

**File #:**

62-110-116395

**Serial Scope:**

Bulky 1120

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44  
FRC 2107 Note). Case#:NW 55087 Date: 11-18-2017

62- HQ-116395

Serial 1120 PT 1



62-HQ-116395-E1120 PT 1

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HQ - HEADQUARTERS

BOX 3582

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0062 116395	1	1120	ONLY

2/13/88848



RRP004Z72R

Excised

copy

For Senate

274-10125

ADD

WOMEN'S BAIL FUND

274-10125

FBI

Date: 3/14/72

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

Via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-172487)

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S BAIL FUND  
IS-NEW LEFT  
(OO:NY)

DF 11

Spencer

Goetz

Alber

White

R. H. [unclear]

Page

Enclosed for the Bureau are 10 copies of one LHM re the Women's Bail Fund.

Individuals mentioned in attached LHM are not characterized due to insufficient information in the files of the NYO to identify or characterize them.

NYO files contain no information re PATRICIA REINER with exception that she is subject of Minneapolis file 157-1288 captioned, "PATRICIA REINER, EM-BPP."

### Information Identifies Informant

- Bureau (Encs. 10) (RM)
- 2-Minneapolis (157-1288) (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 2-Albany (Encs. 2) (RM)
- 1-New York (100- (PAM ENGLE)
- 1-New York (100- (SHIRLEY TAYLOR)
- 1-New York (100- (GERRY TOSCA)
- 1-New York (100- (AMY LOWENSTEIN)
- 1-New York (100-172487) (MARY PINOTTI) (42)
- 1-New York

AJO:ihr  
(13)

AGENCY: ARMY, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER., STATE, CIA

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE FORW: 3/21/72

Per \_\_\_\_\_

Information Identifies Informant

Sources utilized in this LHM are as follows:

- 1st source
- 2nd source
- 3rd source
- 6th source

} Informants  
| Symbol  
#

SAS of the FBI observing demonstrations are as follows:

5/14/71

CARLOS R. DURAN  
PATRICK ARNALL  
ARTHUR F. PITTENGER

7/26/71

LOUIS E. BROWN  
ARTHUR F. PITTENGER

LEADS:

MINNEAPOLIS

AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. Will conduct indices check re Women's Bail Fund and advise NYO re PATRICIA REINER's affiliation with the Fund.

ALBANY

AT ALBANY, NEW YORK. Inasmuch as the Fund has stated donations are tax exempt, Albany will determine if the Fund has filed to solicit charitable funds and/or filed articles of incorporation.

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK. Will determine if account #046-514716 at Chemical Bank New York Trust Co. is account of Women's Bail Fund.



NY 100-172487

NON-SYMBOL INFORMANT ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

4th source

5th source

7th source

} Sources

CAUTION: NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED TO RESIDENT AGENTS, DETACH.

NY 100-172487

LEADS (CONT'D)

2. Will submit under separate communication NYO recommendation to interview ~~Informant~~ former PSI of NYO.

3. Will follow activities of the Women's Bail Fund.

CLASSIFICATION:

Enclosed LHM is classified, "Confidential" because it contains information from sources of continuing value, disclosure of which might reveal their identity and thus be prejudicial to the national defense interests of the US.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
New York, New York  
March 14, 1972

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No. NYfile (100-172487)

Women's Bail Fund

Unless otherwise stated, all sources in this memorandum have furnished reliable information in the past.

On March 30, 1971, a first confidential source furnished literature, concerning the Women's Bail Fund, which was picked up at the Upper Westside Womens Center, 627 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, New York (NY) on March 27, 1971. The literature captioned, "Women's Bail Fund" argued that the Women's House of Detention, in New York City (NYC), should not exist and that "the Women's House of Detention, along with the prisons and jails across the country, is a weapon used by the power structure here in America to oppress and exploit the people of poor communities." It further relates that "Women have come together in New York from many different organizations to form a Women's Bail Fund for all the sisters inside the House of Detention. The Bail Fund is also working to prepare simple pamphlets on law because of the total lack of any legal resources in the House of Detention and secure legal assistance where needed." The address is listed as the Women's Bail Fund, P.O. Box 637, Cooper Station, NY, NY 10003.

On August 26, 1971, the first source furnished literature on the Women's Bail Fund which stated, "The Women's Bail Fund is a coalition of Third World and white women who are:

".....raising bail to release women prisoners from Rikers Island.

"...establishing communication with women inside.

"....assisting women who are bailed out in meeting their needs.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Women's Bail Fund

"....providing legal information for prisoners.

