

File #:

62-HQ-116395

Serial Scope:

1317 - Bulky

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW 88186 Date: 11-18-2017

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
August 3, 1961

NY 100-104142

Title EMMA LAZARUS FEDERATION OF
 JEWISH WOMEN'S CLUBS

Character INTERNAL SECURITY - C
 INTERNAL SECURITY ACT - 1950

Reference is made to the report of Special
Agent Albert E. Faller, at New York, dated and captioned
as above.

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

NY T-10, NY T-11, NY T-16, NY T-17, NY T-18,
NY T-21 and NY T-23, who are in a position to furnish
reliable information.

The reliability of NY T-13 has not been determined
due to the insufficient amount of information furnished
by the informant.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

8-15

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 8/10/62	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/9 - 8/6/62
TITLE OF CASE COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE		REPORT MADE BY ANTHONY E. CONSTANTINO	TYPED BY eac
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

Handwritten notes and signatures:
HARRIS
Fitz
sl...
R...

REFERENCES:

Bulet to Atlanta dated 5/7/62.
Chicago airtel 7/30/62; Atlanta airtel 7/23/62.

- P* -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Copies of this report are being disseminated to local intelligence agencies for information purposes.

This report is classified "Confidential" since information furnished by NY T-1, NY T-6, NY T-9, NY T-10 and NY T-11 could reasonably result in the identification of the informants, who are of continuing value and compromise the future effectiveness thereof, such compromising could be harmful to the national defense interests of this country.

Handwritten notes and signatures:
[unclear]
[unclear]

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
COPIES MADE: 5-Bureau (61-3176) (RM) 1-G-2, First Army, NYC (RM) 1-DIO, 3rd Naval District, NYC (RM) 1-2nd OSI District, USAF, NYC (RM) 1-Chicago (100-8261) (Info) (RM) 1-Atlanta (100-1352) (Info) (RM) 2-New York (100-7629)		10 AUG 13 1962	REC-54	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations		
Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	By
A2		8/17/62	E/S	RGR/ree
DNI				
OSI				
RAO (06-D)				

58 AUG 24 1962

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In reference to information furnished by (NY T-6) the identities of the CP members in attendance at the CP meetings held (to formulate CP plans) concerning the convention were not identified, because of the attendance of (two informants.) Setting out of the (five) names, one of whom is an unknown female, would jeopardize the position of the informants and possibly lead to exposure. For the information of the Bureau, those present at the CP meetings were:

(TED BASSETT - New York
LESTER DAVIS - Chicago
ALVA BUXENBAUM - New York
ALONZO GUYTON - New York
Unknown female - (Great Neck, New York))

Likewise, information furnished by (NY T-1) which identified those present at CP meetings concerning the NAACP Convention was not included in this report.

INFORMANTS

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>File Number Where Located</u>
NY T-1 <u>(CG 6066-s)</u>	A 134-734-889 A 134-734-910
NY T-2 <u>(NY 1587-s)</u>	Characterization of THEODORE R. BASSETT
NY T-3 <u>(NY 2750-s)</u>	Characterization of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS

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INFORMANTS (CONTINUED)

Identity of Source

File Number Where Located

~~NY T-4~~

~~NY 2462-S)~~

Characterization of Crown Heights Forum

NY T-5

~~Mrs. RUBY HURLEY
Southeastern Regional
Director, NAACP
(By request)~~

100-7629-1B261

NY T-6

~~NY 1212-S)~~

134-552-1517

~~NY T-7~~

~~NY 1460-S)~~

Characterization of ALVA BUXENBAUM

NY T-8

~~NY 2359-S*)~~

NY T-9

~~NY 694-S*)~~

NY T-10

~~CG 5824-S*)~~

NY T-11

~~NY 1587-S)~~

134-831-1615

Careful consideration has been given to the sources concealed and T-symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identities of the informants must be concealed.

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LEADS

ATLANTA (INFO)

✓ A copy of this report is furnished to Atlanta since the convention of the NAACP was held in Atlanta.

CHICAGO (INFO)

✓ A copy of this report is furnished to Chicago because of the CP attempts to infiltrate the NAACP in the Chicago area and because of the attendance of a Chicago informant at the NAACP Convention.

