

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

SUBJECT: CHET HUNTLEY

FILE: 100-378033

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 21212

AGENCY Photo 62
 REQ. REC'D 7-31-55
 REP'T FORW. 8-2-55
 BY [Signature]

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-32293

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	DATE WHEN MADE 3/8/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/25, 26; 5/2; 6/14, 20; 8/8, 29; 9/23; 10/19; 11/28; 12/11/50; 1/20; 31; 2/16, 21, 23, 27, 28/51	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] b7c gmv
RECLASSIFIED BY [Redacted] ON 7-14-99 BY [Redacted]			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C
SUBJECT: CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, Wa., Chet Huntley			

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, Columbia Broadcasting System radio commentator over Los Angeles radio station KNX, alleged to be broadcasting Communist propaganda. Subject born December 10, 1911, and currently resides with his wife at 13104 Bloomfield Avenue, Van Nuys, California. Attended Montana State College and University of Washington and formerly employed as radio announcer on stations in Spokane, Seattle, and Portland. No criminal record. Confidential informants advise subject follows liberal interpretation in analyzing news for broadcasts and regularly discusses United States foreign policies. Subject visited European countries, including Czechoslovakia and Austria during fall of 1949. Supported raising of United Nations flag on Los Angeles County building on August 29, 1950. Confidential informants advise no evidence of Communist Party membership. Affiliated with Hollywood Writers Mobilization in January, 1946. Description set forth.

29619 W
 Classified
 Declassify on: OADR
 7/5/89
 AGENCY photo 106
 REQ. REC'D 4-15-55
 REP'T FORW. 4-25-55
 BY [Signature]

DETAILS:

All sources referred to by T symbol number in this report are of a known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

This investigation is predicated upon receipt of information from T-1, of unknown reliability, on April 11, 1950, alleging that the subject was engaged in broadcasting clever propaganda in support of the Communist position in world affairs. This source further alleged that there is a Communist "cell" operating

AGENCY photo 106
 REQ. REC'D 4-15-55
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 BY [Signature]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-318033-1	SE 19 RECORDED-12
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at KNX and that the subject is associated with the group.

PERSONAL HISTORY

Name:

The subject's name, according to the records of the Retail Merchants Credit Association, is CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY.

U [According to T-2,] the subject is known in the radio broadcasting field as CHET HUNTLEY.

Residence:

Information from the Los Angeles Retail Merchants Credit Association reveals that the subject currently resides at 13104 Bloomfield Avenue, Van Nuys, California. He formerly resided at 11809 Addison Way, North Hollywood in 1942 and prior to that time resided at the following addresses:

612 Roselli Street, Burbank, California
815 Croft Street, Los Angeles, California
1641 N. Alexandria, Los Angeles, California
1574 Murray Drive, Los Angeles

Prior to coming to Los Angeles the subject resided in Portland, Oregon, Seattle and Spokane, Washington, and Bozeman, Montana.

Employment:

U [According to T-2,] the subject is employed as a radio commentator by Columbia Broadcasting System, 6121 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California. He regularly broadcasts over radio station KNX, Los Angeles.

According to information received from the Retail Merchants Credit Association, the subject was employed in October, 1937, as a radio announcer by radio station KFI, 1000 So. Hope Street, Los Angeles. Prior to this employment the subject had been employed for a year as a radio announcer by radio station KGW, Portland, Oregon, and before that had been associated with radio broadcasting station KHQ in Spokane in a similar capacity. The Retail Merchants Credit Association Report further reflects that the subject was engaged in radio work in Seattle, Washington, for a brief period of time.

U [On February 28, 1951, T-11 advised that] HUNTLEY was transferring his newscast from Columbia Broadcasting System to the American Broadcasting Company in Los Angeles. HUNTLEY's broadcast over the American Broadcasting

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Company network will be heard each evening Monday through Friday at 5:30 P.M., and he will no longer be associated with Columbia Broadcasting System. This informant advised that HUNTLEY obtained a more remunerative offer for his newscasting from American Broadcasting Company than he had with Columbia Broadcasting System and so made this change. HUNTLEY will be under contract to American Broadcasting Company for an indefinite period of time.

Military Service:

None known.

Background Information:

Information received from the Retail Merchants Credit Association in Los Angeles reflects that the subject had attended Montana State College at Bozeman, Montana, and the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, prior to 1937. The subject is married and his wife, INGRID HUNTLEY, resides with him at 13104 Bloomfield Avenue, Van Nuys.

Criminal Record:

A review of the arrest records of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office and the Los Angeles Police Department failed to reflect any arrest record for the subject.

ACTIVITIES

U ~~(S)~~ On April 4, 1950, T-1, of unknown reliability, advised that he had learned that the Sealy Mattress Company sponsors a newscast over radio station KNX, Los Angeles, daily at 5:30 P.M. by CHET HUNTLEY, which broadcast he alleged contains very subtle Communist propaganda. This source alleged that there was also a Communist "cell" at KNX and that the subject was associated with it.

U (S) This informant stated that the subject's newscasts are technically correct but they put out the Communist Party line on a factual basis, and in the informant's opinion this propaganda program is made much more serious by the fact that it endeavors to indoctrinate people's minds by tying it to industry. (According to T-1, the subject recently visited Europe and made the remark before leaving that he was undertaking a trip that could possibly change his whole destination. The informant further alleged that HUNTLEY's program may possibly be written by one of the "Hollywood Ten", screen writers who have been convicted for contempt of Congress. The informant could furnish no evidence to substantiate this conclusion, nor could T-2 furnish any information substantiating the allegations relative to the Communist propaganda in the subject's broadcasts or the Communist "cell" at KNX. ~~(S) U~~

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U (S) T-3 advised on August 9, 1950, that the subject's newcast of August 7, 1950, contained a great deal of Communist Party propaganda. This source asserted that in his opinion the entire theme of the broadcast follows the position that the Communist Party has taken with regard to the United States' action in Korea. T-3 expressed the opinion that the subject's remarks followed closely the approach made to the Korean war in the featured article of this month's issue of the publication, Masses and Mainstream, a Communist supported news publication. In the opinion of this source the broadcast was definitely detrimental to the morale of the Armed Forces fighting in Korea. T-3 cited no specific details of the broadcast, but stated that the subject had pointed out the difficulty which the American soldiers are encountering in their efforts to assist the South Koreans in their war. This difficulty was attributed partially to the indifference of the South Koreans to the controversy and partially to the fact that the American government has failed to understand the position of these people.

U (S) The subject's broadcast, according to T-3, mentioned that the North Koreans have been aroused to a fanatical pitch in connection with the fight while the South Koreans do not seem to have much spirit for the war. According to T-3, the subject also raised the question concerning the advisability of our policy toward Formosa and other Far Eastern countries whom we are endeavoring to assist to combat Communism, stating that it might be well for this government to make an effort to understand what the people of those areas desire before we hand victory to the Communists who seem to know what the people want, but who subsequently lead these nations into slavery.

U (S) T-3 explained that he has occasionally listened to the subject's newcast and has formed the opinion that the subject regularly seems to follow a line critical of the United States' foreign policy, particularly in the Far East. The subject's approach to world developments and our diplomatic efforts, according to T-3, seems to follow the Communist theme.

U (S) T-2, who has been engaged in radio newscasting and who is acquainted with the subject, advised that the subject was formerly a radio announcer for the Columbia Broadcasting System. This source explained that during the war the subject commenced newscasting and subsequently became one of the top newscasters for Columbia Broadcasting System on the West Coast. This informant advised that HUNTLEY's program is aired nightly from 5:30 to 5:45 P.M., Monday through Friday, over the West Coast Network of Columbia Broadcasting System. Since becoming a news commentator, the subject has attained an influential position in the Columbia Broadcasting System organization.

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U [T-2] described the subject as taking a liberal approach to his analysis of news and newscasting. This source advised that the subject carried this approach to newscasting to such an extent that he has often been accused of being pro-Communist by some of his listeners. [T-2 explained that] the subject's approach to news analysis might be attributable to the fact that he has not traveled very extensively but has formulated a good deal of his ideas concerning world politics, government, and national affairs through extensive reading. In the fall of 1949, [according to T-2] the subject made a trip to Europe and while there visited Czechoslovakia and Austria. While in Czechoslovakia the subject was able to observe first-hand the functions of a country under Communism and also observed evidences of the Communist Party influence in Austria. Following his return to the United States, [T-2 stated that he felt that] the subject had taken a somewhat different approach in newscasting, particularly with regard to news concerning the Communist activities in occupied countries inasmuch as subject had been able to observe the practical functioning of a country under Communist influence.