"....making public the torture these women undergo.

"....supporting prison struggles everywhere."

On April 12, 1971, a second confidential source made available a flyer on the Women's Bail Fund which was distributed at the National Womens March on the Pentagon on April 10, 1971. The flyer, captioned, "Victory to the NLF and All Oppressed Peoples" states "Women in Vietnam and in the United States are fighting for the right to live; for the very right to exist.....the U.S. is now dotted with concentration camps for the poor and non-white; the jails.....But imprisonment doesnt' break the spirit of the sisters in jail. They resist! When denied their dignity, they organize and fight back. When one sister is beaten they organiz and resist. In the coldest part of winter when the boilers had broken down, the women worked in freezing temperatures in cold water to do the laundry-not 'because the pigs made us do it - but for our 'own beautiful sisters.' .....We Vietnamese, Black, Latin, White and Asian-american women are united in our struggle - we share common goals and face a common enemy. We express our complete solidarity with the NLF and shall work to bring the victory there."

On May 14, 1971, Special Agents (SAS) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) observed a demonstration in front of the NYC Women's House of Detention sponsored by the Women's Bail Fund and Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF). The demonstrators chanted slogans calling for release of their "sisters" from jail and expressed opposition to a proposed move of the inmates of the Women's House of Detention from its downtown site to the Rikers Island Prison Facility. The demonstrators called this proposed move an attempt to isolate the "sisters from their supporters."

By means of a loudspeaker, the demonstrators called to several inmates of the House of Detention who appeared in the upper storey windows, obtained their names and place of arrest. This information allegedly was to be used to obtain bail for the prisoners in question. Thereafter, several speakers denounced the jails as concentration camps and called for the release of the "political prisoners." in the House of Detention. Among the speakers was Shirley Taylor of the Women's Bail Fund and a former inmate of the Women's House of Detention.

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

- 2 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Women's Bail Fund

YAWF

YAWF is the youth group of the Workers World Party (WWP).

WV

WWP

The WWP was founded in 1959 by individuals who disagreed with policies of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). The WWP dissidents advocated unconditional support of the Soviet Union and the building of a revolutionary party geared to the overthrow of capitalism. More recently the WWP has called for peaceful solutions to Sino-Soviet disputes, however, the WWP generally supports the People's Republic of China in its ideological differences with the Soviet Union.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A third confidential source advised on May 18, 1971, the Women's Bail Fund has called for victory for the Vietcong and is setting up a "phone chain" to be able to call for "action against the transfer of women from the House of Detention to Rikers Island."

On June 6, 1971, the third source advised the Women's Bail Fund will have a "major bail out of women" from the Women's House of Detention from June 10 to June 13, 1971 at the Washington Square Methodist Church. It will include four days of "discussions, films, counseling and information services" for inmates and their families. The coordinator for the Bail Fund was identified as Pam Engle, telephone number 989-6717.

On July 26, 1971, SAS of the FBI observed a picket-type demonstration at 51st Street and Avenue of the Americas protesting the existence of all jails. Among the groups represented was the Women's Bail Fund.

On August 4, 1971, a fourth confidential source advised the following checks were among those drawn from the bank account of Lubell, Lubell, Fine and Schaap, Attorneys-at-Law, 103 Park Avenue, NY, NY.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Women's Bail Fund

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Bank of Deposit and/or Endorser</u>
June 25, 1971	Women's Bail Fund for \$2,000.00	Chemical #046-514716
June 25, 1971	Women's Bail Fund for \$3,500.00	Patricia Reiner 4th N.W. National Minneapolis, Minnesota

This information is not to be made public except in a usual proceeding following issuance of a subpoena duces tecum directed to Mr. Frank V. Scuderi, Assistant Secretary, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, 253-15 Union Turnpike, Floral Park, NY.

The source no longer has custody of the basic documents from which the check information was obtained.

The fourth source advised on January 5, 1971 that Jonathan W. Lubell, William H. Schaap, Stephen L. Fine, Neal L. Gantcher and David G. Lubell are all members of Lubell, Lubell, Fine and Schaap Law Firm.

ST  
FILE

A fifth confidential source advised on February 25, 1970, that as of July, 1968, William Schaap, an attorney for Lubell, Lubell, Fine and Schaap, was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Lawyers Guild (NLG).

DC

The fifth source advised on February 25, 1970, William Schaap, Neal Gantcher and Stephen Fine had reservations to attend the NLG, 31st National Convention, February 20-23, 1970 in Washington, D.C.

