  
of turn White has taken.*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 61-2076-116

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mm

100-528241-1  
NOT RECORDED  
133 MAR 13 1954

ENTRIES ON ORIGINAL

*R 242*  
*(64)*  
60 MAR 2 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: March 12, 1954

FROM :

SUBJECT: COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE REGARDING ALLEGED FBI INVESTIGATION OF

Review Completed  
See Top Serial  
Form 4-774  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Nease  
Gandy

Reference is made to the memorandum from Mr. Jones to Mr. Nichols, dated March 3, 1954, concerning the above-captioned matter.

It will be remembered that White wrote a newspaper column in the Philadelphia Bulletin on 2/25/54 referring to an Agent apologizing to a lawyer for conducting an investigation of one of the nation's top bankers on the grounds that an anonymous letter forced him to make the investigation. After Mr. Nichols talked to White, White identified the lawyer as Bethuel Webster, the President of the New York City Bar Association.

In the referenced memorandum it was recommended that SAC Kelly of the New York Office, find out from [redacted] of the New York Office, who interviewed Webster in connection with an Atomic Energy Applicant investigation of [redacted] (the banker involved), in June, 1953, as to whether he mentioned an anonymous letter to Webster and that if [redacted] denied it, then Kelly was to interview Webster to get his story and to explain to him that the investigation by the Bureau in June, 1953, was conducted pursuant to an Act of Congress and that the Bureau had no alternative except to conduct the investigation.

At 10:05 A.M., 3/8/54, Mr. Kelly was appropriately advised by the writer. At 5:45 P.M., the same date, SAC Kelly advised that there was no reference in the New York files to any anonymous letter involving [redacted] and that Agent [redacted] had been interviewed by Mr. Kelly and stated he did not know of any letter and certainly did not mention any letter to Mr. Webster; that [redacted] recalled the interview - that Mr. Webster was very courteous and spoke well of [redacted] and that the interview was completely without incident.

The referenced memorandum referred to an anonymous letter which had been written to the President on September 28, 1945, concerning, principally, [redacted] but it did mention [redacted] and stated that if it wasn't for the connection between [redacted] and [redacted] and the fact that [redacted] held a big

RECORDED - 9  
INDEXED - 9  
100-338241-13

cc: Mr. Nichols

GCC:amb

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

52 MAY 7 1954

DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

PERS. FILES

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

OVER CAT LIT. CAP. (PERSONAL) 4  
Bureau  
pull her down to AG

gln

FBI LIT. CAP. & CONSUME OF CAP. OF BUREAU!!!

Will put down the story of an G

b6  
b7C

121-20897-116-202-129

4-2-54  
V.D.

RECEIVED  
APR 19 5 04 PM '54

FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

APR 15 9 27 AM '54  
RECEIVED-TOLSON  
F.B.I.

RECEIVED-BOARD  
OF JUSTICE  
MAR 15 10 14 AM '54

RECEIVED-NICHOLS  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAR 15 3 25 PM '54

RECEIVED CH. CLY. OFF.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAR 12 12 21 PM '54

RECEIVED-BOARD

MAR 17 6 24 PM '54

APR 19 9 00 AM '54  
b6  
b7C

RECEIVED  
NO. 1 MAN  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

RECEIVED GLAVIN  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAR 6 2 07 PM '54

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

job, [redacted] wouldn't be able to hold a job in G-2 because of his pro-Communist attitude.

b6  
b7C

The referenced memorandum, Page 6, stated that nearly 200 file references were reviewed and there was no indication that the New York Office had been advised of this letter.

After Mr. Kelly's call, a complete review was made of our files and this review definitely shows that the New York Office did not receive any information concerning the anonymous letter.

Mr. Kelly then stated that he would interview Bethuel Webster at the earliest possible moment.

At 1:20 P.M., 3/12/54, Mr. Kelly called and in the absence of the writer advised Supervisor [redacted] that he had interviewed Bethuel Webster and that Webster recalled having been contacted by Agent [redacted]. He stated that Agent [redacted] mentioned no letter to him; that [redacted] conducted himself in a perfectly proper manner; that at no time did he make any apologies for having to make the investigation. He mentioned nothing concerning an anonymous letter and, according to Kelly, Webster said he knew nothing about an anonymous letter. Webster received SAC Kelly very well and stated that the Agent conducted his interview in a brief, bright and thorough manner.

b6  
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Mr. Webster spoke highly of the Director and indicated that he liked the Agents of the Bureau very much. Mr. Webster stated that he understood very well the Bureau's position in conducting the investigation of [redacted].