U [T-2] described the subject as being quite naive politically and a person who considers himself to be an "intellectual". This source advised that he has never heard of the subject having associated with individuals suspected of Communist Party membership in Hollywood or of being associated with any groups which might have been infiltrated by the Communists.

U [T-4], a news commentator who was affiliated with the Columbia Broadcasting System for a number of years prior to September, 1950, advised that the subject's approach to newscasting is in his opinion decidedly liberal. This liberalism is possibly attributable to the fact that the subject believes in a number of social reforms which are advocated by pro-Communist groups. This source mentioned that the subject believes in the establishment of greater rights for minorities, of no infringement upon individual rights, and broader social security programs.

U [T-4 explained that] during 1947 the subject sided with the position taken by the Hollywood Ten, a group of film personalities who were indicted for contempt of Congress for failure to testify concerning their Communist Party activities before a House Un-American Activities Committee which was conducting hearings concerning Communists in Hollywood in the fall of that year. This source also mentioned the subject had received a telegram from a committee to free GERHARDT EISLER, a Communist who was under deportation to Germany and who subsequently fled from this country while at liberty on a deportation bond. [T-4 cited] these individuals as being representative of the ideals which subject follows in his newscasting.

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U.S.A. [T-4 explained that] the subject does not associate with any people in the radio industry who are suspected of being Communist Party members, nor does he have any very close associates at Columbia Broadcasting System. He explained that the subject considers himself as an "intellectual" and writes all of his own newscasts. This source did not have any information indicating that the subject had any writers assisting him in preparing his newscasts, nor did he know of any specific source which might be furnishing written material to the subject for broadcasting. He explained that the subject usually prepared his newscasts from the current topics of the day, particularly new developments in the international situation.

U.S.A. [T-4 explained that] during the past year the subject's newscasts have been sponsored by the Sealy Mattress Company and the Household Finance Corporation. With regard to the Sealy Mattress Company, it is to be noted that [T-5 has advised that] this organization is headed by SENIEL OSTROW, who has been a financial contributor in the past to the American Youth For Democracy in Los Angeles. The American Youth For Democracy has been cited to be within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

U.S.A. [According to T-4,] the commercial announcer for the Huntley Newscast is MURRY WAGNER. WAGNER has been identified as being a member of the Communist Party in 1945 [by T-6.] U

U.S.A. [T-7, who is familiar with the membership of the Communist Party in Hollywood during the ten year period prior to 1948,] could furnish no information regarding any Communist Party affiliation of the subject.

U.S.A. [T-8, who was formerly active in the radio group of the Communist Party in Hollywood, advised on December 11, 1950, that] HUNTLEY was never active in the radio group of the Communist movement which while the informant was associated with the group included practically all Communists in Hollywood then connected with the radio industry.

A news article entitled, "County Flies U.N. Flag Despite Boos", appeared in the August 29, 1950, issue of the "Los Angeles Mirror". This article stated that the subject, a radio news commentator, was greeted with hisses when he appeared in support of the United Nations flag. This situation arose when a group of individuals appeared before a session of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors who were deciding whether or not the United Nations flag should be flown over the Los Angeles County buildings on United Nations day. The news article revealed that three members of the Board of Supervisors had voted in favor of displaying this flag. However, certain opposition to this action was voiced by individuals in the audience opposed to the United Nations.

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UAC T-9 reported on May 16, 1947, that CHET HUNTLEY, a radio announcer, had been a member of the radio committee of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization as of January 10, 1946.

The Hollywood Writers Mobilization has been cited as being within the purview of Executive Order Number 9835 by the Attorney General of the United States.

DESCRIPTION

The subject is described as follows:

Name: CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY
Age: 39
Born: December 10, 1911
Height: 6' 1"
Weight: 170 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Brown
Race: White
Sex: Male
Occupation: Radio Commentator
Marital Status: Married
Residence Address: 13104 Bloomfield Avenue, Van Nuys, California

P E N D E N G

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

~~Yes~~ T-10, of unknown reliability, advised that CHET HUNTLEY, was a member of the Radio Writers Guild of Los Angeles in 1944. This source further explained that according to the 1944 Radio Annual, which is a publication of the Radio Writers Guild nationally, the subject was a member of the National Council of that organization. HUNTLEY was elected for a one year term to the Western Regional Council of the Radio Writers Guild in November, 1943, according to the issue of the "Hollywood Daily Variety" for that date.

~~Yes~~ T-5 advised on June 10, 1949, that the subject was listed as being a member of the Advisory Board of the United World Federalists of California, Inc., a non-profit corporation. The local offices of the United World Federalists for the Southern Division of California were located, ~~Yes~~ according to T-5, at 1159 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles 15, California.

According to a news article appearing in the May 11, 1948, issue of the "Los Angeles Times" entitled, "Advisers Named for U.N. Group", reflected that several Southern Californians were among the specialists who had been named to advise delegates to the United Nations Economic Social and Cultural Organization on how local communities can further world peace. Listed as assisting as a communication adviser was CHESTER HUNTLEY of Columbia Broadcasting Company.

b7c On November 2, 1949, Mr. MYRON C. FAGAN, Director of the Cinema Educational Guild, an anti-Communist organization in Hollywood, California, advised Special Agent [redacted] that he was filing a legal suit against CHET HUNTLEY, Columbia Broadcasting System news commentator, the Household Finance Company, who sponsors HUNTLEY's broadcasts, and the Christian Science Monitor for libel. The suit will be filed in United States Federal Court in Los Angeles within the next few days, according to FAGAN, and damages of \$1,000,000 will be sought. The action was prompted by a newscommentary aired by CHET HUNTLEY over Columbia Broadcasting System in Hollywood at 5:30 P.M., Friday, October 21, 1949. In this broadcast HUNTLEY is alleged to have attacked MYRON C. FAGAN for claiming that the United World Federalists and the American Association for the United Nations are in the hands of the Communists, and further claiming that the latter organization is a shield for subversive activities.

According to FAGAN, HUNTLEY attempted to "tie-in" FAGAN with GERALD L. K. SMITH, lecturer, and cited as his source of information the Christian Science Monitor. FAGAN indicated that he also intended to

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include in the suit the Anti-Defamation League of Los Angeles and the United World Federalists organization, both as being the instigators of the broadcast.

FAGAN subsequently advised this office that he has encountered difficulties with legal counsel in filing this suit, but that he intended to include the Anti-Defamation League in this suit as one of the organizations who supplied HUNTLEY with alleged libelous information.

Subsequent information received from FAGAN revealed that his suit had not been filed in accordance with his instructions and thereafter FAGAN undertook to file charges of negligence against Attorney WILLIAM C. RING, whom he had employed to prosecute the suit. In this regard it is to be noted that FAGAN also retained as legal counsel in an advisory capacity California State Senator JACK G. TENNEY, who had for a number of years headed the California Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities. To date FAGAN's suit against the subject and radio station CBS, et al, has not been scheduled for trial although the suit has been filed.

The subject's newscasts from April 14 through May 5 were monitored by the writer, and it was noted that in almost every broadcast the subject devoted a portion of his time to commenting on the international situation and the United States' foreign policy. On April 15, 1950, the subject had as his guest on his program Mr. BENJAMIN EPSTEIN, Educational Director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, who endeavored to promote the sale of the book "Measure of Freedom", which deals with a number of types of discriminations and bigotry prevalent in the United States today. During subsequent broadcasts the subject commented on the loyalty oaths being invoked by the University of California and the inquiry concerning Communism in the State Department being inaugurated by United States Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY.

In his May 2, 1950, broadcast HUNTLEY commented on the testimony given before the State Department in connection with the charges of Communism in the State Department by OWEN LATTIMORE and outlined the history of the Institute of Pacific Relations. On this broadcast the subject interviewed MICHAEL STRAIGHT, editor of the "New Republic", a national news magazine, who explained that the position the United States took was for the purpose of endeavoring to build the American Veterans Committee since the Communists have been purged from the organization.

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While the subject in these broadcasts took a liberal interpretation of international events and appears to be exceedingly conscious of any infringement on the liberties of the individual, he, nevertheless, opposed the inequities of Communism as projected by Soviet Russia.