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

✓ Will continue to follow CP infiltration of the National Organization of the NAACP and local branches of the NAACP and report results semi-annually.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Copy to: 1-G-2, First Army, NYC (RM)
1-DIO, 3rd Naval District, NYC (RM)
1-2nd OSI District, USAF, NYC (RM)

Report of: ANTHONY E. CONSTANTINO Office: New York, New York
Date: 8/10/62

Field Office File #: 100-7629 Bureau File #: 61-3176

Title: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis:

National Negro Commission, CP, USA meeting held in May, 1962, at Chelsea Hotel, NYC, discussed for the main part matters pertaining to the NAACP and the coming convention of the NAACP. 53rd Annual Convention of the NAACP held 7/2 - 8/62 at the Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta, Georgia. CP group present at convention evaluated CP efforts to influence the convention as weak and unorganized. CP efforts to change NAACP name unsuccessful. CP supported NAACP picketing of hotels in Atlanta for not desegregating for convention. CP accomplished little or nothing at NAACP Convention. Meeting of leading CP functionaries held in NYC on 7/11/62, where TED BASSETT, member NY District CP Committee, gave a report on his impressions of NAACP Convention. Comments of CP functionaries concerning convention set forth.

D/acc - P - rec*

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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DETAILS:

This investigation is predicated upon information received that members of the Communist Party (CP) have infiltrated the captioned organization. Our investigation is directed solely toward establishing the extent and the result of this infiltration. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is not investigating the legitimate activities of this organization.

For the purpose of brevity, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will henceforth be referred to as the NAACP.

CP EFFORTS TO INFILTRATE NAACP
CONVENTION

NY T-1 on May 11, 1962, advised that a meeting of part of the CP, USA National Negro Commission was held on May 5, 1962, at the Chelsea Hotel, New York City. The major portion of this meeting was devoted to discussing matters pertaining to the NAACP and of the coming convention of the NAACP. The main report was given by TED BASSETT, who recapped some of the problems in the NAACP. BASSETT noted the failure of the Party to take advantage of the many situations that have been presented by virtue of the struggles that have taken place. He said that one of the problems that the NAACP has, with

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regard to the Atlanta convention, is the matter of discrimination in the hotels. He stated that the people in Atlanta will permit desegregation of the hotels during the NAACP convention, but both before and after the convention will not make a change in the segregation policy. In other words, the segregation will be lifted while the convention is going on and delegates to the convention can have all the privileges of the hotel.

Next BASSETT recapped the developments in civil rights by the NAACP since 1952. He indicated that the NAACP national policy has been to serve as a brake on the aggressive tendencies of the membership. This tendency has been evidenced in the resolutions submitted at the previous conventions. Now the NAACP leadership finds itself in a position in which they have to examine this situation. BASSETT brought out the fact that directives have been issued by the National Office of the NAACP which only give lip service to the resolutions submitted to and accepted by the convention. He said that they never put themselves in a position in which they could be charged with not doing what the convention passes on, but they do it in such a way that it is ineffective. He cited as an example the fact that the last convention had called for the issuance of an emancipation proclamation and noted that such a proclamation was issued, but it was a watered-down version.

BASSETT further mentioned that the youth had been able to win some concessions in 1960, but were not nearly so successful in the 1961 convention.

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He stated that 2,000 delegates were expected to attend the 1962 convention and that the theme of the 1962 convention would be the fight for the ballot and for job opportunities.

During the discussion on the NAACP Convention, it was brought out that the Party finds itself in the same situation that it was in last year, prior to the convention. That is, that the Party forces have not gotten together and, therefore, the Party must operate at the coming convention without the cooperation and coordination necessary to effectively influence the convention.

The informant reported that WILLIAM PATTERSON spoke and in his remarks indicated that there is a crisis in the Negro movement. He spoke of things that the Party has done, but in which the Party has not made any organizational gains. PATTERSON stated that the CP has been able to get a lot of things moving, but through all this, the Party has not made any organizational gains.

BENJAMIN DAVIS also spoke and stated that although the CP influence is felt, "we" do not make gains. "We are reduced to the characterization of Communist professors. If we cannot take an organization like the NAACP and cannot solve its problems, then we are not going to make it."

DAVIS pointed out that, "How can you explain year after year the activities and maneuverings of the various NAACP Conventions, in which people are influenced undercover, and yet after which we are never any better off in facing the next convention than we were before the last convention? Somewhere along the

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"line the CP must examine this to find out what is wrong."

JAMES JACKSON spoke and stated that he thought he had a couple of proposals that he felt were possible, even though the time was getting late. He stated that he thought that perhaps LESTER DAVIS, identified as a CP member from Chicago, could get some resolutions for submission to the NAACP Convention and if that fails, then maybe others could do it in other areas. If this fails, then perhaps the resolutions could be introduced at the convention itself. He then proposed that a resolution be introduced and that the forces work for a massive legislative lobby that would mobilize the NAACP's full resources and seek to secure cooperative efforts from other organizations on the basis that this is the 99th year since the Emancipation Proclamation and the CP wants to pressure Congress and the President to call for an Emancipation Proclamation.

JACKSON proposed that the CP work for a three-day holiday or work stoppage in commemoration of 100 years of deferred rights.

