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FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE

W. E. B. DU BOIS CLUBS OF AMERICA

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

VIETNAM DAY COMMITTEE

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

POLITICAL CAMPAIGN

REPORT

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Report of: WILLIAM E. HUGHES
Date: 5/13/67

Office: SAN FRANCISCO

Field Office File #: 100-46832

Bureau File #: 105-106720

Title: ROBERT SCHEER

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

ON 11/2/97 *de*

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RELEASE IN PART

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Character: SECURITY MATTER - SWP

Synopsis:

ROBERT SCHEER and his wife, ANNE, reside at 1104 High Court, Berkeley, Calif. He is employed as Managing Editor of "Ramparts" magazine, 301 Broadway, San Francisco, Calif. He visited London, England, and Prague, Czechoslovakia, in early 1967 on an assignment for "Ramparts". He was defeated as a Democratic Party candidate for U. S. Congressman from the 7th CD of California in the June, 1966 primary election. He received communist support during his campaign. He has continued active in opposition to U. S. involvement in Vietnam since his defeat at the polls.

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DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

Residence

ROBERT SCHEER and his wife, ANNE, reside at 1104 High Court, Berkeley, California.

CLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLO/GCL
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X (1) (6)
(FIC) 5/23/97 (PER 190-6739-44)

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Mrs. KAZUKO NISHITA
2152 Oregon Street,
Berkeley, California,
on 4/11/67

USA PSG S 151-7

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Employment

ROBERT SCHEER is employed as Managing Editor of "Ramparts" magazine, 301 Broadway, San Francisco, California.

"Ramparts" magazine,
issue of 4/67

Portrait of SCHEER

"Human Events" publication, Washington, D.C., in its issue of April 8, 1967, carried a story headlined, "The Inside Story of 'Ramparts' Magazine". A portion of this story, "Scheer's Radicalism", reads as follows:

"Probably the best known nationally of Ramparts' staffers is Managing Editor Robert Scheer, who, at 30, has made a career of New Leftism. A former member of the pro-Castro Fair Play for Cuba Committee, he is the most articulate of the Ramparts crew and contends that he is an anti-Communist.

"Last year Scheer ran for the Democratic nomination for U. S. Congress in Berkeley, hinging his entire campaign on getting out of the war in Viet Nam and getting into the 'War on Poverty.' Several weeks ago, Scheer traveled to Prague, Czechoslovakia, to meet with the Communist-controlled International Union of Students and representatives of the National Liberation Front, the political arm of the Communist Viet Cong in South Viet Nam.

"Not publicized in his race for Congress but revealed later was the fact that Scheer's campaign coordinator was Carl Bloice, a 28-year-old Communist party member. Bloice's CP membership was hardly a secret; for several years he had been a by-lined staff writer for People's World, the Communist weekly on the West Coast, and then he was publications director of the Communist-controlled W.E.B. DuBois Clubs.

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"From Berkeley to D.C.

"At last summer's Communist party convention in New York City, Bloice was elected to the CP's National Committee and the requirements for serving on that policy board make it clear Bloice has been a CP member since at least January 1964, although intelligence agencies place it many years earlier.

"Just two months ago the newsletter of the Robert Scheer campaign - he is keeping his organization intact under the name of Community for New Politics (CNP) - carried a social note: 'Carl Bloice, heretofore coordinator for CNP, has left Berkeley for the larger battlefield in Washington, D.C., where he will be a correspondent for People's World and The Worker. At a farewell party December 23 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scheer, Carl was presented with several going-away gifts, including a larger than life poster of Mao-Tse Tung....Carl has indicated he will be an occasional correspondent [for the Scheer newsletter].... We all wish him the best of luck in Washington and we feel fully comforted by the fact that we are not losing a coordinator, but gaining a spy.'

"Tax Money Helped

"The portrait of Mao probably brought a gust of laughter when it was unveiled and presented to the Moscow-line Bloice, and the 'gaining a spy' phrase was simply New Left humor. The story makes two important points: 1) Scheer's campaign manager was a Communist; and 2) The Capital correspondent for two Communist newspapers will contribute occasional articles to Scheer's campaign organization.

"Scheer has told Human Events that he hired Bloice 'for his technical competence'; that he likes him as a person, but violently disagrees with his politics.

"Communist Bloice, however, was only one of Scheer's supporters. Another backer was the U. S. Treasury,

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which channeled funds into Scheer's campaign. It worked this way. During his campaign one of his workers was Mrs. Phyllis Haberman O'Donnell, who has been chairman of the East Bay DuBois Club. Mrs. O'Donnell worked on a work-study program directed by the University of California's Department of Criminology (which is now practically another Sociology Department) and was assigned to a leftist group called Welfare Rights Organization as a case worker. In truth, she worked for the Scheer campaign and reported on it at WRO meetings.

"The work-study program was originally funded through the Office of Economic Opportunity, receives its funds through the National Defense Education Act and is overseen by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare."