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LEAD PAGE

THE BUTTE OFFICE

At Butte, Montana

Will review the registration records maintained by the Registrar of Montana State College to verify attendance of subject at that institution and from records furnish all background information available concerning the subject's date and place of birth to this office.

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE

At Los Angeles, California

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Will maintain contact with Mr. [REDACTED] of the American Broadcasting System, Sunset and Vine Streets, Hollywood, to obtain information concerning the place of the subject's birth.

Will report any subsequent information concerning the subject's newscasts which might be pertinent to this investigation.

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I N F O R M A N T P A G E

- T-1 Mr. [REDACTED], Attorney at Law, [REDACTED], Los Angeles, who made this information available to SAC R. B. HOOD on April 11, 1950.
- T-2 [REDACTED], Hollywood, who made this information available to SA [REDACTED] on October 19, 1950, and January 20, 1951.
- T-3 California State Senator JACK B. TENNEY, Suite 1118, Transamerica Building, 649 S. Olive Street, Los Angeles, who made this information available to SA [REDACTED] on August 9, 1950.
- T-4 [REDACTED] news commentator, NBC, Sunset and Vine, Hollywood, California, who made this information available to SA [REDACTED] on February 23, 1951.
- T-5 [REDACTED] } b2/7D
- T-6 [REDACTED] }
- T-7 [REDACTED], who made this information available to SA [REDACTED] on December 11, 1950. : b7c
- T-8 [REDACTED], who made this information available to SA [REDACTED] on December 11, 1950. b7c
- T-9 JACK PEASE, deceased, former security officer at University of California at Los Angeles, who had legal custody of the records of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization and who made same available to SA [REDACTED] on May 16, 1947. b7c
- T-10 [REDACTED], Executive at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Culver City, California, who furnished this information to SA [REDACTED] in November, 1944. b7c
- T-11 Mr. [REDACTED] of the American Broadcasting Company, Sunset and Vine, Hollywood, California. This individual has requested that his identity be kept confidential. b7c/7D

b7c
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AGENCY Photo-CIA
 REC. REC'D 7-21-55
 REP'T FORM. 7-2-55
 BY W.A. - ldy

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEE REVER. SIDE FOR

Form No. 1
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Los Angeles

ADD. DISSEMINATION. BT FILE NO. 100-6287

REPORT MADE AT BUTTE, MONTANA	DATE WHEN MADE MAY 7 1955	Periods 4/13, 21/51	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	GAM
TITLE CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, wa., Chet Huntley		CHARACTER OF CASE (H)(7)(C) SECURITY MATTER - C		
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:		<p>HUNTLEY born Cardwell, Mont. 12/11/11. Attended Montana State College 9/29 to 6/32. Described as New Deal Democrat and Liberal. Married to INGRID PCLIN, Seattle, Wn. 2/23/36. Mother still resides Bozeman, Mont. Has one sister Wilmington, Delaware, and Miles City, Mont. No arrest record Bozeman, Mont.</p> <p>AGENCY <u>Photo State</u> REC. REC'D <u>4-13-55</u> REP'T FORM. <u>4-5-55</u> BY <u>[Signature]</u></p>		
<p>AGENCY <u>100-acc</u> REC. REC'D <u>3-25-53</u> REP'T FORM. <u>4-15-53</u> BY <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>DETAILS:</p>		<p>AT BOZEMAN, MONTANA</p> <p>AGENCY <u>100-acc</u> REC. REC'D <u>3/22/55</u> REP'T FORM. <u>4/6/55</u> BY <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>7/13/83</u> BY <u>[Signature]</u></p>		
<p>[REDACTED], Montana State College, advised from the records that subject was born in Cardwell, Montana, on December 11, 1911. He entered MSC on September 25, 1929, and finished the school year ending in June, 1932. He did not graduate. The Registrar's files reflect that subject was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and the Methodist Church. He graduated from Whitehall, Montana, High School, and his father was listed as P. A. HUNTLEY of Whitehall, Montana. The file further reflected that subject had requested a transcript be sent to the University of Washington at Seattle, Washington, on January 3, 1934.</p>				
<p>[REDACTED] Montana State College, a consistent and reliable contact of the Butte Office, has known HUNTLEY since his college days and has listened to his news commentaries for the past number of years. She described HUNTLEY as a New Deal Democrat and a liberal thinker. She added that by the word liberal she meant that HUNTLEY in his commentaries apparently tried to present both sides of the story.</p>				
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <u>[Signature]</u> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
<p>COPY IN FILE COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5 - Bureau 3 - Los Angeles (100-32293) 2 - Butte</p>	<p>571-33-2</p> <p>MAY 11 1955</p> <p>SEARCHED</p>		<p>RECORDED - 26</p> <p>INDEXED - 26</p>	
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[REDACTED] added that HUNTLEY's father, now deceased, was formerly railroad agent for the Northern Pacific at Whitehall, Montana, and that she had known the HUNTLEY family for many years. She stated that at the present subject's mother resides at 612 South Grand in Bozeman, Montana, and that he has two sisters. One is Mrs. JAMES CUMMINGS, [REDACTED] Wilmington, Delaware; the other is Mrs. DEAN E. TURNER, Box 292, Miles City, Montana.

(b)(7)(C)

The files of the credit bureau of Gallatin County as searched by [REDACTED] reflected a satisfactory credit rating. In addition those files reflected that subject married Miss IRENE POLIN in Seattle, Washington, on February 23, 1936.

The files of the Bozeman Police Department reflect no arrest record for this subject.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

BT 100-6287

REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED] Los Angeles, 3/8/51.

(b)(7)(c)

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SEE REV. SIDE FOR
ADD. DISSEMINATION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-32293

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 6/4/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/15; 4/19; 5/31/51	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
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TITLE CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, wa. Chet Huntley	CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C
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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Reliable confidential source of information alleges subject released by Columbia Broadcasting System because of complaints received by network concerning his liberal approach to news. Subject currently making news broadcasts nightly on American Broadcasting Company, Western Network. Subject described as being an outspoken freethinker concerning his political views by reliable confidential source.

AGENCY Photo Sec
REQ. REC'D 2-4-55
REP'T FORW. 2-16-55
BY [REDACTED]

AGENCY Photo Sec
REQ. REC'D 7-21-55
REP'T FORW. 8-2-55
BY [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/5/83 BY SP-1051/RS

AGENCY Photo Sec
REQ. REC'D 11-13-55
REP'T FORW. 11-13-55
BY [REDACTED]

DETAILS:

AGENCY Photo Sec
REQ. REC'D 7-23-55
REP'T FORW. 4/6/55
BY [REDACTED]

AGENCY Photo Sec
REQ. REC'D 4-15-55
REP'T FORW. 4-25-55
BY [REDACTED]

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

All sources referred to by a "T" symbol number in this report are of known reliability, unless otherwise indicated.

BA: VM2 T-1, an executive of one of the major national radio networks, advised that allegations had recently been made that the subject had been released from the Columbia Broadcasting System because his contract with that network expired, because the network had received too many complaints concerning the liberal approach adopted by the subject, in his radio newscasts. T-1 explained that the subject had approached the American Broadcasting Company in the spring of 1951 to determine whether or not that

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network would be interested in having his newscast broadcasted over it. The subject indicated at the time that, according to T-1, the arrangements for his future newscasts over the Columbia Broadcasting System were unsatisfactory to him, and that he therefore desired to make a change. T-1 explained that the subject had advised the American Broadcasting System that he would be able to bring a sponsor to the network for his newscast, should a satisfactory arrangement be established for his broadcasts.

T-1 advised that in March of 1951 the American Broadcasting Company agreed to accept the subject as a news commentator on its Western Network. The subject's newscasts are heard nightly from 5:30 to 5:45 P.M. over the American Broadcasting Company, Western Network, which includes radio station associates in eleven western states. The subject's broadcasts are sponsored twice a week for a period of fifty-two weeks by the SEALEY MATTRESS COMPANY, who had previously sponsored his radio newscast over the Columbia Broadcasting System network.

T-1 advised that the subject had expressed himself recently, during a conversation concerning current events, as being very favorable to the approach General MAC ARTHUR had taken to the world Communist situation. T-1 stated that the subject further deplored the action taken by the United States Government in dismissing MAC ARTHUR from his command, because the subject felt that MAC ARTHUR was a strong force against the activities of Communists and Russia in the Far East.