The informant reported that in the discussion which followed these proposals, it was felt that those present did not think too much of the possibility of getting a work stoppage or work holiday, however, it was felt that something could be obtained regarding the Emancipation Proclamation. It was felt that this could be done by working through the youth to get them to form a massive youth march.

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It was agreed to work for a resolution dealing with the peace issue that would take the form of job training for Negro youth as opposed to the tremendous war budget, that is, that money now being spent on defense as a result of the world situation, could be utilized for training Negro youths, if the peace issue was successful.

~~Ted Bassett~~ SUBJECT ORGANIZATION
NY T-2 on June 8, 1962, identified THEODORE R. ~~BASSETT~~ as a member of the New York District CP Committee

"The Worker", an east coast Communist newspaper, issue of September 24, 1961, page 11, refers to WILLIAM L. ~~RATTERSON~~ as Chairman of the New York State CP.

NY T-3 on May 7, 1962, advised that BENJAMIN J. ~~DAVIS~~ on May 6, 1962, while addressing the Crown Heights Forum in Brooklyn, New York, stated that he is the National Secretary of the CP, USA.

NY T-4 on January 17, 1961, advised that the Crown Heights Forum is sponsored by the Crown Heights Section of the Kings County CP and is open to both Party and non-Party members.

"The Worker" issue of December 20, 1959, reported that JAMES ~~JACKSON~~, at a meeting of the National Committee, CP, USA on December 14, 1959, was elected National Secretary for the South and a member of a five-man Secretariat to conduct the current work of the Party.

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"The Worker" issue of January 31, 1960, announced that JAMES JACKSON had been appointed by the publishers as Editor of "The Worker".

53RD ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NAACP

NY T-5 on July 2, 1962, furnished a 27 page pamphlet entitled "53rd Annual Convention, Atlanta, Georgia, July 2 - 8, 1962, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People". This pamphlet contains the entire program for the convention and identifies the convention headquarters as Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta, Georgia.

CP Program, Strategy and Tactics at NAACP Convention

SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

NY T-6 on July 11, 1962, advised that he had received information that on July 2, 1962, the CP held its first meeting in connection with the NAACP Convention at the Royal Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. LESTER DAVIS, a CP member from Chicago, stated at this meeting that the "left" was weak and that the Party would be coming up short at the convention.

On July 3, 1962, another meeting of the CP members present at the convention was held at the Royal Hotel. At this meeting it was decided to support the hotel picketing in Atlanta. In addition, it was agreed that the CP would support a resolution to change the name of the NAACP by deleting "Colored People" and adding "Minority Groups".

The informant continued that meetings of the CP members were also held on July 4 and 6, 1962, and

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the only topics discussed at these meetings were the possibility of introducing a peace resolution and possibly changing the resolution passed annually banning Communism. The Party desired to change the anti-Communism resolution, but did not think a direct attack on the resolution would have any chance of success.

The informant stated that it was learned on July 7, 1962, that the resolution for changing the name of the NAACP had failed because the resolution received no support on the floor of the convention.

NY T-6 advised that a final meeting of this CP group was held on July 8, 1962, and the tenor of the meeting was discouragement, because only five persons had participated on behalf of the Party. LESTER DAVIS was particularly upset and stated that the Party should either make a good showing or not try to do anything at all.

NY T-6 advised that it was his opinion that the CP accomplished little or nothing at the convention and it did not influence the outcome of the convention in any significant way.

SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

NY T-1 on July 23, 1962, advised that he had learned that at a meeting of the National Negro Commission, CP, USA held in June, 1962, in New York City, a Party committee was formed which was responsible for the conduct of the CP activities within the NAACP Convention. This committee included OLIVER MARTIN and TED BASSETT, CP members from New York, and LESTER DAVIS, a CP member from Chicago. DAVIS was to serve as Chairman of this committee and all CP

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members who were to be delegates or alternate delegates to the convention were to be instructed by their CP Districts to make contact with LESTER DAVIS at the NAACP Convention.

^{SUBJECT ORGANIZATION}
The informant advised that he received information that a meeting of the CP caucus present at the NAACP Convention was held on July 3, 1962, at the Royal Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia. ALVA BUXENBAUM was in attendance at this meeting and indicated that she had no status within the convention, but was there representing the attitude of the CP youth. She stated that she could and would attend the youth meetings of the NAACP Convention and would make every effort to establish contacts and relations, which might make it possible to influence the course of the convention.

NY T-7 on March 23, 1962, advised that ALVA BUXENBAUM was a member of the Brooklyn Youth Club, New York District CP.

At this meeting an effort was made to assess the strength of the CP within the convention. It was learned that a number of the key Party members that had been expected to attend the convention either were not in attendance, had not been located or were not able to attend.