On April 17, 1969, a sixth confidential source advised that as of May, 1969, Jonathan Lubell was President of the New York City Chapter of the NLG.

JONATHAN LUBELL

NLG

NLG is a communist front organization of lawyers and law students dedicated to Communist Party, USA and New Left ideals for radical change of the social, economic and judicial systems in the United States.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Women's Bail Fund

On January 6, 1972, the first source made available a one page leaflet distributed through the mails by the Women's Bail Fund and dated December, 1971. The leaflet is a request for funds for the Bail Fund with the notation that donations are tax exempt. The leaflet, in part says, "The Women's Bail Fund is one arm of the growing nationwide prison solidarity movement. During the past year we raised bail to release over 120 women who have been imprisoned while awaiting trial....."

On January 23, 1972, a seventh confidential source advised that Post Office Box 637, Cooper Station, NY, NY, is subscribed to by the Women's House of Detention Bail Fund and rented by Mary C. Pinotti, 86 East 3rd Street, NY, NY (Telephone 777-5823.)

The third source advised on February 10, 1972 the Women's Bail Fund is trying to obtain a grant from the NY People's Life Fund (PLF), however, they have been advised by the PLF that they may receive a loan rather than an outright grant. The source advised the Fund participated in a demonstration a month ago at the New York City Correctional Institution at Riker's Island, NY, however, said its activities seem to be limited. The source advised that two principal activists of the Women's Bail Fund are Amy Lowenstein and Gerry Tosca.

The NY PLF is a fund set up by the War Tax Resistance (WTR) to grant loans or funds to local groups in the NY area.

MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

The WTR is a national organization which encourages the non-payment of federal taxes as a protest to the war in Indochina.

- 5\* -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/28/72

FROM: SAC, ALBANY (100-22702) (RUC)

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S BAIL FUND  
IS-NEW LEFT

(OO: NEW YORK)

Re New York airtel to the Bureau dated 3/14/72.

On 4/19/72, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that no certificate of incorporation located in either the active file or the file records regarding any bail fund.

On 4/19/72, a second confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that captioned organization has not filed with the State of New York to solicit charitable funds.

The second confidential source further advised that the captioned organization may fall within those certain persons who are exempted under New York State Law, Article 10-A, Solicitation and Collection of Funds for Charitable Purposes, Section 482-A. The second confidential source stated that in most instances charitable organizations are exempted under the exemption provision not requiring filing with the State of New York to solicit charitable funds whenever gross contributions during a fiscal year are not in excess of \$1,000.

2-Bureau (RM)  
2-New York (100-172487) (RM)  
1-Albany  
GLS:mmq  
(5)

REC-71  
EX-112

7 MAY 3 1972

~~NEW LEFT~~

55 JUN 2 1972



F B I

Date: 8/28/72

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-172487)  
SUBJECT: <sup>100</sup> WOMEN'S BAIL FUND  
IS - REVACT  
(OO:NY)

*Spencer*  
*G. Griffith*  
*111*

Enclosed for the Bureau are ten copies of an LHM regarding the Women's Bail Fund.

LHM is classified "Confidential" inasmuch as information received from sources of continuing value, if disclosed could impair their future effectiveness and therefore be prejudicial to the national defense interests. Indices of the NYO are negative concerning individuals mentioned in the LHM as being members of the Women's Bail Fund with the exception of AMY LOBENSTINE.

New York Office files reflect AMY LOBENSTINE is a member of the Women's Liberation Movement and, in 1969, was a member of the "People Against Racism", an umbrella-type organization financed by church groups working exclusively in White communities in opposition to the supremacy of White culture. LOBENSTINE is the wife of FARNSWORTH ELLIOT LOBENSTINE, subject of case captioned, "FARNSWORTH ELLIOT LOBENSTINE; SM - REVACT (VB); (New York file 100-165762, Bureau file 100-459419).

*[Handwritten scribbles]*

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 10) (RM)
  - 1 - New York (105-108560) (AMY LOBENSTINE)
  - 1 - New York
- AJO:lab  
(5)

ST-106  
REC 16

100-459419-3

AUG 30 1972

*[Handwritten notes]*  
100-93200; 400-2-7-72  
11/17  
12/5  
GSL/wmm

Rev. Act. Sect.