T-1 stated that his conversations with the subject have failed to indicate that the subject entertains any sympathies for Communists, nor does he feel that the subject would knowingly adopt a pro-Communist slant to his newscasts. This source explained that the subject's newscast material is written for him by a writer whose identity is not known to T-1, and that this writer is in the employ of the subject. T-1 could furnish no information concerning the subject's background.

T-2 advised that the subject, who had been a news commentator on the Columbia Broadcasting System network for the past twelve years, transferred his newscast to the American Broadcasting Company network in March, 1951. This source

LA 100-32293

described the subject as being a freethinker and a person who is outspoken concerning his political beliefs and ideals. T-2 explained that the subject's newscasts, which have been criticized by a number of people as being an extremely liberal interpretation of the news, for the most part reflect the subject's political ideas. T-2 stated that he has been acquainted with the subject for a number of years and has never had any reason to suspect the latter of being a Communist, although he knows that the subject entertains a number of liberal ideals with regard to his approach to political science and world affairs.

T-2 stated that the subject is married and resides with his wife, INGRID HUNTLEY, in Van Nuys, California. This source stated that the subject has few close friends and generally does not engage in extensive social activity. T-2 knew of no organizations with which the subject has been previously associated.

- C L O S E D -

LA 100-32293

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Inasmuch as this investigation has failed to reveal any Communist Party membership or activity on the part of the subject, no Security Index Card is being requested.

INFORMANTS

(b)(7)(D)

T-1

[REDACTED] American
Broadcasting Co. This individual has requested that his
identity be kept confidential.

T-2

[REDACTED]
This individual has requested that his
identity be kept confidential.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA [REDACTED], at Los Angeles, (b)(7)(c)
dated March 8, 1951.
Report of SA [REDACTED], at Butte, Montana,
dated May 7, 1951.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Laughlin	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: CHET HUNTLEY
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: March 12, 1952

cll

The following is submitted for the Bureau's general information:

In connection with an applicant case concerning CHARLES CUMMINGS COLLINGWOOD, former War Correspondent and Commentator for the Columbia Broadcasting System (Los Angeles file 124-1193), CHET HUNTLEY, Television and Radio News Commentator, American Broadcasting Company, 1441 North McCadden Place, Hollywood, California, was interviewed February 21, 1952. It was determined that HUNTLEY's relationship with COLLINGWOOD was of a professional and semi-social nature, their acquaintanceship dating from 1943.

During the course of the above interview HUNTLEY advised that he was under the impression that the FBI during World War II years had expanded too rapidly resulting in a lowering of the standards for FBI Agents, further resulting in a "lower caliber Agent" today. HUNTLEY said he was unable to furnish any specific basis for this impression, but implied that it was because the Bureau had been drawing new Agents from fields other than Law and Accounting. Interviewing Agent assured HUNTLEY emphatically and in no uncertain terms that such was not the case and explained to him briefly the requirements of the Bureau relating to selection of Bureau Agents at the present and the fact that the Bureau standard for Agents had not decreased in any manner even though the Bureau may be drawing personnel from additional fields of endeavor other than those of Law and Accounting.

The interviewing Agent got the impression during the interview with HUNTLEY, that HUNTLEY was "fishing" for some remark dropped by Agent, which the latter might possibly use on some future broadcast, and Agent was very careful to conduct the interview in a most circumspect manner and HUNTLEY was most cooperative throughout the interview.

100-32293
LFW:BEW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RBG

RECORDED - 135
INDEXED - 135

57 APR 2 1952

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3-11-52
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AM

4
APR

Handwritten initials Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD
FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT
SUBJECT: CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, wa.
CHET HUNTLEY
SECURITY MATTER - C
Bufile 100-378033

DATE: March 21, 1952

Handwritten initials
Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

PURPOSE: *Chester Robert Huntley Summary*

To advise that the subject, a Television and Radio News Commentator for the American Broadcasting Company in Los Angeles, California, recently advised a Bureau Agent that he was under the impression the FBI during World War II years had expanded too rapidly and that the expansion had resulted in a "lower caliber Agent" today.

BACKGROUND:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-1 GSK/RSB

Huntley was born December 11, 1911, at Cardwell, Montana. He has been active as a prominent west coast radio commentator since about 1935.

A security-type investigation was instituted on Huntley in the Spring of 1951. The investigation was predicated upon receipt of information alleging that the subject was engaged in clever propaganda broadcasting in support of the Communist position in world affairs.

A thorough investigation of Huntley failed to develop any information of Communist Party membership or affiliation with Communist Party front groups. The investigation did develop that as a result of allegations received by the Columbia Broadcasting System concerning the liberal approach adopted by Huntley in his radio broadcasts, his contract had not been renewed with them when it expired in the Spring of 1951. In March of 1951, Huntley was accepted as a news commentator by the American Broadcasting Company and broadcasts twice weekly over their Western Network.

According to [redacted] at Columbia Broadcasting System, Hollywood, California, Huntley is a free thinker and a person who is outspoken concerning his political beliefs and ideals.

(b)(7)(c):a

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EX-23
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(b)(7)(C):(D)

 stated, however, that he had been acquainted with Huntley for a number of years and has never had any reasons to suspect him of being a Communist although he knows that Huntley entertains a number of liberal ideas with regard to his approach to political science and world affairs. We monitored the subject's newscasts from April 14, 1951, through May 5, 1951. While Huntley in these broadcasts took a liberal interpretation of international events and appeared to be exceedingly conscious of any infringement on the liberties of the individual, he nevertheless opposed the inequities of Communism as projected by Soviet Russia.

DETAILS:

On February 21, 1952, Huntley was interviewed in connection with an applicant case concerning Charles Cummings Collingwood, former War Correspondent and Commentator for the Columbia Broadcasting System.

During the course of this interview Huntley advised that he was under the impression that the FBI during World War II years had expanded too rapidly. The expansion resulted in a lowering of the standards for FBI Agents leading to a "lower caliber Agent" today. Huntley was unable to furnish any specific basis for this impression and implied that it was because the Bureau had been drawing new Agents from fields other than law and accounting. The interviewing Agent got the impression that Huntley was "fishing" for some remark dropped by the Agent which he might possibly utilize on some future broadcast.

The Agent was very careful to conduct the interview in a most circumspect manner and emphatically assured Huntley that his allegation was not factual. The interviewing Agent explained to him the requirements of the Bureau relating to the selection of Bureau Agents and emphasized that the Bureau standard for the selection of Agent personnel had not been lowered.

ACTION:

None. Submitted for your information.

V J

copy: sdc

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM LOS ANGELES [12-9-53] NR 092210

7:07 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC, SAN FRANCISCO DEFERRED