OLIVER MARTIN was defeated for election as a delegate from the Bronx NAACP Branch and JAMES JACKSON, who previously indicated he would attend, was not observed. It was learned that a CP member and a delegate to the convention had been a candidate for nomination for the Resolutions Committee from the mid-

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west region, but was defeated. This was considered by the CP caucus as a serious setback because it destroyed the only possible effective vehicle within which the CP could work to influence the policies of the convention.

The informant reported that the CP program at the convention was as follows:

1. To work for a resolution calling for a youth march.
2. To work for a resolution calling for a national observance of the Emancipation Proclamation to take place sometime between November 1, 1962 and January 1, 1963.
3. To work for a resolution to call for a Presidential Emancipation Proclamation to end all Jim Crowism in America.

The informant learned that TED BASSETT had stated that this was the most poorly organized NAACP Convention from the Party's point of view, but that the Party delegates would have to do the very best they could. He stated that the thing to do was for each person present to determine what people were functioning on a national level on the Resolutions Committee and with which ones it was possible to establish friendly relations. This would have to be done in a short order if such relations were to be established prior to resolutions being introduced at this convention.

Those present agreed to canvass the convention to make every effort to locate Party delegates and other "left" appearing delegates,

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who might offer an opportunity for help within the convention. They agreed to meet daily to discuss progress and to meet for a final session, at which time a general assessment of the convention would be made. This would be valuable to the National Office of the Party in assessing the work of the NAACP.

The informant learned that at another meeting of the CP caucus the Party members expressed disappointment in making contacts with convention delegates and they noted that the Party was weak and lacked organization at the convention. It was pointed out that BERNICE GABRIEL, a CP delegate from Boston, was observed at the convention, as well as an unknown CP female delegate from New York. : SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

CP FUNCTIONARIES MEETING

NY T-8 advised in July, 1962, that a meeting of leading CP functionaries was held at CP headquarters, New York City, on July 11, 1962.

At this meeting TED BASSETT gave a report on his impressions of the recent convention of the NAACP. BASSETT commented that he attended the convention as an observer and the most important development was that the NAACP took direct action on integration. This was expressed by all the speakers. There were 1,228 delegates present, whereas last year there were 1,714 delegates. Membership in the NAACP in the past year dropped 8,197, which was due, according to their report, to a loss in the industrial centers, due to economic reasons.

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BASSETT related that at the convention the NAACP went on record again of calling for the abolition of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). They also attacked the Eastland Committee, but pushed the anti-Communist resolution, in spite of the fact, as pointed out, that the NAACP was the victim of anti-Communist attacks. The NAACP is concerned about THURGOOD MARSHALL's lack of Senate confirmation for United States Judge and are going to ask NAACP branches to send delegates to see various United States Senators. The NAACP contrasted the big expense of the Peace Corps with the failure of the government to spend anything in relation to Mississippi and called for the removal of Southern representatives from Chairmanship of House and Senate Committees.

The informant advised that following BASSETT's remarks, JAMES JACKSON stated that the NAACP remains the decisive, well-organized center of the Negro struggle. The struggle on the political front is related directly to the economic question and the unfolding suffrage drive.

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON commented that the NAACP's calling for the abolition of the HUAC is a tremendous advance and "we" should support this action. He suggested sending a carefully worded letter to the NAACP supporting them on this matter.

GUS HALL remarked that the convention was truly historical and "we" should have a person on a national level that can mix with the NAACP.

NY T-9 on May 7, 1962, advised that GUS HALL is General Secretary, CP, USA.

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The informant also advised that it was announced at this meeting that the chapters of the NAACP are not geared for mass activities. The Party has to help on this and "we" have to realize that the NAACP branches are the focus through which "we" must operate.

ARNOLD JOHNSON stated that the Party can sharpen the struggle on the basis of Negro-white unity. "We" must give attention to the youth section of the NAACP, which is a militant section.

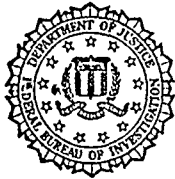
NY T-10 on December 14, 1959, advised that ARNOLD JOHNSON was elected to the National Committee, CP, USA at the National Convention of the CP, USA, held in New York City on December 10-13, 1959.

CP, USA NEW YORK DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING

NY T-11 on July 16, 1962, advised that on July 12, 1962, a CP, USA New York District Board meeting was held in New York City. At this meeting TED BASSETT gave a report on the NAACP Convention recently held in Atlanta, Georgia. He stated that compared with the 1961 NAACP Convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where the Party was better organized, they had contributed more than ^{than} they did at this year's convention in Atlanta.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
August 10, 1962

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

NY 100-7629

Title Communist Infiltration of the National
Association for the Advancement of
Colored People

Character Internal Security - C

Reference Report of Special Agent Anthony E.
Constantino, dated and captioned
as above at New York.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

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