Mr. Kelly advised that he was sending a detailed letter to the Bureau pertaining to this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

It would appear that either White or Webster is a liar. It is suggested that upon receipt of the letter from the New York Office, consideration be given to contacting White and advising him that we have been in touch with Mr. Webster and that Mr. Webster completely denies the story which appeared in White's column.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *per 10*

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: ~~COLUMN BY WALTER WHITE REGARDING ALLEGED FBI INVESTIGATION OF~~

DATE: April 12, 1954

*limited classification  
 Review conducted  
 See Top Serial  
 Form 4-774*

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Mohr
- Trotter
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

b6  
b7C

I talked to Walter White about his column of February 25, 1954, wherein he referred to a lawyer being indignant regarding an FBI investigation of an unselfish citizen and of an Agent apologetically stating he received an anonymous letter. You will recall that Walter subsequently informed me that his source was Bethuel Webster. We have talked to Webster and Webster did not support White's statement.

In my conversation with White today, I advised him that we had talked to Mr. Webster in line with our previous agreement; that Webster did not support White in his comments. I outlined Webster's position as set forth in SAC Kelly's letter dated March 12, 1954. White stated he was dumbfounded because Webster was quite agitated when he talked to him, and when Webster returns from Europe, he is going to tackle Webster about this. In the meantime, he appreciated being set straight and would try to correct the situation.

cc: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Rosen

LBN:arm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw

RECORDED - 9  
 INDEXED - 9

*121-211-988*  
 100-328241-14

27 APR 21 1954

b6  
b7C

PERS. FILES

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 116-27241-7

*34-577*  
 3541



4/27/54  
U.D.

L.O.D. 4/27/54

RECEIVED - NICHOLS  
F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
APR 14 11 56 PM '54  
RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

APR 13 5:40 PM '54  
RECEIVED - TOLSON  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
APR 19 1 54 PM '54

APR 19 9 04 AM '54  
RECEIVED  
NO. 1 MAN  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
APR 30 1954

RECEIVED - BOARDMAN

APR 14 12 51 PM '54

APR 19 1 36 PM '54

RECEIVED - TOLSON  
F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED - BOARDMAN

APR 16 9 09 AM '54

RECEIVED  
NO. 1 MAN  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

APR 20 4 26 PM '54

RECEIVED - BOARDMAN



Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Nichols  
 Mr. Belmont  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Parsons  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tamm  
 Mr. Trotter  
 Mr. Nease  
 Tele. Room  
 Mr. Holloman  
 Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mw

May 12, 1957.

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

Dear Sir:

*White*

In a television interview a week ago, you were quoted as saying that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was engaged in furthering the designs of the founding fathers of this country. That, at least, was the general meaning of your statement, as I understood it. May I ask what it was, precisely, that you said? Or if it was a part of some longer discussion that was published, where was the publication?

I should be very grateful for this information; like many others I regard your statements with deep respect.

Very sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

100-328241-✓

NOT RECORDED  
 76 MAY 29 1957

RECEIVED - DIVISION  
 RECEIVED - MICHIGAN  
 RECEIVED - DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
 FBI

5/21/57  
 [Handwritten initials]

MAY 15 1957

FBI RECEIVED

MAY 18 11 30 AM '57

MAY 12 2 15 PM '57

FBI RECEIVED - MAY 29 1957

RECEIVED - DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
 FBI  
 RECEIVED - DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
 MAY 12 8 21 AM '57  
 RECEIVED - DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
 MAY 23 10 30 AM '57

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

b6  
 b7c

100-328241-✓

May 21, 1957

[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/8/81 BY SP-1GSK/mw

b6  
b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of May 12, 1957, has been received during Mr. Hoover's absence from the city, and I am acknowledging it for him.

I know he will appreciate the interest which prompted you to communicate with him.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy  
Secretary

MAILED  
MAY 21 1957  
COMM-FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I  
MAY 21 3 57 PM '57

ORIGINAL COPY FILED

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. It is believed that he is referring to comments made on the Mike Wallace television program on May 5, 1957, at which time Wallace was interviewing a high official of the Ku Klux Klan. While the comments of Wallace are not identifiable in Bufiles, it is believed that he had reference to a statement furnished in Bufiles, it is believed that he had reference to a statement furnished by Walter White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in December, 1953, in regard to White's radio program. This statement, while not mentioning the NAACP by name, commented on the contribution being made by White's program against the force of bigotry, prejudice and subversion. Subsequently, it was ascertained that White had carried erroneous information concerning an FBI investigation in his newspaper column and further in March, 1954, White was alleged to have bragged of the letter from the Director in an unbecoming manner. The Director noted that in regret now I sent such a letter in view of turn White has taken; however, in view of above, it is not felt advisable to comment concerning correspondent's inquiries.

JUN 6 1957  
720  
FBI

ALL ROOM  
FBI (2)

WPN

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  *W.M.*  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  *W.M.*  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  *W.M.*  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  *W.M.*  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_   
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_   
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

See Me \_\_\_\_\_   
Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_   
For Your Recommendation   
What are the facts?   
Remarks:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/9/81 BY SP-1 GSK/mw