ATTACKS ON THE FBI, IS-C. DAYLET. [REDACTED] 6217D
 HOLLYWOOD CITIZENS NEWS, HAS FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING IN-
 FORMATION CONCERNING A PROGRAM HELD AS ONE OF A LECTURE
 SERIES AT BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL ON DECEMBER 1 LAST, [REDACTED] 6217D
 ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 1700 PERSONS. SPEAKERS WERE
 DOCTOR ROBERT M. HUTCHINS, DIRECTOR OF FORD FOUNDATION
 AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, AND
 CHEF HUNTLEY, LOCAL RADIO COMMENTATOR. MR. [REDACTED] DE-
 SCRIBED THE PRESENTATION AS A COLLOQUY WHICH RESEMBLED A
 REFINED ABBOTT AND CONTELLO ACT. AMONG HUTCHINS' OBSER-
 VATIONS WAS THE FOLLOWING QUOTE WE ARE CURSED TODAY BY A
 TREMENDOUS GLORIFICATION OF THE FBI. THE ONLY PEOPLE WE
 WILL BELIEVE ARE CONFESSED SPIES AND TRAITORS. THE ATTORNEY
 GENERAL NOW PROPOSES TO EVADE THE FIFTH AMENDMENT AND TO
 PERMIT THE USE OF EVIDENCE OBTAINED ILLEGALLY BY WIRE TAPPING
 UNQUOTE. HUTCHINS RECALLED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWNELL
 WAS A STUDENT AT YALE LAW SCHOOL WHILE HE WAS DEAN OF THAT
 INSTITUTION, STATING QUOTE I ONLY HOPE THAT BROWNELL WAS NOT
 A STUDENT IN ONE OF MY CLASSES UNQUOTE. BOTH HUTCHINS AND
 HUNTLEY VIEWED WITH ALARM THE ACTIVITIES OF SENATOR MC CARTHY
 AS A THREAT TO THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE. HUNTLEY DESCRIBED
 THE ISSUE OF COMMUNISM AS THE QUOTE GRANDEST HOBBY HORSE FOR
 POLITICANS EVER INVENTED UNQUOTE. HOWEVER, HUNTLEY ADVOCATED
 OUTLAWING THE COMMUNIST PARTY. HUTCHINS SAID HE WOULD TAKE
 THE OPPOSITE COURSE AND REMOVE ALL LIMITATIONS UPON COMMUNISTS.
 HUTCHINS CONTINUED QUOTE I WOULD CATCH AND PUNISH CRIMINALS,
 NOT CONDEMN A MAN BECAUSE HE BELONGED TO AN ORGANIZATION. THE
 COMMUNIST PARTY MAYBE IN THE HANDS OF THE KREMLIN BUT IT DOES
 NOT FOLLOW THAT EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS A PART OF A
 CONSPIRACY. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT SPYING ACCELERATED BY THIRTY
 DAYS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ATOMIC BOMB IN RUSSIA. ALL
 THE THEORETICAL MATERIAL ON THE RELEASE OF ATOMIC ENERGY WAS
 PUBLISHED IN THE ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA IN 1936 UNQUOTE.
 HUTCHINS REMARKS WERE PUBLICIZED IN THE DAILY PEOPLES WORLD
 THIS DATE IN AN ARTICLE ON PAGE 7 IN WHICH HUTCHINS REFER-
 ENCES TO THE FBI AND SENATOR MC CARTHY ARE SET OUT.

100-366306-4

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-366306-4

RECEIVED: [12-9-53] [7:26 PM] SAN FRANCISCO ADVISED VIA RAIDO

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 291028/MS
9-14-99

Send memo to A. G. & Rogers. H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Classified by SP-5 RIG/VP
Declassify on: OADR 11/18/83

NOT RECORDED
148 DEC 23 1953

Classified by [REDACTED]
Declassify on: OADR [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

December 11, 1953

Director, FBI

100-378033-4

ROBERT M. HUTCHINS;
CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, ALSO KNOWN AS
CHET HUNTLEY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-5 RIG/vp
ON 1/10/83

The following information has been furnished to this Bureau by a source of known reliability concerning a program held as one of a lecture series at Beverly Hills High School, Los Angeles, California, on December 1, 1953. This program was attended by approximately 1,700 individuals and the speakers were Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, Director of Ford Foundation and former President of the University of Chicago, and Chet Huntley, local Los Angeles radio commentator. Their presentation reportedly resembled a refined Abbott and Costello act. Among Hutchins' observations was the following: "We are cursed today by a tremendous glorification of the FBI. The only people we will believe are confessed spies and traitors. The Attorney General now proposes to evade the Fifth Amendment and to permit the use of evidence obtained illegally by wire tapping."

Hutchins commented further that Attorney General Brownell was a student at Yale Law School while he, Hutchins, was Dean of that institution. He stated: "I only hope that Brownell was not a student in one of my classes." Both Hutchins and Huntley were reported to have viewed with alarm the activities of Senator McCarthy as a threat to the American way of life.

Huntley reportedly described the issue of Communism as "the grandest hobbyhorse for politicians ever invented." He advocated outlawing the Communist Party; however, Hutchins stated that he would take the opposite course and remove all limitations upon Communists. Hutchins remarked: "I would catch and punish criminals, not concern a man because he belonged to an organization. The Communist Party may be in the hands of the Kremlin but it does not follow that everyone in the Communist Party is a part of a conspiracy. I don't believe that spying accelerated by thirty days the development of the atomic bomb in Russia. All the theoretical material on the release of atomic energy was published in the 'Encyclopedia Britannica' in 1936."

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

63 JAN 4 1954 SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

100-378033-4

Hutchins' remarks were publicized in the "Daily People's World," a west coast Communist newspaper, on December 9, 1953, in which his statements concerning the FBI and Senator McCarthy are set out.

In January 1939 Robert M. Hutchins, President of the University of Chicago, reportedly made a coast-to-coast radio broadcast under the auspices of the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom. This talk was made in connection with a "Manifesto of Educators," sponsored by the American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom and signed by 2,535 educators and publicists. In March 1941 the name Robert M. Hutchins was included in a list of individuals and organizations in the indices of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

The American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom was cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as a Communist front organization.

The National Federation for Constitutional Liberties has been designated by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

In testimony before the State of Illinois Seditious Activities Investigation Commission in April 1949 Hutchins stated that he was not satisfied that the National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions was a Communist front organization even though it had been cited as such by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

A security-type investigation of Huntley was conducted by this Bureau in 1951 and copies of the following reports are attached hereto:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated March 8, 1951, at Los Angeles, California.

(b)(7)(c)

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 7, 1951, at Butte, Montana.

(b)(7)(c)

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated June 4, 1951, at Los Angeles, California.

(b)(7)(c)

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The above is being furnished for your information.

Copies of this memorandum, together with enclosures, are being furnished to Mr. William P. Rogers, Deputy Attorney General.

Enclosure

cc 2 - Mr. William P. Rogers (Enclosure)
Deputy Attorney General

- 3 -

REC'D DEPT. OF JUSTICE
E. B. I.

R. L. W.

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REC'D DEPT. OF JUSTICE

G.I.R. 1

~~From~~
GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY
Kim-Feng Park
Otis, Massachusetts
Telephone: Otis 26
Teletypewriter: Otis (Mass.) 87

2/11
July
1954

5-1

Dear Lou:

Do you know
anything about Kennedy?
Is this an informative
letter or just screwball.

no del
W *SM*

Clifford P. Huntley
Cliff Huntley

C

3
ENCLOSURE
P

RECORDED - 75 / 100 - 378033 - 6
INDEXED - 75
EX-103
OCT 13 1954

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/15/83 BY SP-1950/RBG

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58 OCT 19 1954

9-16-'54

Dear Mr. Sekelsky,

21215

I wonder if you happened to hear the program "Pilgrimage into Books" on last Sunday A.M: over A.B.C. It is a weekly program with Gerald Kennedy. This last week he interviewed Chet Huntley and together they pointed out what a wonderful book Elmer has just written. They hate Mc Carthy, of course and his "methods". They defended Dean Acheson and others who have been accused of not working for the best interests of this country to put it mildly. Defended Ed Murrow and all the other left wingers.

Gerald Kennedy made the statement among other things that the Communists had superior intellect. to the rest of us.

If Mc Carthy could have investigated Chet Huntley instead of the F.B.I. he might have uncovered facts to have prevented him from being cleared of Communist activities. If they lie as Hiss did it takes time to bring out the facts. I do not have too confidence in the F.B.I. Mc Carthy is just too smart for the left wingers.

Could'nt you do something about Gerald Kennedy. He is a Methodist Bishop and I don't think he has any business being one. This gives him financial security and a prestige which he could not otherwise have.

The Red Dean of Canterbury is a communist and yet he claims to be a Christian. Says Jesus was a Communist. Article appeared in Post of April 22, 1950.

I have heard G. Kennedy say from the pulpit that Eleanor Roosevelt was-- is one of the greatest women who ever lived. I have heard for a long time that he was Red but after hearing this program of which I speak I feel sure of his extreme left wing opinions. I think something should be done to remove him as a Methodist Bishop.

be done

I look forward to hearing you every Sunday and thrill when you fearlessly stand up for the right thing for our country.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

L.A. 09, 1954.

ny

(b) (6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/5/83 BY SP-1 GSK/RBS

ENCLOSURE #3

100-378033-6

21214

CHESTER ROBERT HUNTLEY, wa.
Chet Huntley
Born 12/11/11, Cardwell, Montana
Prominent Commentator since 1935

We investigated him in the Spring of 1951 after receipt of information alleging he was engaged in propaganda broadcasting in support of the Communist position in world affairs. Investigation failed to develop information indicating Communist Party membership or affiliation with front groups. The investigation did develop that as a result of allegations received by CBS concerning liberal approach of Huntley in radio broadcasts, his contract had not been renewed with CBS upon expiring in Spring of 1951. In March, 1951, Huntley accepted as news commentator by ABC. Sources indicated during investigation that Huntley was a free thinker and an outspoken person regarding political beliefs. Other sources indicated that Huntley may have taken a liberal interpretation of international events. He nevertheless opposed inequities of Communism as projected by USSR. We interviewed Huntley 2/21/52 in connection with an applicant case. During interview, he advised agent he was under impression that FBI, during World War II, had expanded too rapidly; that the expansion resulted in a lowering of the standards for FBI agents leading to a "lower caliber agent" today. He was unable to furnish any specific basis for this impression.