70 SEP 21 1972

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NY 100-172487

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
New York, New York  
August 28, 1977

Sources utilized in this LHM are as follows:

First source  
**INFORMANT**

Second Source  
**SOURCE**

Third source  
**SOURCE**

Fourth source  
**INFORMANT**

Fifth source  
**INFORMANT**

LEAD

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK. Inasmuch as the Women's Bail Fund has had several contacts with Weatherman subjects, New York will continue efforts to determine activities and structure of the Fund.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York

August 28, 1972

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Women's Bail Fund

A first confidential source advised that Beverly Sterner, Channel 13 News, 304 West 58th Street, New York, New York, is affiliated with the Women's Bail Fund (WBF).

An article appeared in the March, 1972 issue of the "Liberated Guardian", captioned "Women's Bail Fund; Organizing Our Anger", written by five unidentified members of the Women's Bail Fund Collective.

The article relates "The Women's Bail Fund is a group of about 35 women in New York City that bails women out of jail (150 so far). They have been organized for over a year and a half and did their first bailout on December 20, 1970. They have been active in supporting other groups involved in the prison struggle. They do legal follow-up for bailed-out sisters who want it and have been talking with people about the prison struggle, why jails exist, who the real enemies are, etcetra."

The article is introduced by the following statement:

"For this article we wanted to talk about ourselves. So five of us volunteered to collect different thoughts from as many women as possible in our group and then pooled these reflections in this article, using the words from their raps."

The article, being reflections of the various members of the group, is a series of quotes by unidentified members concerning the WBF.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GROUP I

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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

Women's Bail Fund

The following are reflections of some WBF members carried under the subcaption "Our Roots - Why We Started - Why We Joined".

"There was a woman in my consciousness-raising group who was in the bail fund when it was first getting started and she talked with others about it. To some of us it was a very exciting idea. To others it was frightening - connecting to political activity as women. Ultimately it ended in a split of my small group on whether we should carry our newly raised consciousness to any sort of feminist political action or not.

"In the past, I was politically frustrated because I was only involved in one-shot actions. I saw what was happening in terms of how this system functions to oppress black people and that resulted in a lot of pain for me. I felt I had to reflect my stands in a day-to-day struggle. I had the sense that the women in the WBF were also aware of that need.

"When sisters want us to, we go to court with them. When I go to court I find that it can do bad things to my head. I make judgements like this judge is better than another one, but it's all shit. All judges are pigs. Or like feeling good that a sister got six months instead of five years when she shouldn't have gotten anything at all.

"I was in the House of Detention when there was the bail fund demonstration on December 20, 1970. The whole tier was so excited. When someone saw the first people she let out a scream and everyone rushed to the windows. As the chanting increased outside we started to sing and chant. They locked us in our cells so each person would be isolated and intimidated about chanting. But all the women kept it up. Everyone inside said the feeling about this demonstration was different than other demonstrations. There had been more contact. The women saw Afeni and Joan and another woman that they had known inside outside in the demonstration. That was real important.

"A lot of it was the bail fund. The bail fund banner with the address made it real that people were serious about supporting people inside. It wasn't going to be a one-shot deal.

## Women's Bail Fund

The following are reflections carried under the sub-caption "Questions We Are Facing Right Now".

"There's a real dialectic between reform and revolution. So much of what we do is short-term support stuff that can be seen as reformist. When prisoners raise these demands it's understood to be revolutionary; when people on the outside raise them, they are felt to be reformist. I have done a whole lot of courtroom work, both in the bail fund and before too. In fact, the whole social work thing is what I come out of, which is why it is so hard for me to deal with all this ('cause I obviously reflect a lot of that work). Social work when it started back in the late 1800's and early 1900's came out of real radical circles, the radicals and feminists and such. And when you read MAO, he talks about service to the people as a revolutionary thing. But for us it feels weird because it has been co-opted. I think that the movement now, trying to recoup the revolutionary aspects, that original sense of service to the people, trying to help people survive.

"One of the ways to really keep ourselves out of the rut of being social workers is to engage in more political education among ourselves and to ask other groups how they've dealt with this question. Also we should be more involved in educating other people.

"We should be doing more for women inside. We need to really work on facilitating communications between the sisters inside the jail. Women prisoners have been slower to get organized but I'm sure this is because there is so much isolation in the women's jail. Concretely, we need to write more letters to find out what is going on, send literature, but also tell the women about each other, about what other women are thinking and feeling. This would stop the sense of isolation and increase the sense of solidarity.

"I think much of the movement is guilty of ultra-leftism. In China the Communists worked on a lot of things that were a lot less than what they ultimately wanted. We're too afraid of being contaminated by being involved in reform movements. We too often define our enemies too broadly and our allies too narrowly.