Writings

ROBERT SCHEER is the author of a pamphlet written for the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, which he later condensed into an article for "Ramparts" magazine entitled, "The Vietnam Lobby". The article purports to show how various Americans worked to misinform the public about Vietnam. The persons whom SCHEER holds responsible for misleading the American people are JOSEPH KENNEDY, Cardinal SPELLMAN, ARTHUR SCHLESINGER, JR., NORMAN THOMAS, J. BRACKEN LEE, General EDWARD LANSDALE, MARVIN LIEBMAN, and others.

SF T-1 on 3/8/67

Foreign Trips

ZYGMUNT BRONIAREK, the Washington, D.C. correspondent for "Trybuna Ludu", Polish daily newspaper and official organ of the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party (PZPR) met on April 13, 1966, with ROBERT SCHEER, Democratic candidate for Congress from the 7th Congressional District of California.

SF T-2 on 4/14/66

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Trip to Prague, 1967

The "San Francisco Examiner" newspaper, issue of February 24, 1967, carried a page 1 news article headlined, "Ramparts Editor at Prague Meet" by CARL ROWAN. This article explained that "a few days ago a brief, cryptic report out of Prague, Czechoslovakia, was passed among a handful of top officials in Washington". The report said that an editor of "Ramparts" magazine had visited Prague and held "a long, secret session" with officers of the Communist controlled International Union of Students (IUS).

The article continued by stating that "Ramparts" is the magazine that exposed the fact that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had been financing the National Student Association (NSA), which in turn had worked for several years to prevent IUS from dominating the youth of the world. The article questioned what relationship there was between "Ramparts" and the IUS.

ROWAN telephoned ROBERT SCHEER, Managing Editor of "Ramparts", in San Francisco and SCHEER admitted that he had met with representatives of the National Liberation Front, political arm of the Communist Viet Cong, in South Vietnam, and also with IUS officers in Prague "several weeks ago" for two days. In response to a question as to who controlled IUS, SCHEER replied, "It is essentially an organ of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union". SCHEER emphasized that he had visited IUS headquarters strictly for journalistic reasons and that he was in Europe writing a story for "Ramparts" on Bertrand Russell, "(the 94-year-old British philosopher who plans a Vietnam 'war crimes trial' of President Johnson)", so he continued on to Prague to check the international implications of the "Ramparts" article on the NSA. SCHEER volunteered, "We don't truck with Communism in Ramparts. We compare the U. S. position in Vietnam with the actions of the Soviet Union in Hungary. Both are intolerable and we make no bones about it. Any attempt to smear us at Ramparts is libelous and we'll sue. I warned the same thing when they were muttering about me being a Communist when I ran for Congress".

A characterization of the IUS is contained in the appendix.

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Trip to London and Prague, 1967 (S)

ROBERT SCHEER was in London, England, January 26, 1967, and claimed that he was engaged in writing an article about the International Student Conference (ISC) for the magazine "Ramparts" of which he is Editor. The article was intended to be an exposure of the ISC and, in order to obtain material for it, SCHEER was planning a two day visit to the headquarters of the International Union of Students (IUS) in Prague. SCHEER was seeking information on the passing of financial assistance from the ISC to student unions in Africa and Latin America. (S)

While in London, SCHEER met with FERGUS NICHOLSON, National Student Organizer of the Communist Party of Great Britain, and with DAVID HOROWITZ, an American postgraduate student at the London School of Economics, who has been closely connected with the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation. (S)

SCHEER planned to leave London for Amsterdam on January 27, 1967, and then to Paris before travelling to Prague January 29, 1967. (S)

SF T-3, a foreign source
abroad, (S) on 2/1/67

SCHEER for Congress Campaign

Rally May 28, 1966

ROBERT SCHEER was one of the speakers at a national anti-napalm rally of 1,500 to 2,000 persons on May 28, 1966, at United Technology Center, Redwood City, California, protesting against the manufacture of napalm for use in the Vietnam war.

Observation of SAs
of the FBI

Du Bois Clubs Support

A meeting of the San Francisco W.E.B. Du Bois Club was held at 250 Page Street, San Francisco, on May 22, 1966. This meeting was concerned principally with the ROBERT SCHEER campaign for U. S. Congress. It was agreed that the Du Bois Clubs would support SCHEER and actively campaign in his behalf. SCHEER was not present at the meeting.

SF T-4 on 5/27/66

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San Francisco W.E.B. Du Bois Club members travelled to East Oakland, California, June 4, 1966, where they canvassed the persons who were registered Democratic in the various precincts and requested them to vote for ROBERT SCHEER for Congress.

SF T-5 on 6/7/66

A characterization of the W.E.B. Du Bois Clubs of America is contained in the appendix.

A characterization of the San Francisco Du Bois Club is contained in the appendix.

The "Berkeley Daily Gazette" newspaper, Berkeley, California, issue of June 9, 1966, carried a news article regarding the defeat of ROBERT SCHEER in his campaign as Democratic candidate for U. S. Congressman from the 7th Congressional District of California. This article stated SCHEER received a total of 28,751 votes, while his Democratic opponent, JEFFREY COHELAN, received 35,270 votes. This indicates SCHEER captured 45 per cent of the votes in this primary election. The newspaper quoted SCHEER as stating "From now on I'm the shadow Congressman in this District." He added that he would be a write-in candidate for U. S. Congressman in the November, 1966 election unless Congressman JEFFREY COHELAN stopped supporting the Vietnam war and unless COHELAN faced up to the serious social problems in the U. S. SCHEER added that he and his backers were "building a political movement in this District and this campaign was only the opening wedge."