We advised Attorney General, 12/11/53, that Huntley and Doctor Robert M. Hutchins, Director of Ford Foundation and former President of University of Chicago, lectured at the Beverly Hills High School, Los Angeles, California, 12/1/53. Their presentation reportedly resembled a refined Abbott and Costello act. Hutchins was quoted as saying "We are cursed today by a tremendous glorification of the FBI". He hit wire tapping legislation. Huntley described the issue of Communism as "The greatest hobbyhorse for politicians ever invented". He advocated outlawing of the Communist Party, however.

Bufile 100-368336

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP16SC/RGG

100-378033-6

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 39677 SAH/E
ON 9-14-99 #98-2690

Re: George Sokolsky's inquiry concerning
Bishop Gerald Kennedy, Methodist Church (b)(6)

There is no record on [redacted],
Los Angeles, the writer of the letter to Mr. Sokolsky.

Bishop Kennedy was listed as one of nine "notables" who
issued a pamphlet; "Militarism in Education" in 1950. The pamphlet
was sponsored by the National Council against Conscription, Washington,
D.C. (A pacifist group which condemned conscription). (62-82828-29)

The Daily Worker on 2/27/50 indicated that twenty-six "prominent
Americans" had asserted that militarism had invaded American Schools
to an alarming degree. Bishop Kennedy was listed as one of the twenty-
six. (62-82828-A)

In a speech on 2/5/50, Bishop Kennedy indicated that he was
opposed to the "kind of hysteria and fear that is sweeping the
country under the guise of saving the nation from communism".
(61-3615-45)

A Confidential Informant, Portland, Oregon, Division, reported
on 3/6/50 that Communist Party officials, Portland, had mentioned the
possibility of contacting Bishop Kennedy. (61-3615-45) (S) U

In a speech, 11/26/50, Bishop Kennedy decried the anti-communist
hysteria and stated that the only threat from communism comes when a
nation denies its freedom and becomes like the communists.
(61-3615-45)

The Nat'l Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act issued a press
release 1/7/52 announced that several "notables" had sent an open
letter to President Truman urging the repeal of the McCarran Act.
Bishop Kennedy was one of the signers of the open letter. (100-3-70-1330)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

The Circuit Riders, Inc., (M.G. Lowman's outfit) published a
pamphlet in 4/52 entitled; "Information concerning the Methodist
Federation for Social Action." Bishop Kennedy was named as a member
of the Nat'l Committee of this organization. (61-3615-93)

A N.Y. report (FBI) dated 4/15/52 reflected that security
informants had advised that office that Bishop Kennedy was a member
of the Nat'l Committee to repeal the McCarran Act. (100-376056-8)

The Daily Worker, 5/6/52, listed names of seventy-five
"notables" who had sent an open letter to congressional candidates
asking them to take a stand on the McCarran Act, which "in thier
opinion had created an intolerable situation. Bishop Kennedy was
one of the signers of this open letter. (100-372-598)

Classified by SP-1 GSK/RBG
Declassify on: OADR 7/19/83

#1 D
100-378933-6
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: February 9, 1959

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: CHET HUNTLEY'S TELEVISION PROGRAM
FEBRUARY 8, 1959

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

As a result of the controversy created by Huntley's program, "The Second Agony of Atlanta," presented on Sunday, February 1, 1959, his program yesterday consisted of prepared statements by Mr. Thomas R. Waring, Editor, The News and Courier, Charleston, South Carolina, and Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Waring read his statement first and made a reference to the fact that the communist sympathies of some of the leaders of the NAACP are well known to investigative Congressional committees.

In rebuttal, Wilkins held a copy of the Director's book, "Masters of Deceit," and referred to the Director as the foremost authority in the United States on communism. He commented further by pointing out that on page 246 of this book the Director made several comments concerning the NAACP leaders and its vigorous attempt to prevent communist infiltration of their organization. This was the extent of the reference to the Director on this program.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RBG

1 - Mr. Belmont

TWD:cag
(3)

REC-20

100-378033-

23 JUN 26 1959

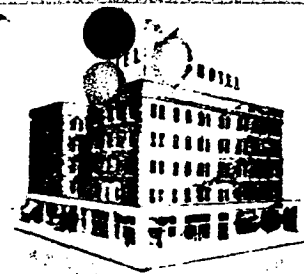
CRIMINAL DIV.

30 JUL 1 1959

*They use FBI's
image when it
serves their ends
and never come
around FBI for
help in
rights of civil
rights.*

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

THE *Navarro*



STEELE ALEXANDER, MANAGER

CORSICANA

COMPLETELY MODERN WITH MOTOR LOBBY • FREE PARKING
AIR CONDITIONED GUEST ROOMS AND COFFEE SHOP

efp

[Redacted] February 8th 1961

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

Dear Mr Hoover:-

I have enjoyed the news broadcasts of Chet Huntley and David Brinkley every since they have been broadcasting the news. To my astonishment I was told today that Chet Huntley was a member of the Communist party. If this is not a secret I would appreciate very much if you would advise me if this accusation is true, if so I am through listening to the Huntley-Brinkley news broadcast.

Thanking you for this information, and with every good wish. I am

yours very truly,

[Redacted signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/R66

X 100

EXP. PROC. FEB 12 35

L

*ack sent (Enc. 6)
2-14-61
PFF/llw*

REC- 62 100-378033-8

FEB 13 1961

[Redacted stamp]

Corsicana's 'Finest ~ One of Texas' Best

(b)(7)(C)

1 - Mr. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

February 16, 1961

REC-62 100-378033-8

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated February 8, 1961, and your kind comments are appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI, strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

I am enclosing some literature, however, concerning the menace of communism, available for general distribution by the FBI, which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/5/83 BY SP16SK/RAC

MAILED 20
FEB 16 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures - 6

JFF:blw
(2) il

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE TWO

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

57 FEB 23 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FEB 16 4 28 PM '61
READING ROOM

FEB 16 4 28 PM '61
READING ROOM

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials and numbers]

[REDACTED]

NOTE ON YELLOW:

(b)(7)(c)

Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent. Correspondent advised he has listened to the news broadcast of Chet Huntley and David Brinkley. Correspondent advised he was told Huntley was a member of the Communist Party (CP). He desires to know whether this is true.

[REDACTED]

Chet Huntley, a well-known television commentator, was the subject of a security investigation in 1951 which failed to develop any indication of CP membership or affiliation with a front organization. (100-378033)

The following items of literature were furnished to the correspondent:

1. "One Nation's Response to Communism"
2. "What You Can Do To Fight Communism and Preserve America"
3. "Where Do We Stand Today With Communism in the United States?"
4. "God and Country or Communism?"
5. "Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality"
6. "Breaking the Communist Spell"

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

*st
esa*

TO : The Director

DATE: 2-27-61

FROM : N. P. Callahan

R5-

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

Pages 2485-2488. Senator Proxmire, (D) Wisconsin, spoke concerning the National Broadcasting Company's "White Paper" television series. Mr. Proxmire pointed out that the title of the series is taken from the traditional white papers of the British Government, "which for generations have been the printed form of painstakingly accurate reports on controversial situations." Mr. Proxmire requested to have printed in the Record the text of the broadcast entitled "NBC White Paper No. 3—'Panama: Danger Zone.'" This program was narrated by Chet Huntley, news commentator. Mr. Huntley in commenting on the situation in Panama stated "The State Department sent a new Ambassador—ex-FBI man, and former envoy to the Dominican Republic, Joseph Farland." Mr. Farland was employed with the Bureau as an Agent from October 5, 1942, to July 19, 1944. His services were satisfactory.

Original filed in: 66-1731-1905

100-378033
NOT RECORDED
178 MAR 9 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY JP-IGSK/RBG

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for 2-24-61 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

6-13-1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Honorable Sirs:

There is a great deal of concern about Chet Huntley as to wheather he is Pro Communist of Anti Communists.

Some tell me that the FBI has given him a Clearence as not Being Pro Communist?

Will you please verify this?

Very truly,

[Redacted Signature]

mf

EX-109
JUN 19 1961

-C-66

100-378033-9

EX-109

17 JUN 26 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE _____ BY _____

*Info (2000)
6/23/61
RDS: [unclear]*

[Handwritten signatures]

1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

June 23, 1961

REC-68
EX-103

165
100-378033-9

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

JUN 23 5 50 PM '61
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I have received your letter dated June 13, 1961, and your interest in writing to me is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations, clearances, or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization, or publication. I am precluded, therefore, from commenting on the individual you mentioned. However, you should not infer that our files do or do not contain information concerning him.

I am enclosing two items of literature which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 9
JUN 24 1961
COMM-FBI

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RBG

Enclosures - 2

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

NOTE ON YELLOW

Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning the correspondent.

RDS:dew
(3)

NOTE CONTINUED PAGE TWO

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

65 JUN 29 1961

3 40 44 PM

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "W.C.", "J.H.", and "R.D.".

(b)(7)(c)

NOTE ON YELLOW. CONTINUED:

Chet Huntley, a well-known television commentator, was the subject of a security investigation in 1951, which failed to develop any indication of Communist Party membership or affiliation with a front organization. (100-378033)

The following items of literature were sent to the correspondent:

1. The Director's statement on Internal Security April 17, 1961
2. "What You Can Do to Fight Communism and Preserve America"

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]
Oct. 2, 1961

Mr. J. E. Hoover,
Wash. D.C.

(H)(7)(c)

Dear Sir:

○ Could you give me any information as to whether Chet Huntley and David Brinkley has ever or is connected with the Communist Party?

There has been much controversy in our church.

Thank you very much,

/s/

[REDACTED]
Oberlin
Kans.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RBG

EX-112

REC-13 100-378033-10

OCT 10 1961

XEROX

OCT 11 1961

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 94-33499-14

mk 10-6-61
8A/214
I.T.C. 214
10-5-61

f

[Handwritten signature]

[Redacted]

Oct. 2. 1961

Mr. J. E. Hoover,
Wash. D.C.

Dear Sir:

Could you give me any information as to whether Chet Huntley and David Brinkley has ever or is connected with the Communist Party?

(b)(7)(c)

There has been much controversy in our church.

Thank you very much,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

CORRESPONDENCE
Charles
Kens.

none
ack
10-6-61
JH/ack
1 T.C. with
10-5-61

ST
REC-13/00-378033-12

October 9, 1961

EX-112

[Redacted]

Oberlin, Kansas

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated October 2, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature about communism you may care to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
OCT 9 - 1961
COMM-FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/10/83 BY SP-16SK/RBG

Enclosures (5)

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

- The Deadly Contest
- What You Can Do To Fight Communism
- Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
- The Communist Party Line
- One Nation's Response to Communism

(See NOTE next page)

JH:cal (3) cal
62 OCT 13 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

(b)(7)(C)

RECD-READING ROOM
FBI
OCT 9 12 39 PM '61

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 94-33499-14

OCT 11 1961

OCT 10 10 27 AM '61
RECEIVED DIRECTOR

[Handwritten signature]

[REDACTED] 10-9-61

(H)(7)(C)

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chet Huntley, well known television commentator, was the subject of a security investigation during 1951 which failed to develop any evidence of CP membership or affiliated with a front organization. (100-378033)

October 13, 1961

REC'D - READING ROOM
F B I

REC-13
EX-116

Honorable Walt Horan
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

Your letter of October 10, with enclosures, addressed to Inspector [redacted], has been brought to my attention.

In response to the inquiry from your constituent, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am precluded, therefore, from commenting on the individuals mentioned, and I hope it will not be inferred either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding them. I regret my inability to be of assistance in this matter, but I hope you will feel free to call on me if I can be of service in some other way.

I am returning the letter you enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[Handwritten signature]

MAILED 20
OCT 13 1961
COMM-FBI

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Evans
- Mr. Malone
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Ingram
- Miss Gandy

Enclosure

1 - Seattle - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bufiles reflect that we have enjoyed cordial relations with Congressman Horan. He enclosed a letter from Mrs. [redacted] Washington, inquiring about Chet Huntley and David Brinkley. Bufiles contain no information regarding [redacted]

CJH:jms

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F B I
OCT 13 15 42 BH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/5/83 BY SP-1 GSK/RBG

OCT 20 1961

OCT 13

OCT 13 1961

Honorable Walt Horan

b7c NOTE CONTINUED.....

[REDACTED] Huntley is a well known television commentator who was the subject of a security investigation in 1951 which failed to develop any indication of Communist Party membership or affiliation with a front organization. (100-378033)

WALT HORAN
5TH DIST. OF WASHINGTON

COUNTIES:
SPOKANE CHELAN
STEVENS OKANOGAN
PEND OREILLE DOUGLAS
FERRY LINCOLN

MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCE
LEGISLATIVE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

October 10, 1961

Mr. [REDACTED]
Room 5640
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

*Copy
1/1*

10 + 9/11/1961

}
b6
}

Dear Mr. Kemper:

I am enclosing a letter from my constituent, Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Colville, Washington, which is self-explanatory.

I would appreciate any information on this subject which you could provide to me so that I can reply in full to my constituent. Please return Mrs. [REDACTED] letter when it has served your purpose.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Walt Horan

Walt Horan, M.C.

R

a

ENCLOSURE
10-13-61
1961

REC-13

OCT. 16 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/13/83 BY SP1 GSK/RBG

(Signature)

TRUE COPY

From the desk of

WALT HORAN

Alice--

If true this is too bad. If vicious Rumor
it is horrible.

----- In any event it is not good for Republican
Clubs to be dealing in it.

Please ask the FBI to help me if they can!

/s/ Walt

15/7/83
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16 JKR/RBG

----- 11
ENCLOSURE
1

From the desk of

WALT HORAN

Alice —
If true this is too bad.
If vicious Rumor it is
horrible.

— In any event it is not
good for Republican Clubs
to be dealing in it.

Please ask the FBI
to help me if they can!


Walt.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1 to me

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-1GSK/RBG

TRUE COPY


Colville, Wash.
October 4, 1961

b(6)

Dear Mr. Horan,

We were told a a recent meeting of this county's Republican clerk that Chet Huntley is a card carrying member of the Communist party. Could you verify this statement and also the political beliefs of his associate Mr. Brinkley?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mrs. 

(b) (6)

150 200
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP16SK/RBG

ENCLOSURE
2

11

h

REC-32

100-378933-12

October 19, 1961

X-116
(6/16)

[Redacted]

New Orleans 14, Louisiana

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
OCT 20 9 33 AM '61

Dear Mrs. Cromble:

Your letter dated October 14, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer that we do or do not have data in our files pertaining to the subjects of your inquiry.

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
OCT 19 5 55 PM '61

Enclosed is some literature about communism you may care to read.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-1 GSK/RBG

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 3
OCT 20 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (4)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Illusion And Democratic Reality
The Communist Party Line
One Nation's Response To Communism

W. J. ...
D. A. ...
Dem/HWA
OCT 20 11 30 AM '61
FBI ROOM

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Chet Huntley is a well-known television news commentator who was the subject of a Security Investigation during 1951, which failed to develop any indication of Communist Party membership or affiliation with a front organization.

JH:lml

(3)

56 OCT 27 1961 TELETYPE UNIT

TRUE COPY

[Redacted]

(b)(6)

New Orleans 14, La.
October 14, 1961

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Monday of this week I heard some very disturbing news.
The news - that Mr. Chet Huntley is a Communist.

If it is not against any regulations I would appreciate your letting me know the correct answer. I intend to write to the sponsors of all of his programs telling them I refuse to use their products until he is no longer sponsored by them. But before I go any further I want to know the truth.

Also, I would appreciate a list of movie and television personnel who are Communist so I may likewise do the same.

If I can be of any assistance please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. [Redacted]

(b)(6)

100-378033-12

*7/27/83
10-18-61
ack 10-19-61
g 7/1/83*

EX-116

REC-32

OCT 23 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RB6

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]
New Orleans 14, La.
October 14, 1961

(b)(6)

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

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Monday of this week I heard
some very disturbing news.

The news - that Mr. Chet
Huntley is a Communist.