During the interview, SCHEER said the cost of running his campaign had been \$35,000 to \$40,000, most of it being donated by "students, housewives, longshoremen and what-have-you," and none of it coming from his own pocket. He said, "When I started this campaign I didn't have a dime."

The "People's World" (PW) newspaper, issue of June 18, 1966, carried a news article headlined, "Scheer Forces to Stay in Business". This article pointed out that in the Democratic primary election held June 7, 1966, ROBERT SCHEER

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captured 44.9 per cent of the vote against the incumbent Congressman JEFFREY COHELAN in the 7th Congressional District of California. The article quoted SCHEER as stating he and his supporters would continue the community battle on issues and stated they planned to enter candidates in the race for municipal and county offices in 1967.

The PW is a West Coast Communist newspaper published weekly in San Francisco.

The "Berkeley Daily Gazette", issue of July 14, 1966, carried a news article headlined, "Scheer Carried Berkeley". The article explained that in the June, 1966 primary election, ROBERT SCHEER carried the City of Berkeley by a vote of 14,625, as opposed to Congressman COHELAN's 12,165 votes. This analysis referred only to the vote in Berkeley and not in the entire 7th Congressional District.

Financing of Congressional Campaign

A closed membership meeting of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was held at 873 Broadway, New York, New York, on June 30, 1966. During this meeting one of the members said he had attended a National Conference for New Politics and this organization has a \$100,000 fund. Contributions from this fund were described as having been made to different organizations and individuals, including \$1,000 to ROBERT SCHEER for his election campaign.

SF T-6 on 7/14/66

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

The "Berkeley Daily Gazette" newspaper, issue of March 21, 1966, carried a news article stating that a fund-raising party had been held at 2512 Regent Street, Berkeley, on March 19, 1966, and some time during the evening a cashbox containing \$320 had been stolen. This party was held to raise money for the ROBERT SCHEER election campaign.

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II. COMMUNIST SUPPORT

SHARON GOLD and JUDY DUNLAP were members of the Fillmore Du Bois Club of San Francisco who were working in the ROBERT SCHEER campaign as of February 27, 1966.

SF T-5 on 3/3/66

A characterization of the Fillmore Du Bois Club is contained in the appendix.

A social affair to benefit the SCHEER for Congress campaign was held March 19, 1966, at the residence of ROSCOE PROCTOR in Berkeley, California, with ROBERT and ANNE SCHEER in attendance.

SF T-7 on 3/22/66

ROSCOE PROCTOR is a member of the National Committee, CP, USA, and attended a meeting of this body held December 3-7, 1966, in New York City, during which time he was also elected a member of the National Executive Committee, CP, USA.

SF T-8 on 12/9/66

A meeting of the Marin County Communist Party (CP) Club was held March 23, 1966, at 315 Rydal Street, Mill Valley, California. At this meeting it was announced that CARL BLOICE had been released from his job at the PW since he is acting as publicity man for ROBERT SCHEER in the SCHEER for Congress campaign.

SF T-9 on 4/7/66

A meeting of the San Francisco Du Bois Club was held March 28, 1966, at 1830 Fell Street, San Francisco, during which it was announced that the Club would hold a mobilization April 2 to work on ROBERT SCHEER's campaign.

SF T-10 on 3/29/66

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A CP Youth Commission meeting was held March 29, 1966, at 2504 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, during which there was a discussion of youth work. It was stated that the work of the youths in the ROBERT SCHEER campaign should have been and should now be pointed towards building a Du Bois Club in Oakland.

SF T-11 on 3/30/66

CARL BLOICE, a member of the San Francisco CP Youth Club, is employed full time as a campaign worker for ROBERT SCHEER, as of April 4, 1966.

SF T-11 on 4/4/66

The PW issue of May 21, 1966, carried an editorial which stated that in the 7th Congressional District the big issues of the time were "for peace, for freedom, for labor's rights, for a serious war on the grinding poverty that blights the lives of so many people in this District." The editorial then told that ROBERT SCHEER has joined all these issues in his campaign to win the Democratic nomination for Congress. It concludes by urging the readers to vote for ending the war in Vietnam, for seriously beginning the war on poverty, for Negro representation, and for labor's rights.

ROBERT KAUFMAN, a member of the East Bay CP Industrial Club, stated August 8, 1966, that he had served as labor relations man for ROBERT SCHEER during SCHEER's campaign for Congress from the 7th Congressional District of California.

SF T-12 on 8/19/66

CARL BLOICE gave a party on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1966, at the residence of ROBERT SCHEER, Milvia and Oregon Streets, Berkeley, California, which was attended by about 60 persons, including ROBERT and ANNE SCHEER.

SF T-13 on 1/6/67

Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) Meeting
May 24, 1966

The Bay Area YSA and SWP sponsored an open meeting which was held May 24, 1966, at Stiles Hall, Bancroft and Dana Streets,

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