If it is not, against any
regulations I would appreciate
your letting me know the
correct answer. I intend to
write to the sponsors of all
of his programs telling them
I refuse to use their products.

SEP 15 3 33 PM '61
FBI
REC'D. CASE & LOGS

name
10-18-61
10-19-61
A. H. Long

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/15/83 BY SP7GJK/RBQ

CORRESPONDENCE

(7)

until he is no longer sponsored
by them. But before I go
any further I want to know
the truth.

Also, I would appreciate a
list of movie and television
personnel who are Communists
so I may likewise do the
same.

If I can be of any assistance
please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. [REDACTED]

6/6
none
10-10-61
10-19-61
A. R. [REDACTED]

REC-113

100-378033-13

January 4, 1962

Fort Worth 5, Texas

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RBG

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
JAN 4 1 28 PM '62

Dear Mr. Duks:

Your letter of December 26, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of assistance to you, information in the files of the FBI is confidential and available only for official use, pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files pertaining to the individual you mentioned.

Literature from the organization you mentioned has been brought to the attention of this Bureau in the past. One of the pamphlets it distributes contains a statement that data contained therein is documented in the files of certain Government investigative agencies. I would like to assure you that the Cinema Educational Guild, Incorporated, and its national director, Myron C. Fagan, have never had access to the files of the FBI.

In view of the concern you expressed, I am enclosing some material available for general distribution by this Bureau on the subject of communism.

Sincerely yours, 3 31 BH .25

J. Edgar Hoover
DIRECTOR

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 90
JAN 4 - 1962
COMM-FBI

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

63 JAN 10 1962

Enclosures (5)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SAW:is* (3)

SEE NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

(6/6)

Enclosures (5)
Director's Speech 12-7-61 "The Faith To Be Free"
4-17-61 Internal Security Statement
Communist Party, USA (Social Order)
The Communist Party Line
Christianity Today Series (The Communist Menace)

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Bufiles. Huntley is a well-known television commentator who was the subject of a security investigation in 1951 which failed to develop any indication of Communist Party membership or affiliation with a front organization.

December 26, 1961

2 5-1

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

Dear Sir:

In a tract put out by the Cinema Education Guild in Hollywood, California, I noticed that Chet Huntley is listed as one of Hollywood's many Communists. I would like to know what effect he has toward the goal of the Communist Party.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

(b)(6)

ack
1-4-62
Saw [unclear]
mm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP-185K/RBG

REC-113

100-378033-13

10 JAN 5 1962

CONFIDENCE

REC-25

EX-115

100-378032-14

February 7, 1962

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York
615 Old National Bank
Spokane, Washington

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/13/83 BY SP-1 ASK/EBB

W. Maguire
Sullivan

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of January 30th, with enclosures and appreciate the interest which prompted you to communicate with me.

With regard to the matters you mentioned, the communists have tried to infiltrate every part of our society, but they have not achieved substantial success because of our internal security programs; the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of a number of Party functionaries; and the rising tide of public opposition to the communist movement. All this has been accomplished in orderly constitutional fashion and is something of which every American should be proud. We must continue to be alert to these infiltration efforts. I wish to emphasize most strongly that communism is a grave threat to the continued existence of the United States. Because of this, it is doubly imperative that we be calm, rational and thoroughly accurate in what we say and do in opposing communism. This is no time for rumors, unfounded suspicions, gossip and the hurling of false accusations.

The subversive knows well the value of fully exploiting such controversial subjects as civil rights, academic freedom and so-called peace issues, and we must guard against being duped into irrational attacks on democratic institutions and officials of government. We should never hesitate, when fully informed that communist influence threatens, to voice our convictions with courage. This opposition must, however, be careful, constructive and positive, and it must be kept within the due process of law. I am confident you will agree this is fundamental to liberty.

In reply of your concern, enclosed is some material on the menace of communism. I thought you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Malone _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____

MAILED 8
FEB 9 1962

REC'D [unclear] FEB 10 1962

REC'D [unclear] FEB 15 1962

FEB 15 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM
FEB 7 4 37 PM '62

V

Handwritten initials

(b)(6)



- Enclosures (5)
- What You Can Do To Fight Communism
- Internal Security Statement 4-17-61
- 4-1-61 LEB Introduction
- The Communist Party Line
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. He enclosed copies of correspondence he had with Chet Huntley, of NBC who is on the Special Correspondents' List. No attempt is being made to answer correspondent's three questions specifically because he obviously is against Huntley and is attempting to get the Director to agree with him in his argument with Huntley. Bufiles contain no references to the Director having talked with Huntley.

MUTUAL OF NEW YORK
THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

"FIRST IN AMERICA"

615 OLD NATIONAL BANK • SPOKANE, WASH • TE 8-2036

WA 6-1660



Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

January 30, 1962

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing copies of correspondence I have had with Mr. Chet Huntley of NBC News to give you the background for my following inquiries:

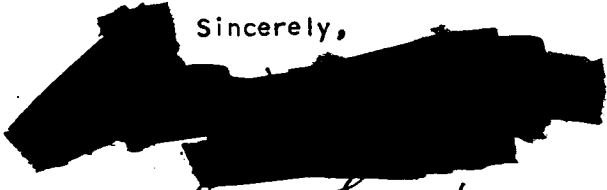
Is it a fact that Chet Huntley has personally talked with you about your book "Masters of Deceit"?

Am I, as an alerted American citizen, having read your warnings, being properly discriminatory about the 'slant' of news that might foster a complacency about the communist menace in all of its ingenious and diverse propaganda techniques?

Do you intend to imply that there is a danger of being taken over by internal communism, or that we have 'drifted' in that direction?

Your response to my three questions would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



P. S. The enclosed are Thermofax copies and the originals are in my personal possession and available to you at any time.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/83 BY SP16SA/886

37
EXP. PROC.
FEB 5 1962

Ack 2-7-62
Hammill - yes
Huntley - nml

FOH:z
Encl.

at any time

EX-115

REC-25

78033-14
5 FEB 5 1962

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ATT

CORRESPONDENCE

NBC NEWS 48 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK CITY N.Y.

Dear [REDACTED]

Very thanks for your letter but I just cannot, in good faith, agree with you. I have not only read Mr. Hoover's book but I have talked to him about it. He certainly does not intend to imply that we are about to be taken over by internal Communism or that we have "drifted" in that direction. Internal Communism is something to watch but let us not give it credit for every problem we have. Sincerely,
W. H. [Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/15/83 BY SP-16SK/RBS

310 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York
November 29, 1961

Mrs. Chas. Huntley
c/o National Broadcasting Company
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York 20, New York

Dear Mr. Huntley:

I thank you for your letter of December 12, 1961. That we have a fundamental disagreement is true. I too, have been in Scandinavia, in 1935 and in 1947. I submit that socialist countries are more prone to communist take-over than a capitalist country. Recent events in Finland support this view. Premier Kekkonen's statements to his people upon returning from his meeting with Khrushchev, that communists should get out of politics, coupled with the withdrawal of Kekkonen's conservative opponent from the forthcoming election, "in the interests of the country" give us great concern. I have written to acquaintances in Scandinavia for some grass roots opinions since I can't rely upon normal news channels.

Regarding your statement that England, now socialistic, is not communistic ignores the element of drift toward communism. This period of relative stability provides the climate for continued internal softening of attitudes to permit further erosion of individual liberties. England's adoption of socialist ideas was the "three big steps forward" and the quiet period now are the "two small steps backward", characteristic of the communistic dialectical approach to world domination. "Coexistence" and "Peace" are the bait and slavery of all mankind is the hook, Mr. Huntley.

You wrote, "I have been in the most socialistic countries in the world today - namely Scandinavia, India and Great Britain. I can assure you they are not communist societies or anything approaching it's. In view of recent actions by India in annexing Goan territory and receiving communist support, can you still hold to this false premise regarding India?"

Mr. Huntley, I am asking you once again, have you read J. Edgar Hoover's Masters of Deceit or the federal publications of the House Un-American Activities Committee on Communist Psychological Warfare, (brainwashing). I enclose a copy. To study Masters of Deceit and this pamphlet will require some of your valuable time. I honestly do not believe your time could be better spent.

You are now in a very vital position to influence millions of American minds by your viewpoints. I am only concerned that your viewpoints tell the truth about the communist conspiracy, that you not foster

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/15/83 BY SP-1GSJLR/B6